



Profile of Ability

The listener can:

Understand, with considerable effort, simple formal and informal communication on topics of personal relevance.

When the communication is:

- Spoken clearly at a slow to normal rate
- Sometimes supported by visual or contextual clues
- Face-to-face or via digital media (usually one-on-one or in small groups)
- Related to topics of personal relevance
- Relatively short
- In non-demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Understands an expanded range of factual details and some implied meanings
- Recognizes meaning based on simple sentences and structures and shows an initial understanding of some complex sentences and structures
- Sometimes relies on contextual clues for comprehension
- Begins to recognize some common registers and idioms
- May need some assistance (such as repetition, paraphrasing, speech modification or explanation)
- Comprehension on the phone is difficult

I. Interacting with Others

- Understand short social exchanges containing introductions, casual small talk and leave-taking.
[Communication is about 6 turns.]
 - Identifies formal and casual style and register.
 - Identifies specific factual details and some implied meanings.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 4, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen and respond to a friend's simple, casual, familiar small talk.
Listen to a friend or co-worker describing plans for the weekend.
Listen to a discussion about household tasks to determine who will do what.

II. Comprehending Instructions

- Understand common, sequentially presented instructions and directions related to familiar, everyday situations of personal relevance.
[Instructions are about 4 to 5 steps.]
 - Identifies words and phrases that indicate movement, location, manner, frequency and duration.
 - Responds with appropriate actions to directions and instructions.
 - Recognizes and identifies correct sequence of steps.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 4, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Follow simple instructions from a doctor to deal with a common ailment (such as the flu or a cold).
Follow instructions for a simple recipe to identify the order of the steps.
Follow directions to locate items in a room, on a map or in a diagram. (*Can you get me the book? It's in the middle cabinet, on the top shelf, on the right-hand side.*)
Follow instructions for a basic task at work, such as making a photocopy or cleaning a piece of equipment.