



## Profile of Ability

### The listener can:

Understand an adequate range of complex formal and informal communication on a broad variety of general interest topics, and on some specialized topics in own field.

### When the communication is:

- Spoken clearly at a normal rate
- Face-to-face, on the phone or via digital media (with individuals, small or larger groups)
- Related to unfamiliar, abstract, conceptual or technical matters
- Lengthy
- In demanding contexts

### Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Sufficiently grasps meaning to paraphrase or summarize key points and important details
- Understands a range of concrete, abstract and technical language appropriate for the content and purpose
- Uses knowledge of complex grammar and syntax to interpret meaning
- Infers bias, purpose and attitudinal meaning
- May sometimes miss some details or transition signals
- Recognizes the nuances in different styles, registers and language varieties
- Often has difficulty interpreting verbal humour, low-frequency idioms and cultural references

## I. Interacting with Others

- Understand main intent and some implied meanings in complex communication between speakers with varying roles and relationships.
  - Identifies discourse formats for different situations and audiences.
  - Identifies meaning expressed through tone and intonation.
  - Identifies signals in speech to collaborate, to hold and relinquish the floor, to attempt to interrupt politely.
  - Recognizes preferred and non-preferred responses to personal interactions.
  - Identifies details of the social context and register.
  - Identifies stated and unspecified details about social roles and relative status.
  - Identifies situation and relationship between speakers.
  - Identifies implied and some unstated meanings.
  - Relates communication to the situational and social context.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 9, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Listen to a manager talking about company lay-offs to predict what will happen.

Listen to a dialogue between a professor and a graduate student to identify the social roles, status and relationship.

Listen to a conversation between two friends, classmates or colleagues to determine what one person thinks about a decision that the other has made.

Listen to a televised interview with a medical or academic expert to evaluate the overall recommendations.

## II. Comprehending Instructions

- Understand complex multistep directions and instructions for familiar procedures.  
[Instructions are somewhat detailed, presented clearly and may be lengthy.]
  - Integrates a few pieces of detailed information to carry out procedures or follow directions.
  - Follows cohesion links across utterances.
  - Responds with actions to directions and instructions.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 9, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Follow Revenue Canada's telephone instructions on how to complete a financial report or a tax form properly.

Follow extensive, complex navigational details on how to reach a location that is difficult to find.

Follow detailed instructions on how to repair or assemble a piece of equipment at work.

Follow complex, multistep instructions for doing a project at school.