



## Profile of Ability

### The speaker can:

Communicate basic personal information using short phrases and some sentences, usually in response to questions about personal needs and experiences.

### When the communication is:

- Short and face-to-face
- Strongly supported by gestures and visual cues
- Informal
- With one familiar person at a time
- Guided and encouraged by questions and prompts from a highly supportive listener
- In non-demanding contexts

### Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Speaks in short phrases and some short sentences, with very little evidence of connected discourse
- Fluency is not adequate to sustain simple conversations; speech rate is slow with frequent pauses and hesitations
- Vocabulary is limited for basic everyday, routine communication
- Little control over basic grammar structures and tenses
- Grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation difficulties may significantly impede communication
- Relies on gestures

## I. Interacting with Others

- Use and respond to courtesy formulas and greetings.  
[Interlocutors are familiar and supportive.]
  - Initiates and responds appropriately to introductions and leave-takings using appropriate courtesy formulas.
  - Opens a short conversation.
  - Indicates communication problems verbally, if needed.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Speaking Benchmark 2, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Introduce self and respond to another person's introduction.

Initiate a very short conversation with a classmate or neighbour. Indicate non-understanding if necessary. (*I don't understand. My English is not good. Speak slowly, please.*)

Respond to a common goodwill message with a simple and appropriate stock phrase. (*Have a good weekend. Thanks. You too.*)

## II. Giving Instructions

- Give short, simple, common, routine instructions to a familiar person.  
[Instructions are short phrases or imperative sentences.]
  - Uses imperative forms, memorized stock expressions, and appropriate courtesy words (such as *please*).
  - Gives both positive and negative commands.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Speaking Benchmark 2, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Task

Give polite positive or negative instructions or commands to a friend, co-worker, sales clerk or classmate. (*Water the plants, ok? Come to my house. Please don't do that!*)