



Profile of Ability

The speaker can:

Communicate basic information using simple sentences about immediate needs and personal experiences.

When the communication is:

- Face-to-face or via digital media
- Supported by gestures and visual cues
- Informal
- With one person at a time
- Encouraged to a moderate degree by questions and prompts from a supportive listener
- In non-demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Speaks in short sentences with some evidence of connected discourse
- Fluency is just barely adequate for simple conversations; speech rate is slow with pauses and hesitations
- Vocabulary is somewhat limited for basic everyday, routine communication
- Some control over basic grammar structures and tenses
- Grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation difficulties may impede communication
- May rely on gestures

I. Interacting with Others

- Use a range of courtesy formulas and greetings in very short, casual, face-to-face interactions.
[Interlocutors are familiar and supportive.]
 - Opens a conversation.
 - Initiates and responds appropriately to introductions and leave-takings.
 - Initiates and responds appropriately in short routine exchanges about self and another person.
 - Uses an expanding range of courtesy formulas and small talk phrases.
 - Uses simple questions to ask about another person.
 - Indicates comprehension and communication problems verbally, if needed.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Speaking Benchmark 3, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Participate in a short, casual conversation. Introduce self and ask about the other person at a party, in the workplace, or in class. End the conversation appropriately.

At a doctor's office, greet the receptionist and exchange a few simple pleasantries. (*Hello. How are you? Nice to see you. It's a warm day.*) State the reason for the visit and provide personal information, such as a health card number.

II. Giving Instructions

- Give simple, common, routine instructions and directions to a familiar person.
[Instructions are 2 to 3 steps.]
 - Uses appropriate courtesy forms and structures.
 - Expresses movement and location.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Speaking Benchmark 3, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Task

Give short directions to a friend, co-worker, or classmate to a location in a building. (*Go down the hall. Turn right. Take the elevator. Go to the main office. Get a form.*)

Give a short instruction to a friend to help him/her find something. (*It's in the closet. Look under the chair.*)