

Listening – Benchmark 2

Profile of Ability

The listener can:

Understand a limited number of individual words, simple phrases and short, simple sentences related to immediate personal needs.

When the communication is:

- Spoken clearly at a slow rate
- Strongly supported by visuals or non-verbal communication (pictures, gestures)
- Face-to-face with a highly supportive speaker or via digital media (usually oneon-one)
- Related to immediate personal needs
- Short
- In non-demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Understands simple phrases, short, simple sentences and a few factual details
- Recognizes meaning based on familiar words and phrases and may show some initial understanding of simple sentences and structures
- Relies on contextual and other visual clues for comprehension
- Needs considerable assistance (such as repetition or paraphrasing, speech modification, explanation, demonstration or translation)
- Cannot comprehend on the phone

I. Interacting with Others

 Understand greetings, introductions, requests, goodwill expressions and an expanding range of basic courtesy formulas.

[Communication is very brief, 2 or 3 turns.]

- Identifies common courtesy phrases and an expanding range of expressions.
- Responds to requests for basic personal information or to identify people and objects.
- Recognizes appeals for repetition or clarification.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 2, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen and respond to a short greeting that includes a goodwill expression from a neighbour, coworker or classmate. (How's it going? Great. Good to see you. How's your daughter? Fine, thank you. Talk to you later. Have a good day.)

In a social interaction with an acquaintance, recognize and respond to an appeal for repetition or clarification.

Listen and respond to simple expressions of welcome made by a neighbour or teacher. (Please come in. Please sit down.)

II. Comprehending Instructions

• Understand short, simple, common instructions, commands, requests and directions related to immediate personal needs.

[Instructions/commands are simple imperative sentences.]

- Identifies letters and numbers.
- Identifies words or phrases that indicate positive or negative commands or requests.
- Responds verbally (by answering questions) or with actions.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 2, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Task

Follow instructions, directions and requests from a teacher, receptionist or sales representative. (How do you spell your name? Over there. Sign on the line. Initial here. Go upstairs. Can I see some identification?)