

Cambridge

English Skills Test

Speaking Assessment Criteria General & Business



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English

CEFR	Pronunciation and Fluency	Language Resource	Discourse Management
C1	Pronunciation is intelligible; stress, rhythm, intonation and connected speech are used to express meaning well. Flow of speech is generally effortless with mostly natural hesitation and pauses.	Displays good control of complex language, including a range of vocabulary (e.g. attempts to use idiomatic expressions and collocations) and sophisticated syntactic structures. Lexical and/or grammatical errors, if present, are not intrusive.	The logic behind the message is easy to follow. There is a coherent progression within the development of ideas.
B2	Pronunciation is generally intelligible but L1 features may occasionally interfere; stress, rhythm and intonation are used to express meaning adequately. Some hesitation may be present while searching for language.	There is an adequate range of grammar and vocabulary which is sufficiently accurate. Lexical and/or grammatical errors are present but generally do not impede meaning.	The logic behind the message is comprehensible but may require effort to identify. The relationship between ideas is generally clear.
B1	Pronunciation can generally be understood but L1 features may cause strain; attempts to use stress, rhythm and intonation to express meaning are not always successful. Flow of speech is uneven, with some signs of false starts, self-correction, repetition and/or unnatural hesitation.	The range of grammar and vocabulary used is limited. Utterances using simple language are accurate but basic inaccuracies when attempting to use more complex language may impede communication of ideas.	There may be some relationship between ideas, but they appear generally disconnected.
A2	Pronunciation of single words and phrases may be intelligible but L1 features may make understanding difficult; attempts to use stress, rhythm and intonation to express meaning are unsuccessful. Utterances are short, with frequent hesitations and pauses.	The range of language is insufficient. Some utterances (e.g. single words or short phrases) may be accurate but inaccuracies in grammar and vocabulary restrict communication of ideas.	Not applicable due to lack of extended discourse.
A1	Pronunciation of individual words may be intelligible but L1 features may cause excessive strain to a listener; little attempt is made to use aspects of stress, rhythm or intonation to express meaning. Utterances are limited to single words or phrases, with excessive hesitations and pauses making speech difficult to follow.	The range of language is very limited. Some accurate language (e.g. pre-packaged utterances) may occur but frequent inaccuracies mean the message is not communicated.	Not applicable due to lack of extended discourse.

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