

NITY ESOL Skills for Life

Generic performance descriptors - Speaking and Listening

These generic descriptors are to be used in conjunction with the Task-specific mark scheme for each task at each level.

For each task at each Entry level, the examiner uses the three generic band performance descriptors to assess the candidate's performance on a 4-point scale.

For each task at Level 1 and Level 2, the examiner uses the three generic band performance descriptors to assess the candidate's performance on a 7-point scale.

Assessment strands	Secure pass	Pass	Below pass
Coverage of component skills, knowledge and understanding of the level 1. Speak to communicate 2. Listen and respond 3. Engage in discussion	The candidate's contributions provide sustained evidence of good coverage of the relevant component skill/s, knowledge and understanding throughout the task in each of the three standards. The candidate achieves the communicative purpose of the task with ease and independently without the need for support from the examiner.	The candidate's contributions provide some evidence of coverage of the relevant component skill/s, knowledge and understanding in each of the three standards. The candidate achieves the communicative purpose of the task but may need some support from the examiner to do so.	The candidate's contributions provide limited evidence of coverage of the relevant component skill/s, knowledge and understanding in each of the three standards. The candidate only partially achieves the communicative purpose of the task even with the support of the examiner.
4. Accuracy, range and appropriacy of the key language items of the level	The candidate uses a wide range of specified items successfully. These are well controlled and are used appropriately and consistently throughout the task. There are few inaccuracies.	The candidate attempts to use a range of the specified items. The candidate's contributions are mostly appropriate for the task and are generally well controlled although some inaccuracies may be evident but do not impede communication.	The candidate produces very few samples of the key language items. These are not well controlled and inaccuracies can impede communication. The candidate's contributions may not, at times, be appropriate for the task.