



ORAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Since we are believers in formative rather than summative assessment, we guide ourselves through the use of band descriptors which need to be interpreted by reference to the performance levels indicated in the Minimum Contents. It is important to notice that many of the criteria are similar except for a few words that mark the difference between one band and the other. It is important to read these bands carefully before engaging in the assessment process.

	Grammar and Vocabulary	Discourse Management	Pronunciation and Intonation	Interactive Communication
10	Excellent performance above descriptors in band 9			
9	Shows a very good degree of control of a range of simple and some complex grammatical forms. Uses a range of appropriate vocabulary to give and exchange views on a wide range of topics.	Produces extended stretches of language with very little hesitation. Contributions are relevant and there is a clear organization of ideas. Uses a range of cohesive devices and discourse markers.	Is intelligible. Intonation is appropriate. Sentence and word stress is accurately placed. Individual sounds are articulated clearly.	Initiates and responds appropriately, linking contributions to those of other speakers. Maintains and develops the interaction and negotiates towards an outcome.
8	Performance shares features of bands 9 & 7			
7	Shows a good degree of control of a range of simple and attempts some grammatical complex forms. Uses a range of appropriate vocabulary to give and exchange views on a range of topics.	Produces extended stretches of language despite some hesitation. Contributions are relevant and there is very little repetition. Uses a range of cohesive devices.	Is intelligible. Intonation is generally appropriate. Sentence and word stress is generally accurately placed. Individual sounds are generally articulated clearly.	Initiates and responds appropriately. Maintains and develops the interaction and negotiates towards an outcome with very little support.
6	Performance shares features of bands 7 & 5/4			
5 / 4	Shows some degree of control of a range of simple grammatical forms. Uses a range of appropriate vocabulary when talking about familiar situations.	Produces exchanges which are extended beyond short phrases despite hesitation. Contributions are mostly relevant despite some repetition. Uses basic cohesive devices.	Is mostly intelligible, and has some control of phonological features at both utterance and word levels.	Initiates and responds mostly appropriately. Keeps interaction going with some prompting and support.
	Performance is below band 5 / 4 and frequently resorts to Spanish			