

Lower Level Speaking Test Holistic Rubric

Lower Level

Level 1

	1	2	3	4
Syntax	Communication extremely limited. Can produce isolated lexical items, but rarely phrases.	Can produce only limited responses to some questions. Produces a mixture of single words and simple phrases. Little to no awareness of English verb system	Some ability to form clauses or simple sentences. May occasionally use some complex syntax (e.g. connectors, multi-clause sentences, time adverbials, etc)	Most utterances are complete sentences. May show some awareness of tense or aspect. Shows some control of complex syntax
Vocabulary	Little to no vocabulary knowledge	Lacks vocabulary for many elements in the story	Can use basic vocabulary to refer to most elements of the story	Use of vocabulary may show some signs of complexity,
Fluency	No evidence of fluency. Frequent pauses between phrases. Some words/phrases may be unintelligible	Frequent pauses between phrases. Occasional words/phrases may be unintelligible	May show a few elements of fluency between phrases. Most words/phrases generally intelligible.	Some fluency apparent within or even between sentences. Intelligibility does not cause communication difficulties.
Communication strategies	Little evidence of communication strategies. Communication frequently breaks down when encountering unknown word or grammatical structure.	Some use of paraphrase or gesture to fill in for unknown vocabulary.	May be able to paraphrase some unknown vocabulary elements in story. May occasionally use connectors to link elements of the story.	Uses connectors to link elements of the story (e.g. first, second, next, then)
Listening & Interaction	Understands no or only a few questions.	Understands some basic questions	Understands most basic questions	Understands basic and some complex questions

Holistic Rating: (circle one) 1

2

3

4

Recommendation: (circle one) Lower Level

Level 1

Name _____

Raters _____ & _____

Comments _____

