

## Scoring in the speaking test

All four tasks (interview, picture story, transactional dialogues and communication task) are marked together. The assessor (the person who is NOT asking the questions) gives a maximum of twenty marks in total. The interlocutor gives five marks.

**Range and Accuracy (5 marks)** - is the candidate using grammar, vocabulary and other language appropriate for the level? And to what extent is the candidate getting it right?

**Fluency and Coherence (5 marks)** – is the candidate speaking without stopping and starting? Is s/he making sense?

**Pronunciation (5 marks)** – can we understand the words? Does it sound like English?

**Communication Strategies (5 marks)** – is the candidate really talking to the examiner and (in task 4) other candidate? E.g. answering, asking, listening.

## Glossary of terms

<b>circumlocution</b>	You don't know a word so you talk around it, e.g. bird that thing that flies
<b>coherent discourse</b>	What you are saying is logical and makes sense
<b>cohesive devices</b>	Words like and, but however, also, first of all which tie your sentences together and make it easy to understand
<b>connected speech</b>	When words are said together in sentences they change. E.g. Fish and Chips sounds like fi-shan-chips
<b>intonation patterns</b>	This is 'music' of the language. Yes/no questions for example go up at the end, e.g. Are you ill?
<b>register</b>	Different groups of people use different types of language. The register of lawyers for example is different from pop group singers.
<b>repair strategies</b>	Everybody (including native speakers) go wrong sometimes when they are saying something. Repair strategies are putting it right again.
<b>turns</b>	When people talk together they take turns. Knowing how to take your turn or giving a turn to other people is an important speaking skill.

	Range and Accuracy	Fluency and Coherence	Pronunciation	Communication Strategies
<b>5</b>	Wide range of grammar, lexis and cohesive devices used to complete the tasks, with no real need to use circumlocution. Very few errors, mainly slips even when using complex language.	Maintains a seamless flow of language with occasional hesitation only to formulate ideas, not language. Links ideas naturally into clear coherent discourse with no jumpiness even in extended contributions.	Although there may still be an evident foreign accent, pronunciation is natural and places no strain on the listener. The candidate naturally incorporates features of connected speech and English intonation patterns.	Initiates, maintains and ends turns very naturally. Uses repair strategies (clarification, circumlocution) where necessary. Uses appropriate register, demonstrating a sophisticated awareness of different levels of formality.
<b>4</b>				
<b>3</b>	Sufficient range of grammar, lexis and cohesive devices to complete the tasks although circumlocution may occasionally be necessary. Occasional slips in simple sentences. Comfortable with more complex structures and lexis although errors still occur.	Maintains a smooth flow of language with hesitation mainly to formulate ideas, only occasionally language. Links ideas into clear coherent discourse with little or no jumpiness even in extended contributions.	Although there may still be an evident foreign accent, pronunciation places little strain on the listener. The candidate often utilises features of connected speech and English intonation patterns.	Initiates, maintains and ends turns comfortably. Uses repair strategies (clarification, circumlocution) where necessary. Uses appropriate register, demonstrating an ability to use different levels of formality in different situations.
<b>2</b>				
<b>1</b>	Range of grammar, lexis and cohesive devices insufficient to adequately complete the tasks. Errors in simple sentences. Few attempts at complex structures or lexis with errors where attempted.	Noticeable hesitation while formulating language. Can link ideas into clear, coherent discourse although with noticeable jumpiness especially in extended contributions.	Although pronunciation may be intelligible, mispronunciations and lack of features of connected speech put some strain on the listener.	Initiates, maintains and ends turns although not always smoothly. Evidence of ability to use repair strategies (clarification, circumlocution) although not always applied. Attempts to use appropriate register not always successful.
<b>0</b>	Insufficient language for assessment			

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