

## RATING SCALE FOR MULTILEVEL SPEAKING EXAMS

Questions 1-3	
Point scale	Descriptors
5	Performance is likely to be above the <b>A2 level</b> .
4 (Higher A2)	<p>Responses to all <b>three questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some simple grammatical structures are used correctly but basic mistakes systematically occur.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is sufficient to respond to the questions, although inappropriate word choices are noticeable.</li> <li>• Mispronunciations are noticeable and frequently place a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations, but the meaning is still clear.</li> </ul>
3 (Lower A2)	<p>Responses to <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some simple grammatical structures are used correctly but basic mistakes systematically occur.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is sufficient to respond to the questions, although inappropriate word choices are noticeable.</li> <li>• Mispronunciations are noticeable and frequently place a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations, but the meaning is still clear.</li> </ul>
2 (Higher A1)	<p>Responses to at least <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammatical structure is limited to words and phrases. Errors in basic patterns and simple grammar structures impede understanding.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is limited to very basic words related to personal information.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is mostly unintelligible except for isolated words.</li> <li>• Frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations impede understanding.</li> </ul>
1 (Lower A1)	<p>Response to <b>one question</b> is on topic and shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammatical structure is limited to words and phrases. Errors in basic patterns and simple grammar structures impede understanding.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is limited to very basic words related to personal information.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is mostly unintelligible except for isolated words.</li> <li>• Frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations impede understanding.</li> </ul>
0	No meaningful language or all responses are completely off-topic (e.g. memorized answers, guessing).

**Questions 4-6**

Point scale	Descriptors
5	Performance is likely to be above the <b>B1 level</b> .
4 (Higher B1)	<p>Responses to all <b>three questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• There is sufficient range and control of vocabulary for the task. Errors occur when expressing complex thoughts.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
3 (Lower B1)	<p>Responses to <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• There is sufficient range and control of vocabulary for the task. Errors occur when expressing complex thoughts.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
2 (Higher A2)	<p>Responses to at least <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some simple grammatical structures are used correctly but basic mistakes systematically occur.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is sufficient to respond to the questions, although inappropriate word choices are noticeable.</li> <li>• Mispronunciations are noticeable and frequently place a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Cohesion between ideas is limited. Responses tend to be a list of points.</li> </ul>
1 (Lower A2)	<p>Response to <b>one question</b> is on topic and shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some simple grammatical structures are used correctly but basic mistakes systematically occur.</li> <li>• Vocabulary is sufficient to respond to the questions, although inappropriate word choices are noticeable.</li> <li>• Mispronunciations are noticeable and frequently place a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is frequent pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Cohesion between ideas is limited. Responses tend to be a list of points.</li> </ul>
0	Performance is below A2, or there is no meaningful language, or all responses are completely off-topic (e.g. memorized answers, guessing).

### Question 7

Point scale	Descriptors
5	Performance is likely to be above the <b>B2 level</b> .
4 (Higher B2)	<p>Responses to all <b>three questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some complex grammar constructions are used accurately. Errors do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• The range of vocabulary is sufficient to discuss the topics required by the task. Inappropriate lexical choices do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is intelligible. Mispronunciations do not put a strain on the listener or lead to misunderstanding.</li> <li>• Some pausing while searching for vocabulary but this does not put a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• A limited number of cohesive devices are used to indicate the links between ideas.</li> </ul>
3 (Lower B2)	<p>Responses to <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some complex grammar constructions are used accurately. Errors do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• The range of vocabulary is sufficient to discuss the topics required by the task. Inappropriate lexical choices do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is intelligible. Mispronunciations do not put a strain on the listener or lead to misunderstanding.</li> <li>• Some pausing while searching for vocabulary but this does not put a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• A limited number of cohesive devices are used to indicate the links between ideas.</li> </ul>
2 (Higher B1)	<p>Responses to at least <b>two questions</b> are on topic and show the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• Limitations in vocabulary make it difficult to deal fully with the task.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
1 (Lower B1)	<p>Response to <b>one question</b> is on topic and shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• Limitations in vocabulary make it difficult to deal fully with the task.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
0	Performance is below B1, or there is no meaningful language, or all responses are completely off-topic (e.g. memorized answers, guessing).

## Question 8

Point scale	Descriptors
6	Performance is likely to be above the <b>C1 level</b> .
5 (C1)	<p>The presentation is clear, highlighting points from each section. Gives reasons in support of and against particular points of view.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of complex grammar constructions are used accurately. <b>Some minor errors</b> occur but do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• A range of vocabulary is used to discuss the topic required by the task. There is <b>some awkward usage</b> or slightly inappropriate word choices.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is intelligible.</li> <li>• Backtracking and reformulations <b>do not fully interrupt</b> the flow of speech.</li> <li>• A range of cohesive devices are used to clearly indicate the links between ideas.</li> </ul>
4 (Higher B2)	<p>The response addresses the points from <b>each section</b> and shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some complex grammar constructions are used accurately. Errors do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• The range of vocabulary is sufficient to discuss the topics required by the task. Inappropriate lexical choices do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is intelligible. Mispronunciations do not put a strain on the listener or lead to misunderstanding.</li> <li>• Some pausing while searching for vocabulary but this does not put a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• A limited number of cohesive devices are used to indicate the links between ideas.</li> </ul>
3 (Lower B2)	<p>The response addresses the points from only <b>one of the sections</b> and shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some complex grammar constructions are used accurately. Errors do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• The range of vocabulary is sufficient to discuss the topics required by the task. Inappropriate lexical choices do not impede understanding.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is intelligible. Mispronunciations do not put a strain on the listener or lead to misunderstanding.</li> <li>• Some pausing while searching for vocabulary but this does not put a strain on the listener.</li> <li>• A limited number of cohesive devices are used to indicate the links between ideas.</li> </ul>
2 (Higher B1)	<p>The candidate is unable to construct a coherent and sustained response and is <b>heavily dependent on the input prompts</b>.</p> <p>The response shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• Limitations in vocabulary make it difficult to deal fully with the task.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
1 (Lower B1)	<p>The candidate is unable to construct a coherent and sustained response and <b>reads directly from the input prompts</b>.</p> <p>The response shows the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simple grammatical structures are used correctly. Errors occur when attempting complex structures.</li> <li>• Limitations in vocabulary make it difficult to deal fully with the task.</li> <li>• Pronunciation is generally intelligible but mispronunciations put an occasional strain on the listener.</li> <li>• There is some pausing, false starts, and reformulations.</li> <li>• Uses only simple cohesive devices. Links between ideas are not always clearly indicated.</li> </ul>
0	Performance is below B1, or there is no meaningful language, or all responses are completely off-topic (e.g. memorized answers, guessing).