

Graded Examinations in Spoken English Integrated Skills in English (Interview component)

Performance descriptors

These performance descriptors are to be used for the assessment of all phases of the Graded Examinations in Spoken English and at all stages, with the exception of the Listening task phase at Advanced stage. They also apply to the ISE Interview component.

While, of necessity, the descriptors have to be generic in nature, it is important that examiners use them with reference to the requirements of the particular phase and take into account the grade/level at which the candidate is being assessed.

Band	Task fulfilment
A	The candidate's contributions are very effective, clearly comprehensible, highly appropriate and obviously fulfil the task. There is comprehensive coverage of the communicative skills, functions and language items of the grade/level. These items are used with consistency and with a high level of accuracy and appropriacy. Any inaccuracies which occur rarely impede the overall communication of meaning. The interaction proceeds smoothly, with the candidate contributing promptly and fluently.
B	The candidate's contributions are generally effective, comprehensible, appropriate and adequately fulfil the task. There is good coverage of the communicative skills, functions and language items of the grade/level. There is evidence of a good level of accuracy and appropriacy in the use of the language items although this may not be maintained throughout the phase. Inaccuracies do occur and at times they may affect the communication of meaning. The interaction generally progresses well but the flow may be affected by some hesitancy.
C	The candidate's contributions are moderately effective, comprehensible and appropriate and partially fulfil the task. There is coverage of the communicative skills, functions and language items of the grade/level although this may be characterised by the provision of only isolated samples. There is some control over the accuracy and appropriacy of the use of the language items of the grade/level. Inaccuracies can affect the communication of meaning and require remedial action. The flow of the interaction may be halted by hesitancy, requests for repetition or pauses while searching for language. The candidate may need some support.
D	The candidate's contributions are very limited, lack comprehensibility and appropriacy and, although there is some attempt at the task, this is not fulfilled even with support. There is very little evidence of coverage of the communicative skills, functions and language items of the grade/level. Inaccuracies and inappropriacies are highly evident and cause communication breakdown. Lack of understanding and severe hesitation impede communication and prevent the interaction from proceeding as required.

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Performance descriptors for Listening task at Advanced stage, ISE III and ISE IV

- A – All three responses match very closely the conclusions and answers provided and are delivered promptly, confidently and concisely.
- B – All three responses approximate to the meaning answers and conclusions provided and may be delivered hesitantly and lack the appropriate focus.
- C – Two of the responses match very closely or approximate to the meaning of the answers and conclusions provided.
- D – One or none of the responses approximate to the answers and conclusions provided.

Look-up tables – Fail profiles

Initial stage	Advanced stage/ISE III/ISE IV
D	AADDD
	ABDDD
	ACDDD
	ADDDD
	BBDDD
	BCDDD
	BDDDD
	CCDDD
	CDDDD
	DDDDD