

Can-Do Statements for Communication – Proficiency Benchmarks



NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
Interpretive Benchmark	Interpretive Benchmark	Interpretive Benchmark	Interpretive Benchmark	Interpretive Benchmark
I can identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences within texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can interpret and infer meaning from complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract and specialized issues that are spoken, written or signed.	I can interpret and infer meaning from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written or signed.
Interpersonal Benchmark	Interpersonal Benchmark	Interpersonal Benchmark	Interpersonal Benchmark	Interpersonal Benchmark
I can communicate in spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences and questions.	I can participate in spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	I can maintain spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar, as well as unfamiliar, concrete topics using series of connected sentences and probing questions.	I can participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, including supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	I can interact, negotiate and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written or signed language.
Presentational Benchmark	Presentational Benchmark	Presentational Benchmark	Presentational Benchmark	Presentational Benchmark
I can present information on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written or signed language.	I can communicate information, make presentations and express my thoughts about familiar topics, using sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver detailed and organized presentations on familiar as well as unfamiliar concrete topics, in paragraphs and using various time frames through spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver extended presentations on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, with precision of expression and to a wide variety of audiences, using spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver sophisticated and articulate presentations on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the audience, using spoken, written or signed language.



Can-Do Statements for Intercultural Communicative Competence – Benchmarks

Intercultural Investigation	Intercultural Investigation	Intercultural Investigation	Intercultural Investigation	Intercultural Investigation
Benchmark	Benchmark Benchmark	Benchmark	Benchmark	Benchmark
In my own and other cultures I can identify products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can make comparisons between products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can explain some diversity among products and practices and how it relates to perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can suspend judgment while critically examining products, practices, and perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can objectively evaluate products and practices and mediate perspectives.
Intercultural Interaction	Intercultural Interaction	Intercultural Interaction	Intercultural Interaction	Intercultural Interaction
Benchmark	Benchmark Benchmark	Benchmark	Benchmark	Benchmark
I can interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.	I can interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.	I can interact at a competent level in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	I can interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of culture.	I can engage with complexity and pluricultural identities and serve as a mediator between and among cultures.





Interpretive Proficiency Benchmarks



INTERMEDIATE ADVANCED SUPERIOR DISTINGUISHED NOVICE

I can identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.

I can understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences within texts that are spoken, written or signed.

I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.

I can interpret and infer meaning from I can interpret and infer meaning complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues that are spoken, written or signed.

from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply mbedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written or signed.

Performance Indicators

What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic informational texts that I hear, view or read?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can identify memorized or familiar words when they are supported by gestures or visuals in informational texts.	I can identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in informational texts.	•	•	I can understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward informational texts.	I can usually follow the main message in various time frames in straightforward, and sometimes descriptive, paragraph length informational texts.	·	I can understand the underlying message and most supporting details across major time frames in descriptive informational texts.	I can follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from complex language on unfamiliar, abstract topics within informational texts.		I can easily understand sophisticated language, regardless of the cultural context in professional, technical and academic texts.

What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic fictional texts that I hear, view or read?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
familiar words when they are supported by	basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases	from simple sentences in short	I can identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in short fictional texts.	I can understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward fictional texts.	main story and actions expressed in various		I can follow the main story and most supporting details across major time frames in fictional texts.	of ideas and some	topics in complex language in fictional texts.	mood in almost any genre of

What can I understand, interpret or analyze in conversations and discussions in which I am not a participant?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can understand	I can identify some	I can understand	I can identify the	I can identify the	I can usually	I can understand the	I can understand the	I can follow the flow	I can follow abstract, complex and	I can interpret tone, nuance, and
memorized or	basic facts from	familiar questions	main idea in short	main idea and key	understand the main	main message and	main message and	of ideas and some	unfamiliar topics in extended	mood in almost any extended
familiar words	memorized or	and statements	conversations.	information in short	idea and flow of	some supporting	most supporting	nuances from	conversations and discussions	conversation and discussion.
when they are	familiar words and	from simple		straightforward	events expressed in	details across major	details across major	different viewpoints	involving multiple speakers.	
supported by	phrases when they	sentences in		conversations.	various time frames	time frames in	time frames in	in conversations and		
gestures or	are supported by	conversations.			in conversations and	conversations and	conversations and	discussions.		
visuals in	gestures or visuals in				discussions.	discussions.	discussions.			
conversations.	conversations.									

^{*} Note: Additional factors and strategies may impact how learners make meaning from texts that they hear, view or read: text complexity or length, familiarity with topic, background knowledge, prior literacy skills, using context clues, making inferences, etc. An Interpretive Task template and rubric can be found here.





Interpersonal Proficiency Benchmarks



INTERMEDIATE ADVANCED

I can communicate in spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences and questions.

NOVICE

I can participate in spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.

I can maintain spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar, as well as unfamiliar, concrete topics using series of connected sentences and probing questions.

I can participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written or signed discussions and debates on issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, including supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.

SUPERIOR

I can interact, negotiate, and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written or signed language

DISTINGUISHED

Performance	Indicators
--------------------	------------

How can I exchange information and ideas in conversations?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	I can request and provide information by asking and answering a few simple questions on very familiar and everyday topics, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences.	I can request and provide information by asking and answering practiced and some original questions on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.	I can request and provide information in conversations on familiar topics by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.	I can exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and series of sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.	I can exchange information in conversations and some discussions on a variety of familiar and some concrete topics that I have researched, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	I can exchange information and ideas in discussions on a variety of familiar and concrete academic and social topics, using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.	I can maintain discussions on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar concrete topics of personal and general interest, and sometimes academic, social or professional topics, by using probing questions and providing detailed responses across major timeframes.	I can discuss and sometimes debate a variety of complex concrete and some abstract academic, social and professional topics and often deal with related issues hypothetically, using precise questions and explanations.	I can discuss and debate a wide variety of complex issues and abstract ideas using precise, sophisticated, and academic language.	I can debate complex issues and abstract ideas skillfully and succinctly, tailoring language to the cultural context of the interaction, using cultural and historical references as appropriate.
				How can I m	eet my needs or add	ress situations in co	onversations?			
LOW	MID	ПСП	LOW	MID	nich	LOW	MID	пісп	CLIDEDIOD	DISTINGUISHED

	How can I meet my needs or address situations in conversations?													
LOW	LOW MID HIGH		LOW	MID	HIGH LOW		MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED				
practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	needs related to familiar and everyday activities, using a mixture of practiced or	others to meet my basic needs related to routine everyday activities, using simple sentences and	situations by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate	to meet my needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating	I can interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of situations, sometimes involving a complication, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	•	I can interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication that arises in a familiar situation, providing detailed explanations and offering a variety of resolutions across major time frames.	unexpected complication in a situation that is	I can interact and negotiate to resolve abstract and complex matters on a wide variety of topics in a variety of situations	I can interact and negotiate to resolve highly abstract and complex matters in culturally appropriate ways on a wide variety of topics and to persuasively advocate a point of view that is not necessarily my own.				

How can I express, react to and support preferences and opinions in conversations?

	The state of the s													
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED				
I can express basic preferences or feelings, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	practiced or	I can express, ask about, and react to preferences, feelings or opinions on familiar topics, using simple sentences most of the time and asking questions to keep the conversation on topic.	I can express, ask about, and react with some details to preferences, feelings or opinions on familiar topics, by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.	I can exchange preferences, feelings or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.	I can explain preferences, opinions, and emotions and provide advice on a variety of familiar and some concrete topics that I have researched, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	I can maintain conversations by providing explanations and comparisons of preferences, opinions, and advice on familiar and concrete academic and social topics using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.	I can maintain extended conversations by supporting, reacting to, and comparing preferences and opinions and expressing advice and emotions in detail across major time frames, and by asking probing questions.	and sometimes debate opinions and advice on a variety of complex	I can discuss and debate opinions and advice with multiple participants on a wide variety of complex issues and abstract ideas, concretely, abstractly, and hypothetically.	I can tailor language to a variety of audiences by adapting my speech and register in culturally authentic ways.				









Presentational Proficiency Benchmarks



SUPERIOR INTERMEDIATE ADVANCED DISTINGUISHED

I can present information on both very familiar and everyday topics using a variety of practiced and memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written or signed language.

I can communicate information, make presentations, and express my thoughts about familiar topics, using sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written or signed language.

I can deliver detailed and organized presentations on familiar as well as unfamiliar concrete topics, in paragraphs and using various time frames through spoken, written or signed language.

I can deliver extended presentations on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, with precision of expression and to a wide variety of audiences, using spoken, written or signed language.

I can deliver sophisticated and rticulate presentations on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the audience, using spoken, written or signed language.

Performance Indicators

How can I present information to narrate about my life, experiences and events?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can introduce myself using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	I can present information about myself, my interests and my activities using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences.	I can present personal information about my life and activities, using simple sentences most of the time.	I can present personal information about my life, activities and events, using simple sentences.	events and other social experiences, using sentences and series of connected	I can tell stories about school and community events and personal experiences, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.	I can tell stories about school and community events and personal experiences, using paragraphs across major time frames.		I can give complex detailed narrations beyond the concrete, often addressing abstract experiences or hypothetical issues.	I can present clearly-articulated, coherent and detailed narrations on complex, abstract issues and hypothetical issues.	I can narrate succinctly and precisely, often using historical or cultural references to engage an audience whose cultural attitudes, expectations and perspectives may be different from my own.

How can I present information to give a preference, opinion or persuasive argument?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can express my likes and dislikes using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	familiar everyday topics of interest, using a mixture of	I can express my preferences on familiar and everyday topics of interest, using simple sentences most of the time.	everyday topics of interest and	familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of		evidence on some concrete academic, social and professional topics of interest using paragraphs across	argument with supporting evidence, based on a variety of concrete academic, social and	accurately present an argument with supporting evidence on complex concrete issues, and often deal with related issues	I can deliver a clearly articulated and well-structured argument, refute counterarguments, and give extensive supporting evidence on abstract or hypothetical issues and ideas, ranging from broad general interests to areas of specialized expertise.	I can tailor a sophisticated presentation to advocate my own or another's point of view or to persuade an audience whose attitudes and cultural perspectives may be different from my own.

How can I present information to inform, describe and explain?

LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
I can name very	I can present on	I can present on	I can present on	I can give	I can give detailed	I can deliver	I can deliver detailed	I can deliver cohesive	I can deliver clearly articulated and	I can deliver sophisticated
familiar people,	very familiar and	familiar and	familiar and	straightforward	presentations on a	presentations on	presentations and	presentations on a	well-structured presentations to	presentations with accuracy,
places and	everyday topics	everyday topics,	everyday topics,	presentations on a	variety of familiar	some concrete	elaborate on a variety	variety of complex	various audiences on abstract or	efficiency and effectiveness on
objects using	using a mixture of	using simple	using simple	variety of familiar	topics and some	academic, social and	of concrete academic,	concrete topics related	hypothetical issues and ideas, ranging	global and highly abstract
practiced or	practiced or	sentences most of	sentences.	topics and some	concrete topics I	professional topics	social and professional	to community	from broad general interests to areas	concepts in my field of expertise,
memorized	memorized words,	the time.		concrete topics I	have researched,	of interest, using	topics of interest, using	interests and some	of specialized expertise.	adapting my language to the
words and	phrases and simple			have researched,	using a few short	paragraphs across	organized paragraphs	specialized fields, and		characteristics of the audience
phrases, with	sentences.			using sentences and	paragraphs, often	major time frames.	across major time	often deal with related		and embedding cultural
the help of				series of connected	across various time		frames.	issues hypothetically.		perspectives.
gestures or				sentences.	frames.					
visuals.										



Intercultural Communicative Competence Benchmarks

NOVICE Investigation	INTERMEDIATE Investigation	ADVANCED Investigation	SUPERIOR Investigation	DISTINGUISHED Investigation		
In my own and other cultures I can identify products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can make comparisons between products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can explain some diversity among products and practices and how it relates to perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can suspend judgment while critically examining products, practices, and perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can objectively evaluate products and practices and mediate perspectives.		
Performance Indicators	How can I investigate products and practices to understand perspectives?					
In my own and other cultures I can identify some typical products related to familiar everyday life.	In my own and other cultures I can compare products related to everyday life and personal interests or studies.	In my own and other cultures I can explain how a variety of products of public and personal interest are related to perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can analyze how products of personal and public interest are related to perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can evaluate a wide range of concrete and abstract products from different viewpoints.		
In my own and other cultures I can identify some typical practices related to familiar everyday life.	In my own and other cultures I can compare practices related to everyday life and personal interests or studies.	In my own and other cultures I can explain how a variety of practices within familiar and social situations are related to perspectives.		In my own and other cultures I can evaluate a wide range of concrete and abstract practices from different viewpoints.		

NOVICE Interaction	INTERMEDIATE Interaction	ADVANCED Interaction	SUPERIOR Interaction	DISTINGUISHED Interaction	
I can interact at a survival level with others in and from another culture in some familiar everyday contexts	I can interact at a functional level with others in and from another culture in some familiar contexts.	I can interact at a competent level with others in and from another culture in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	I can interact in complex situations with others in and from another culture to ensure a shared understanding of culture.		
Performance Indicators How can I use my language and behavior to interact with others in and from another culture?					
I can communicate with others from the target culture in familiar everyday situations, using memorized language and showing basic cultural awareness.	I can converse with peers from the target culture in familiar situations at school, work, or play, and show interest in basic cultural similarities and differences.	I can converse comfortably with others from the target culture in familiar and some unfamiliar situations and show some understanding of cultural differences.	I can suspend judgement, adapt my language, and make appropriate cultural references when interacting with others from the target culture in social and professional situations.	sophistication in my language when interacting in social, academic or professional	
I can use appropriate rehearsed behaviors and recognize some obviously inappropriate behaviors in familiar everyday situations.	I can recognize that significant differences in behaviors exist among cultures, use appropriate learned behaviors and avoid major social blunders.	I can demonstrate awareness of subtle differences among cultural behaviors and adjust my behavior accordingly in familiar and some unfamiliar situations.	read nonverbal cues and adjust my behavior in complicated situations.	I can transition smoothly from formal to informal styles of behavior, respond effectively to nonverbal cues and mediate situations of cultural misunderstanding with empathy.	