

Level C1 Proficiency: Speaking Mark Scheme – Assessor’s Copy

	Range and Accuracy	Fluency and Coherence	Pronunciation	Communication Strategies
5	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.
4				
3	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.
2				
1	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.
0	Insufficient language for assessment <i>or</i> Significantly below level criteria			

Level C1 – Proficiency: Speaking Mark Scheme – Interlocutor’s copy

	Overall impression
5	<p>Convincing ability to maintain accurate, fluent and natural conversation. Wide range of grammar, lexis and cohesive devices. Does not avoid complex language. Pronunciation is natural with appropriate intonation.</p>
4	
3	<p>Smooth use of language with only small difficulties or gaps. There are some errors , and even occasional slips in simple sentences. Pronunciation places little strain on the listener. Conversation is maintained in a natural and appropriate manner.</p>
2	
1	<p>Noticeable hesitation. Jumpiness. Insufficient grammar, lexis and cohesive devices to do the tasks. Errors in simple sentences. Avoidance of complex structures or lexis. Significant pronunciation difficulties.</p>
0	Very hard to understand, clearly significantly below level criteria