

Proficiency Testing Sample Prompts

Guidance

- These prompts are provided for districts to determine if students have the writing and speaking skills necessary to test.
- District personnel **do not need** to understand the oral or written language – recognizing that the language is not English and can be sustained for one minute and a paragraph is enough.
- Best practice is to have a few prompts ready because we want students to have spontaneous answers, not practiced responses.
- Student responses do not have to be truthful. If they do not have enough experience with the topic, they can make up information as long as it answers the prompt.

Please have students do one spoken and one written prompt **before** requesting a custom test. This assures the student can complete both tasks necessary to earn credit. If a student cannot finish one of the skills, they will earn 0 credits and the test will still be invoiced.

Directions

Writing

On a separate piece of paper or on an online document (keyboard dependent), please provide a space for the student's name and the date. Then provide one prompt and lines for the student to write/type. It is important to provide enough space for the student to answer the prompt as completely as possible. Encourage students to write a full paragraph, if possible. Longer answers can have the potential to allow students to demonstrate their skills to earn higher proficiency levels.

Speaking

Speaking prompts can be on a separate piece of paper or in a virtual medium, like a slide. Students can respond to the prompts through a phone call or in-person to a proctor or record an audio file. Files can be recorded on a computer or a phone. Encourage students to answer the prompt as completely as possible, speaking for up to two full minutes.



Prompts

- Think of one person who has a positive impact on your life.

In the target language, describe in detail who that person is in your life.

Tell who your important person is and say 2 or 3 activities or memories that you like the best. Use your senses to describe the situation with as much detail as possible!

Be sure to answer all parts of the prompt.

- What is your favorite season?

In the target language, describe in detail what your favorite time of year is.

Say the season and why you like it. You can compare activities or explain holidays or special events that happen during the season. Use as much detail as possible!

Be sure to answer all parts of the prompt.

- What do you like to do on a day off of school or work?

In the target language, describe in detail what you like to do when you have free time.

These activities can be done alone or with other people. Make sure to explain why you like to do these activities. Use as much detail as possible!

Be sure to answer all parts of the prompt.