



Profile of Ability

The listener can:

Understand a very limited number of common individual words, simple phrases and routine courtesy formulas related to immediate personal needs.

When the communication is:

- Spoken clearly at a slow rate
- Strongly supported by visuals or non-verbal communication (pictures, gestures)
- Face-to-face with a highly supportive speaker or via digital media (usually one-on-one)
- Related to immediate personal needs
- Very short
- In non-demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Understands simple phrases and a few factual details
- Recognizes meaning based on individual familiar words and short formulaic phrases
- Relies heavily on gestures and other visual clues for comprehension
- Needs extensive assistance (such as repetition or paraphrasing, speech modification, explanation, demonstration or translation)
- Cannot comprehend on the phone

I. Interacting with Others

- Understand individual greetings, introductions and goodwill expressions.

[Communication is very brief, 1 or 2 short turns.]

- Identifies individual, familiar words and short phrases used in common courtesy formulas.
- Recognizes appeals for repetition.
- Indicates comprehension with appropriate verbal or non-verbal responses.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen and respond to a greeting from a neighbour, co-worker or classmate. (*Hello. How are you?*)

Listen to someone's introduction and ask for it to be repeated, if necessary.

II. Comprehending Instructions

- Understand very short, simple instructions, commands and requests related to immediate personal needs.

[Instructions/commands are about 2 to 5 words.]

- Identifies letters and numbers.
- Identifies words or phrases that indicate positive or negative commands or requests.
- Responds to requests and directions to provide personal information.
- Indicates comprehension with appropriate verbal and non-verbal responses.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen to letters and follow instructions for spelling a word.

Follow mostly imperative instructions from a teacher, co-worker or classmate. (*Open your book. Please come in. Sit down. Close the door. Open the window. Turn right. Raise your hand.*)

Follow a simple instruction about which bus to take (accompanied by gestures indicating where to go).



Listening – Benchmark 1

III. Getting Things Done

- Understand expressions used to attract attention and to request assistance in situations of immediate personal need.
 - Identifies a few common key words and formulaic expressions (*Help! Watch out!*).
 - Indicates comprehension with appropriate verbal or non-verbal responses.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen and respond to common expressions used in a store (such as a sales clerk's offer to provide assistance: *May I help you?*).

Listen and respond to expressions used to attract attention and request assistance. (*Excuse me. Hello. Can you help me? Pardon me.*)

IV. Comprehending Information

- Understand very simple information about highly familiar, concrete topics.
 - Identifies a few obvious factual details, such as numbers, letters, times and dates.
 - Identifies a few key words and short expressions related to immediate needs.
 - Indicates comprehension with appropriate verbal or non-verbal responses.
 - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Listening Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Listen and get a few obvious details from someone being introduced (such as where they are from).

Listen to a medical receptionist's confirmation of personal information (such as name, address and phone number).

Listen to a request for the time and a response that gives the time.