

EFB Level 3 Oral Examiners' – Marking Guide

Vocabulary	0-1	Vocabulary is insufficient to meet conversation needs.
	2-3	Vocabulary is general and unfocused. No use of idioms and absence of emotional shading. Significant circumlocution employed in attempting to express opinions.
	4-5	Some specialist vocabulary is employed, but responses are limited. Occasional evidence of shading and emotion.
	6-7	Whilst circumlocutions may be used in complex situations, the range of vocabulary is sufficiently wide and the use confident enough to avoid restriction of ideas.
	8-9	The presentation, with rhetorical elements is detailed and sophisticated. An appropriate tone is used and jargon is correctly employed.
	10	Vocabulary is more than adequate for the subject and demonstrates significantly wider knowledge
Fluency & Interaction	0-1	Conversation is severely limited by candidate's inability to respond.
	2-3	Candidate makes only brief statements and is unable to sustain longer discourse. Prompting is required and it is sometimes difficult to follow the argument.
	4-5	Occasional assistance is required, but the candidate is able to maintain the pace and flow.
	6-7	The candidate is able to respond and argue adequately, mostly leading the conversation without relying on the examiner's initiative.
	8-9	The candidate demonstrates a near-native pace of speech, initiating and confidently maintaining the flow throughout the interview.
	10	Candidate is a more than equal partner in the conversation, initiating and leading in a relevant and focused way.
Grammar	0-1	Major lack of grammatical knowledge is evident and conversation is seriously impeded.
	2-3	Difficulties with grammatical structures cause strain or irritation and may sometimes impede communication.
	4-5	Although some errors will be evident they are not serious or frequent enough to disturb the listener or cause misunderstandings.
	6-7	The candidate frequently uses complex grammatical forms and errors are rare.
	8-9	The candidate is largely error-free.
	10	Candidate achieves native-speaker standard.
Pronunciation	0	Conversation is impossible to sustain due to continual misunderstandings.
	1	The candidate is difficult to follow due to intonation and stress errors, with the examiner having to strain to understand and occasionally seek clarification.
	2	Errors are evident, but misunderstandings are rare. Little strain is required of the examiner.
	3	There are few errors and the candidate is easily understood at normal speed of delivery.
	4	The delivery is practically error-free and the candidate is able to use rhythm and intonation to convey shades of meaning.
	5	Whilst a slight accent may be present, stress and intonation are to native standard.