

EFB Level 1 Oral Examiners' – Marking Guide

Vocabulary	0-1	The candidate lacks the basic vocabulary necessary to conduct a conversation
	2-3	The vocabulary is limited to general language only and is not sufficient to adequately pursue the subject. Help is often required.
	4-5	The vocabulary is just adequate to express basic ideas, but time is needed to select words and there is significant evidence of native language interference.
	6-7	Can connect thoughts in a simple form and express opinions on the subject in a limited way. Can introduce some personal ideas and initiate verbally using circumlocution.
	8-9	Can express opinions and thoughts, using communication suitable strategies. Where necessary can repair and use circumlocution for more complex ideas.
	10	Approaching Level 2 criteria. Correct words and some use of idioms.
Fluency & Interaction	0-1	Inability to sustain any conversation.
	2-3	Frequent false starts and pauses require examiner intervention. Only minimal responses are obtained to questions.
	4-5	Some examiner intervention is required to maintain flow, but overall the ideas are comprehensible with occasional clarification. Slowness and hesitation is evident.
	6-7	A straightforward conversation is maintained with limited pauses and hesitation. Although speech may be somewhat slow, the ideas are understandable with little effort.
	8-9	Whilst there may be occasional stops for rephrasing or self-correction, the discourse is easy to follow and the communication is largely accurate.
	10	Excellent interaction and conversational skills
Grammar	0-1	Misuse of grammar, including tenses, leads to serious misunderstandings.
	2-3	Frequent problems occur with syntax and simple grammar, and confusion or misuse of tenses. Mistakes could lead to misunderstandings.
	4-5	Overall, the meaning is clear in spite of mistakes in syntax and grammar. Limited self-correction is evident indicating an awareness of mistakes.
	6-7	Can easily use simple structures and recognise complex ones. Small errors occur, but communication is not disturbed.
	8-9	Use of more complex structures is evident. Mostly error-free or subject to competent self-correction.
	10	Error-free within the limits of grammar expected at Level 1.
Pronunciation	0	Errors seriously inhibit the ability to converse.
	1	Problems such as intonation, stress etc, lead to poor comprehension and the examiner often straining to understand.
	2	Occasional repetition may be sought due to understanding problems.
	3	Although pronunciation and intonation problems are evident, this does not affect understanding.
	4	Sound production, intonation and word-stress permit full and easy understanding without strain or questioning.
	5	No pronunciation or stress problems are evident.