

**NOVICE LOW**

I can recognize a few memorized words and phrases when I hear them spoken.

**I can occasionally identify the sound of a character or a word.**

- I can recognize the sound of a few letters when they are spoken or spelled out.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can occasionally understand isolated words that I have memorized, particularly when accompanied by gestures or pictures.**

- I can understand greetings.
- I can recognize some color words.
- I can understand some numbers.
- I can understand some food items.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**NOVICE MID**

I can recognize some familiar words and phrases when I hear them spoken.

**I can understand a few courtesy phrases.**

- I can understand greetings.
- I can understand when people express thanks.
- I can understand when people introduce themselves.
- I can understand when someone asks for a name.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can recognize and sometimes understand basic information in words and phrases that I have memorized.**

- I can understand days of the week and the hour.
- I can recognize when I hear a date.
- I can recognize some common weather expressions.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can recognize and sometimes understand words and phrases that I have learned for specific purposes.**

- I can recognize the names of the planets in a science class.
- I can recognize the names of some parts of the body in a health or fitness class.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

## NOVICE HIGH

I can often understand words, phrases, and simple sentences related to everyday life.  
I can recognize pieces of information and sometimes understand the main topic of what is being said.

### I can sometimes understand simple questions or statements on familiar topics.

- I can recognize the difference between a question and a statement.
- I can sometimes understand questions about how old I am, where I live, what I do in my free time, etc.
- I can sometimes understand questions or statements about family.
- I can sometimes understand questions or statements about my friends and classmates or workmates.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### I can understand simple information when presented with pictures and graphs.

- I can understand some facts about the weather when weather symbols are used.
- I can understand when someone describes physical descriptions from a photo or an art work.
- I can follow along with simple arithmetic problems when I can see the figures.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### I can sometimes understand the main topic of conversations that I overhear.

- I can sometimes understand if people are referring to me.
- I can sometimes understand if people are talking about their homes or asking for directions.
- I can sometimes understand a simple transaction between a customer and a sales clerk.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERMEDIATE LOW

I can understand the main idea in short, simple messages and presentations on familiar topics.  
I can understand the main idea of simple conversations that I overhear.

### I can understand the basic purpose of a message.

- I can determine if I am hearing an announcement or an advertisement.
- I can understand what a radio advertisement is selling.
- I can understand when and where an event will take place.
- I can understand a voice message accepting or rejecting an invitation.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### I can understand messages related to my basic needs.

- I can understand a clear and repeated announcement about a flight's departure time and/or gate.
- I can understand teacher announcements about when an assignment is due.
- I can understand the date and time of when a voice message was recorded.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### I can understand questions and simple statements on everyday topics when I am part of the conversation.

- I can understand questions about my work or class schedule.
- I can understand questions about my likes and dislikes.
- I can understand simple compliments about what I am wearing or what I am doing.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### INTERMEDIATE MID

I can understand the main idea in messages and presentations on a variety of topics related to everyday life and personal interests and studies. I can understand the main idea in conversations that I overhear.

#### I can understand basic information in ads, announcements, and other simple recordings.

- I can understand when, where, and who is playing in a concert from a radio advertisement.
- I can understand the main message of an e-card greeting.
- I can understand what service is being offered in a TV ad.
- I can identify the type of film from a movie preview.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

#### I can understand the main idea of what I listen to for personal enjoyment.

- I can understand basic questions or statements during a video conference.
- I can understand a short YouTube clip.
- I can understand peers' recorded descriptions about themselves or their avatars.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

#### I can understand messages related to my everyday life.

- I can understand a voice message about the time and place of meeting.
- I can understand a box-office recording about the times of the performances or events.
- I can understand that an event is being postponed or cancelled.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

### INTERMEDIATE HIGH

I can easily understand the main idea in messages and presentations on a variety of topics related to everyday life and personal interests and studies. I can usually understand a few details of what I overhear in conversations, even when something unexpected is expressed. I can sometimes follow what I hear about events and experiences in various time frames.

#### I can easily understand straightforward information or interactions.

- I can understand the descriptions of avatars in a new video game.
- I can understand an interview between a student reporter and foreign visitors about activities they have done and are planning to do while in town.
- I can understand a tour guide's description of a city's history and attractions.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

#### I can understand a few details in ads, announcements, and other simple recordings.

- I can understand a few details about a nutritional recommendation in a public service health announcement.
- I can understand the services offered in an ad about a car repair service.
- I can understand a few details from public service announcements such as severe weather warnings or safety alerts.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

#### I can sometimes understand situations with complicating factors.

- I can understand a voice message from an exchange student telling why she will be late.
- I can understand a phone message about a change in meeting times and place.
- I can understand a voice message from the airlines about changes to a flight schedule.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVANCED LOW**

I can understand the main idea and some supporting details in organized speech on a variety of topics of personal and general interest. I can follow stories and descriptions of some length and in various time frames. I can understand information presented in a variety of genres on familiar topics, even when something unexpected is expressed.

**I understand descriptions and stories of events that have happened or will happen.**

- I can understand short presentations about famous people in history.
- I can understand a voicemail outlining the details of a plan for an upcoming outing.
- I can follow a video conferencing session in which the speakers recount their experience on a recent trip.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand the main idea of popular genres.**

- I can follow televised promotions for upcoming programs.
- I can follow a YouTube comparison of two popular vacation locations.
- I can follow simple oral stories, recorded books, summaries, or short excerpts from speeches.
- I can understand some simple information from a movie trailer.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVANCED MID**

I can understand the main idea and most supporting details on a variety of topics of personal and general interest, as well as some topics of professional interest. I can follow stories and descriptions of some length and in various time frames. I can understand information presented in most genres, even when not familiar with the topic.

**I can understand the main idea and many details of descriptions or interviews.**

- I can understand an interview with a famous person, such as a rock star, politician, or actor.
- I can understand a Web-based presentation giving a virtual tour of a city, a museum, or university.
- I can understand an introduction that outlines the achievements of a speaker.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand directions and instructions on everyday tasks.**

- I can understand multi-step instructions in a recipe presented on TV or YouTube.
- I can understand when a friend tells me how to play a sport or game.
- I can understand the details when a teacher presents how to complete a homework assignment to the class.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand accounts of events.**

- I can understand a voicemail message on how someone missed a meeting because of an accident.
- I can understand a family member recounting an event in a recorded memoir.
- I can understand some autobiographical details of a well-known science figure.
- I can understand a commentator's summary of a sporting event on TV.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVANCED HIGH**

I can easily follow narrative, informational, and descriptive speech. I can understand discussions on most topics that deal with special interests, unfamiliar situations, and abstract concepts.  
I can sometimes follow extended arguments and different points of view.

**I can easily understand detailed reports and exposés.**

- I can understand an interview in which the relationship of texting and traffic accidents is detailed by victims' reports on their experiences.
- I can understand a radio report on the increased crime rate in the community that includes descriptions of specific incidents of crime.
- I can understand a televised exposé on celebrities as heroes.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can often understand various viewpoints in extended arguments.**

- I can follow the argument when students debate the advantages and disadvantages of study abroad supported by examples of their personal experiences.
- I can understand the main points made in a conversation I overhear where two people are arguing the pros and cons of social networking.
- I can understand a YouTube debate on the legal age of drinking.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand discussions and presentations on many concrete and abstract topics.**

- I can understand the benefits of marathon running as detailed in a podcast.
- I can understand many points made in a YouTube presentation advocating for changes to immigration laws.
- I can understand a group leader's justification for protesting a cut in programs.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERIOR**

I can follow a wide range of academic and professional discourse on abstract and specialized topics. I can understand all standard dialects. I can sometimes infer complex meaning that requires deep understanding of the culture.

**I can understand a variety of abstract and technical topics within my field of expertise.**

- I can understand a lecture on my favorite subject.
- I can understand a scientific argument.
- I can understand a speech on a historical period.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand discussions on various issues of general interest.**

- I can understand the points of view of a televised political debate between candidates running for office.
- I can understand the debate teams' opposing ideas on the funding of arts at school.
- I can understand a panel discussion on a school or city policy.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand implications and inferences in discussions or presentations.**

- I can follow the discussion on a talk show about the implications of global warming.
- I can follow the arguments at a public meeting of a parent who opposes a school closing.
- I can follow a politician's speech on health care policies.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**DISTINGUISHED**

I can understand highly abstract and specialized speech tailored to different audiences. I can understand sophisticated language, humor, and persuasive arguments embedded with cultural references and allusions.

**I can understand speech that is tailored to either formal or informal contexts.**

- I can understand the plot and cultural implications of oral narratives such as folk and fairy tales.
- I can understand comic presentations.
- I can understand cultural inferences in puns and jokes.
- I can understand a debate or speech where diplomatic language is used.
- I can understand the details and subtleties of academic presentations.
- I can understand shades of meaning when watching a movie or listening to a song.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can understand a wide range of idioms, metaphors, and culturally embedded references.**

- I can understand political discourse that reflects cultural allusion or metaphor.
- I can understand the idioms, historical references, and cultural implications in musical lyrics.
- I can \_\_\_\_\_

**I can follow speech that takes a surprising turn.**

- I can understand when a speaker's conclusion veers from the expected direction of the preceding argument.
- I can understand the unanticipated outcome when one has been "led down the garden path."
- I can \_\_\_\_\_