

OPI Assessment Workshop

Description of the OPI:

The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is a valid and reliable means of assessing how well a person speaks a language. The OPI is proficiency-based. It assesses the ability to use language effectively and appropriately in real-life situations. It assesses spontaneous unrehearsed language. The OPI is a 20–30-minute one-on-one interview between a certified ACTFL tester and an examinee. It is interactive and speaker centered which means that each OPI is a unique experience. The tester will adjust their approach to the OPI based on the evidence of proficiency they are able to identify in the test taker's performance. The OPI is a criterion referenced assessment. The speaker's performance is compared to the criteria outlined in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012 - Speaking or the Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptors – Speaking.

Workshop Description:

This workshop introduces the ACTFL rating scale, the structure of the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and techniques of administering and rating the OPI. The ACTFL OPI Assessment Workshop is designed to focus on the proficiency levels Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and Superior. The purpose of this workshop is to provide a solid foundation for understanding the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines and the ACTFL OPI.

By attending this workshop, you will have a deep understanding of the Guidelines and the OPI that can improve your curricular design and implementation. Participants observe and conduct live practice interviews across all levels of proficiency. Upon fulfilling all requirements of this workshop, participants receive a Certificate of Completion for 30 professional development contact hours. This workshop is appropriate for educators pursuing Full OPI Tester Certification (Novice Low – Superior).

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Introduce and define the concept of proficiency.

2. Differentiate between the major ACTFL proficiency levels.
3. Describe typical linguistic features of each of the major ACTFL speaking levels.
4. Differentiate between the sublevels of the ACTFL proficiency levels.
5. Describe the different ACTFL speaking assessment criteria for each major level.
6. Describe the structure of the ACTFL OPI.
7. Identify effective techniques for eliciting a language sample.
8. Apply the assessment criteria to language samples.

Workshop Agenda Day 1 (8 hours):

Time	Content
Focus Our Learning 15 min.	Welcome and Introductions
Section One 1h 15 min.	ACTFL OPI Introduction and Overview
15 min.	BREAK
Section Two 45 min.	Rating Scale, Assessment Criteria, and Major Levels
Section Three 30 min.	Review of Major Level Features
60 min.	LUNCH BREAK
Section Four 2h 15 min.	Listening and Rating Practice
15 min.	BREAK
Section Five 1h 30 min.	At Level and Below Level Performance

Workshop Agenda Day 2 (8.5 hours):

Time	Content
Section One 30 min.	Sub-Levels
Section Two 60 min.	Rating Practice: Novice & Intermediate Identifying the Low/Mid Sub-levels
15 min.	BREAK
Section Three 60 min.	Rating Practice: Advanced Identifying Low-Mid Sublevels
Section Four 45 min.	Rating Practice: The Intermediate Border
60 min.	LUNCH BREAK
Section Five 1h 15 min.	Interview Structure and Elicitation
Section Six 15 min.	Group Discussion
Section Seven 60 min.	Rating Practice: The Advanced Border
15 min.	BREAK
Section Eight 60 min.	Rating Practice: The Superior Border
Section Nine 15 min.	Day 2 Review

Workshop Agenda Day 3 (8.5 hours):

Time	Content
Section One 30 min.	Warm-Up Activity
Section Two 30 min.	Effective Question Types at Novice and Intermediate
Section Three 30 min.	The Intermediate Level Role Play
15 min.	BREAK
Section Four 30 min.	Developing Topics at Intermediate: Level Checks and Probes
Section Five 45 min.	Facilitator-Led Exemplar Interview: Intermediate Mid
Section Six 1h 30 min.	Testing at Advanced and Superior
60 min.	LUNCH BREAK
Section Seven 30 min.	Practice Interview 1: Novice Mid
Section Eight 30 min.	Practice Interview 2: Novice Mid/Novice High
Section Nine 30 min.	Practice Interview 3: Novice High/Intermediate Low
15 min.	BREAK
Section Ten 30 min.	Practice Interview 4: Intermediate Low/Intermediate Mid
Section Eleven 45 min.	Practice Interview 5: Intermediate Mid/Intermediate High

Workshop Agenda Day 4 (8.5 hours):

Time	Content
Section One 1h 15 min.	Application and Implications
Section Two 15 min.	Discuss Applications & Implications
15 min.	BREAK
Section Three 30 min.	Activities
Section Four 45 min.	Practice Interview 6: Intermediate High/Advanced Low
Section Five 45 min.	Practice Interview 7: Advanced Low/Advanced Mid
60 min.	LUNCH BREAK
Section Six 45 min.	Practice Interview 8: Advanced Mid/Advanced High
Section Seven 45 min.	Practice Interview 9: Advanced High/Superior
Section Eight 45 min.	Practice Interview 10: Superior
15 min.	BREAK
Section Nine 45 min.	The Certification Process
Section Ten 30 min.	Closing and Q&A