NCSSFL-ACTFL
CAN-DO STATEMENTS

NOVICE – DISTINGUISHED
2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

Benchmarks and Performance Indicators

for Intercultural, Interpretive, Interpersonal, Presentational

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INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION – INVESTIGATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

	NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK
INVESTIGATION Investigate Products And Practices To Understand Cultural Perspectives	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** identify products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** make comparisons between products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** explain some diversity among products and practices and how it relates to perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** suspend judgment while critically examining products, practices, and perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** objectively evaluate products and practices and mediate perspectives.
	2026 ***I can*** identify products and practices that help me understand perspectives from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own.	**2026** ***I can*** compare products and practices to understand perspectives from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own.	**2026** ***I can*** explain how products and practices reflect perspectives from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own.	**2026** ***I can*** analyze products, practices, and perspectives from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own.	**2026** ***I can*** objectively evaluate products, practices, and perspectives from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own.

2017 *How can I investigate* ***products and practices*** *to understand perspectives?*

2026 *How does my investigation of* ***products and practices*** *help me understand perspectives?*

	NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
PRODUCTS	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** identify some typical products related to familiar everyday life.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** compare products related to everyday life and personal interests or studies.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** explain how a variety of products of public and personal interest are related to perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** analyze how products of personal and public interest are related to perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** evaluate a wide range of concrete and abstract products from different viewpoints.
	2026 ***I can*** identify some products to help me understand perspectives in familiar everyday contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** compare products to understand perspectives related to familiar contexts and personal interests.	**2026** ***I can*** explain how a variety of products are related to perspectives in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** analyze how a wide range of concrete and abstract products are related to perspectives in various contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** evaluate how a wide range of concrete and abstract products reflect perspectives.
PRACTICES	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** identify some typical practices related to familiar everyday life.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** compare practices related to everyday life and personal interests or studies.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** explain how a variety of practices within familiar and social situations are related to perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** analyze how practices within informal and formal situations are related to perspectives.	**2017** In my own and other cultures ***I can*** evaluate a wide range of concrete and abstract practices from different viewpoints.
	2026 ***I can*** identify some practices to help me understand perspectives in familiar everyday contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** compare practices to understand perspectives related to familiar contexts and personal interests.	**2026** ***I can*** explain how a variety of practices are related to perspectives in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** analyze how a wide range of concrete and abstract practices are related to perspectives in various contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** evaluate how a wide range of concrete and abstract practices reflect perspectives.

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION – INTERACTION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

	NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK
INTERACTION Interact Across Cultures and Communities	**2017** ***I can*** interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.	**2017** ***I can*** interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.	**2017** ***I can*** interact at a competent level in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	**2017** ***I can*** interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of culture.	**2017** ***I can*** engage with complexity and pluricultural identities and serve as a mediator between and among cultures.
	2026 ***I can*** interact at a limited level in some familiar everyday contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** interact competently in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	**2026** ***I can*** interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of cultures.	**2026** ***I can*** mediate and bridge cultural and pluricultural perspectives with ease.

2017 *How can I use my **language and behavior** to interact with others in and from another culture?*

2026 *How can I use my **language and behavior** to interact across cultures and communities?*

	NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
LANGUAGE	**2017** ***I can*** communicate with others from the target culture in familiar everyday situations, using memorized language, and showing basic cultural awareness.	**2017** ***I can*** converse with peers from the target culture in familiar situations at school, work, or play, and show interest in basic cultural similarities and differences.	**2017** ***I can*** converse comfortably with others from the target culture in familiar and some unfamiliar situations and show some understanding of cultural differences.	**2017** ***I can*** suspend judgement, adapt my language, and make appropriate cultural references when interacting with others from the target culture in social and professional situations.	**2017** ***I can*** show empathy and cultural sophistication in my language when interacting in social, academic or professional situations with others from the target culture.
	2026 ***I can*** communicate with others from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own, in familiar everyday situations using memorized language and basic cultural awareness.	**2026** ***I can*** interact with others from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own, in familiar situations and demonstrate some understanding of cultural similarities and differences.	**2026** ***I can*** interact with others from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own, in familiar and some unfamiliar situations and apply my understanding of cultural similarities and differences.	**2026** ***I can*** suspend judgment, adapt my language, and use a depth of cultural knowledge to interact with others from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own, in various situations.	**2026** ***I can*** engage with empathy and cultural nuance when interacting with others from a variety of cultures and communities, including my own, in almost any situation.
BEHAVIOR	**2017** ***I can*** use appropriate rehearsed behaviors and recognize some obviously inappropriate behaviors in familiar everyday situations.	**2017** ***I can*** recognize that significant differences in behaviors exist among cultures, use appropriate learned behaviors and avoid major social blunders.	**2017** ***I can*** demonstrate awareness of subtle differences among cultural behaviors and adjust my behavior accordingly in familiar and some unfamiliar situations.	**2017** ***I can*** adhere to basic social and professional norms and etiquette, read nonverbal cues, and adjust my behavior in complicated situations.	**2017** ***I can*** transition smoothly from formal to informal styles of behavior, respond effectively to nonverbal cues, and mediate situations of cultural misunderstanding with empathy.
	2026 ***I can*** use appropriate rehearsed behaviors and recognize some obviously inappropriate behaviors in familiar everyday situations.	**2026** ***I can*** recognize that significant differences in behaviors exist among cultures and use some culturally appropriate behaviors in familiar situations.	**2026** ***I can*** demonstrate awareness of subtle differences among cultural behaviors and integrate culturally appropriate behaviors in familiar and some unfamiliar situations.	**2026** ***I can*** adapt to cultural norms and etiquette, read nonverbal cues, and adjust my behavior in various situations.	**2026** ***I can*** adjust my formal and informal styles of behavior, respond effectively to nonverbal cues, and mediate smoothly and respectfully in almost any situation.

INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK
2017 ***I can*** identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2017** ***I can*** understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences within texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2017** ***I can*** understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2017** ***I can*** interpret and infer meaning from complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2017** ***I can*** interpret and infer meaning from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written, or signed.
2026 ***I can*** identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts from words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2026** ***I can*** understand the main idea and some related pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences in texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2026** ***I can*** understand the main message, the author's purpose, and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics in longer texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2026** ***I can*** interpret and infer meaning on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues or themes in academic, technical, and professional texts that are spoken, written, or signed.	**2026** ***I can*** interpret and infer meaning on a wide range of global issues or themes and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references, colloquialisms, and language varieties from dense, structurally sophisticated texts that are spoken, written, or signed.

2017 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in authentic* ***informational texts*** *that I hear, read, or view?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can identify memorized or familiar words when they are supported by gestures or visuals in informational texts.	***I can*** identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in informational texts.	***I can*** identify the topic and some isolated facts from simple sentences in informational texts.	***I can*** identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in short informational texts.	***I can*** understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward informational texts.	***I can*** usually follow the main message in various time frames in straightforward, and sometimes descriptive, paragraph-length informational texts.	***I can*** identify the underlying message and some supporting details across major time frames in descriptive informational texts.	***I can*** understand the underlying message and most supporting details across major time frames in descriptive informational texts.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from complex language on unfamiliar, abstract topics within informational texts.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from unfamiliar, abstract topics in complex language in informational texts.	***I can*** easily understand sophisticated language, regardless of the cultural context in professional, technical, and academic texts.

2026 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in authentic* ***informational texts and media****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can identify memorized or familiar words in short, straightforward informational texts and media that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases in short, straightforward informational texts and media that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** identify the topic and some isolated facts from simple sentences in short, straightforward informational texts and media.	***I can*** identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in descriptive informational texts and media.	***I can*** understand the main idea and key information from connected sentences in descriptive informational texts and media.	***I can*** follow the main message in various time frames, from series of sentences and paragraphs in informational texts and media involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** identify the underlying message and some supporting details across various time frames, from multiple paragraphs in informational texts and media involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** understand the underlying message and most supporting details across time frames, from multiple paragraphs in informational texts and media involving familiar and some unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from multiple paragraphs in informational texts and media involving a variety of unfamiliar, abstract topics or genres and different viewpoints.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from complex language in extended informational texts and media involving unfamiliar and abstract professional, technical, and academic content.	***I can*** easily understand sophisticated language, regardless of the cultural context or complexity, in extended informational texts and media in almost any genre and almost any professional, technical, and academic content.

INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

2017 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in authentic **fictional texts** that I hear, read, or view?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can identify memorized or familiar words when they are supported by gestures or visuals in fictional texts.	***I can*** identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in fictional texts.	***I can*** identify the topic and some isolated elements from simple sentences in short fictional texts.	***I can*** identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in short fictional texts.	***I can*** understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward fictional texts.	***I can*** usually follow the main story and actions expressed in various time frames in paragraph-length fictional texts.	***I can*** follow the main story and some supporting detail across major time frames in fictional texts.	***I can*** follow the main story and most supporting details across major time frames in fictional texts.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and some nuances from different viewpoints in most fictional texts.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning on unfamiliar, abstract topics in complex language from fictional texts.	***I can*** interpret tone, nuance, and mood in almost any genre of fictional texts.

2026 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in authentic **fictional texts and media**?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can identify memorized or familiar words in short, straightforward fictional texts and media that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** identify some basic information from memorized or familiar words and phrases in short, straightforward fictional texts and media that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** identify the topic and some isolated elements from simple sentences in short, straightforward fictional texts and media.	***I can*** identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in short fictional texts and media.	***I can*** understand the main story and key information from connected sentences in fictional texts and media.	***I can*** follow the main story and actions in various time frames, from series of sentences and paragraphs in fictional texts and media involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** follow the main story and some supporting details across various time frames, from multiple paragraphs in fictional texts and media involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** follow the main story and most supporting details across time frames, from multiple paragraphs in fictional texts and media involving familiar and some unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and some nuance from multiple paragraphs in fictional texts and media involving a variety of unfamiliar, abstract topics or genres and different viewpoints.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from complex language in extended fictional texts and media involving unfamiliar and abstract content.	***I can*** interpret tone, nuance, and mood, regardless of the cultural context or complexity, in extended fictional texts and media in almost any genre and content.

2017 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in **conversations and discussions** that I hear, read, or view, in which I am not a participant?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can understand memorized or familiar words when they are supported by gestures or visuals in conversations.	***I can*** identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in conversations.	***I can*** understand familiar questions and statements from simple sentences in conversations.	***I can*** identify the main idea in short conversations.	***I can*** identify the main idea and key information in short straightforward conversations.	***I can*** usually understand the main idea and flow of events expressed in various time frames in conversations and discussions.	***I can*** understand the main message and some supporting details across major time frames in conversations and discussions.	***I can*** understand the main message and most supporting details across major time frames in conversations and discussions.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and some nuances from different viewpoints in conversations and discussions.	***I can*** follow abstract, complex and unfamiliar topics in extended conversations and discussions involving multiple speakers.	***I can*** interpret tone, nuance, and mood in almost any extended conversation and discussion.

2026 *What can I understand, interpret, or analyze in **observed conversations and discussions**?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can understand memorized or familiar words in short, straightforward conversations that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** identify some basic facts from memorized or familiar words and phrases in short, straightforward conversations that are supported by gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** understand familiar questions and statements from simple sentences in short, straightforward conversations.	***I can*** identify the main idea from simple sentences in conversations.	***I can*** identify the main idea and key information from connected sentences in conversations.	***I can*** understand the main idea and flow of events from series of sentences and paragraphs in various time frames, in conversations and discussions involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** understand the main message and some supporting details from multiple paragraphs across various time frames, in conversations and discussions involving familiar and some concrete unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** understand the main message and most supporting details from multiple paragraphs across time frames, in conversations and discussions involving familiar and some unfamiliar topics or genres.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and some nuances from different viewpoints from multiple paragraphs, in conversations and discussions involving a variety of unfamiliar, abstract topics or genres and different viewpoints.	***I can*** follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from complex language in extended conversations and discussions involving unfamiliar and abstract content.	***I can*** interpret tone, nuance, and mood, regardless of the cultural context or complexity, in extended conversations and discussions on almost any topic.

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK
2017 ***I can*** communicate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions.	**2017** ***I can*** participate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	**2017** ***I can*** maintain spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar, as well as unfamiliar, concrete topics, using series of connected sentences and probing questions.	**2017** ***I can*** participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, including supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	**2017** ***I can*** interact, negotiate, and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written, or signed language.
2026 ***I can*** participate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions.	**2026** ***I can*** interact in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	**2026** ***I can*** maintain spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar and concrete unfamiliar topics using series of connected sentences and probing questions.	**2026** ***I can*** engage in extended spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on concrete and abstract issues and ideas and some areas of specialized expertise, using complex discourse with supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	**2026** ***I can*** engage in conceptually and linguistically complex spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on a wide range of global issues and abstract concepts, using complex discourse and adapting to the cultural context of the conversation.

2017 *How can I* ***exchange information and ideas*** *in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** request and provide information by asking and answering a few simple questions on very familiar and everyday topics, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** request and provide information by asking and answering practiced and some original questions on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** request and provide information in conversations on familiar topics by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and series of sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange information in conversations and some discussions on a variety of familiar and some concrete topics that I have researched, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	***I can*** exchange information and ideas in discussions on a variety of familiar and concrete academic and social topics, using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** maintain discussions on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar concrete topics of personal and general interest, and sometimes academic, social or professional topics, by using probing questions and providing detailed responses across major time frames.	***I can*** discuss and sometimes debate a variety of complex concrete and some abstract academic, social and professional topics and often deal with related issues hypothetically, using precise questions and explanations.	***I can*** discuss and debate a wide variety of complex issues and abstract ideas using precise, sophisticated, and academic language.	***I can*** debate complex issues and abstract ideas skillfully and succinctly, tailoring language to the cultural context of the interaction, using cultural and historical references as appropriate.

2026 *How can I* ***exchange information and ideas*** *in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** request and provide information by asking and answering simple questions on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** request and provide information by asking and answering practiced and some original questions on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** exchange information on familiar topics and topics of interest, creating simple sentences and appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange information on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and some series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange information, often across various time frames, on a variety of familiar and researched topics, creating series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** exchange and discuss information and ideas across various time frames on a variety of familiar and some unfamiliar topics, using series of connected sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** maintain discussions across time frames on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics, using probing questions and detailed responses.	***I can*** discuss and debate on a variety of complex concrete topics, often addressing hypothetical or abstract issues, using probing questions and explanations.	***I can*** discuss and debate at length on a variety of hypothetical or abstract issues, including general social interests and some areas of personal and professional expertise, using complex discourse with supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	***I can*** discuss and debate at length on global issues and abstract concepts, using complex discourse and adapting language in culturally nuanced ways to the context of the conversation.

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

2017 *How can I **express, react to, and support preferences and opinions** in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express basic preferences or feelings, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** express my preferences or feelings and react to those of others, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and questions.	***I can*** express, ask about, and react to preferences, feelings or opinions on familiar topics, using simple sentences most of the time and asking questions to keep the conversation on topic.	***I can*** express, ask about, and react with some details to preferences, feelings or opinions on familiar topics, by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange preferences, feelings or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** explain preferences, opinions, and emotions and provide advice on a variety of familiar and some concrete topics that I have researched, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	***I can*** maintain conversations by providing explanations and comparisons of preferences, opinions, and advice on familiar and concrete academic and social topics using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** maintain extended conversations by supporting, reacting to, and comparing preferences and opinions and expressing advice and emotions in detail across major time frames, and by asking probing questions.	***I can*** discuss, support, and sometimes debate opinions and advice on a variety of complex concrete topics, often addressing hypothetical or abstract issues, and asking precise questions.	***I can*** discuss and debate opinions and advice with multiple participants on a wide variety of complex issues and abstract ideas, concretely, abstractly, and hypothetically.	***I can*** tailor language to a variety of audiences by adapting my speech and register in culturally authentic ways.

2026 *How can I **express, react to, and explain preferences and opinions** in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express basic preferences or feelings on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** express and ask about feelings and react to those of others on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions.	***I can*** express and react to preferences and opinions on both familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time and asking questions to keep the conversation on topic.	***I can*** express and react to preferences and opinions with some details on familiar topics and topics of interest, creating simple sentences and appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** exchange preferences and opinions on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and some series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** explain preferences and opinions, often across various time frames, on a variety of familiar and researched topics, creating series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** maintain conversations across various time frames by explaining and comparing preferences and opinions on a variety of familiar and some unfamiliar topics, using series of connected sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** maintain extended conversations across time frames by supporting, reacting to, and comparing preferences and opinions, and expressing advice and emotions on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics, using probing questions and detailed responses.	***I can*** discuss, support and sometimes debate opinions and give advice on a variety of complex concrete topics, often addressing hypothetical or abstract issues, using probing questions.	***I can*** discuss and debate opinions and exchange advice on a variety of hypothetical or abstract issues, including general social interests and some areas of personal and professional expertise, using complex discourse with supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	***I can*** discuss and debate opinions, evaluate advice, and advocate for actions on global issues and abstract concepts, using complex discourse and adapting language in culturally nuanced ways to the conversation.

2017 *How can I **meet my needs or address situations** in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express some basic needs, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** express basic needs related to familiar and everyday activities, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and questions.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my basic needs related to routine everyday activities, using simple sentences, and questions most of the time.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my basic needs in familiar situations by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating sentences and series of sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of situations, sometimes involving a complication, using connected sentences that may form paragraphs and asking a variety of questions, often across various time frames.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication that arises in a familiar situation, using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication that arises in a familiar situation, providing detailed explanations and offering a variety of resolutions across major time frames.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication in a situation that is generally unfamiliar.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve abstract and complex matters on a wide variety of topics in a variety of situations.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve highly abstract and complex matters in culturally appropriate ways on a wide variety of topics and to persuasively advocate a point of view that is not necessarily my own.

2026 *How can I **meet my needs or address situations** in conversations?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express some basic needs related to very familiar activities, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** express and ask about basic needs related to familiar and everyday activities, using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions.	***I can*** begin to interact with others to meet my basic needs related to routine activities, using simple sentences, and questions most of the time.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my needs in familiar situations, creating simple sentences and appropriate follow-up questions.	***I can*** interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating sentences and some series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of follow-up questions.	***I can*** interact with others, often across various time frames, to meet my needs in a variety of situations, sometimes involving a complication, creating series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** interact and negotiate across various time frames to resolve an unexpected complication in a familiar situation, using series of connected sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	***I can*** interact and negotiate across time frames offering a variety of solutions to resolve an unexpected complication in a familiar situation, using probing questions and detailed responses.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication in an unfamiliar situation, using probing questions and explanations.	***I can*** interact and negotiate to resolve matters in a variety of personal, social, and professional situations, using complex discourse with supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	***I can*** interact, negotiate, and advocate for resolutions on global issues and abstract concepts in a culturally nuanced manner, using complex discourse and adapting language in culturally nuanced ways to the conversation.

PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK	PROFICIENCY BENCHMARK
2017 ***I can*** present information on both very familiar and everyday topics using a variety of practiced and memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2017** ***I can*** communicate information, make presentations, and express my thoughts about familiar topics, using sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2017** ***I can*** deliver detailed and organized presentations on familiar as well as unfamiliar concrete topics, in paragraphs and using various time frames through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2017** ***I can*** deliver extended presentations on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, with precision of expression and to a wide variety of audiences, using spoken, written, or signed language.	**2017** ***I can*** deliver sophisticated and articulate presentations on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the audience, using spoken, written, or signed language.
2026 ***I can*** share information on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2026** ***I can*** provide information and express my thoughts about familiar topics, creating sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2026** ***I can*** organize, express, and present information to an audience in a detailed way on concrete unfamiliar topics, using paragraphs across various time frames through spoken, written, or signed language.	**2026** ***I can*** present to a wide variety of audiences on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, producing extended discourse with precision of expression, using spoken, written, or signed language.	**2026** ***I can*** present on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, producing conceptually and linguistically complex discourse and adapting to the cultural context of the audience using spoken, written, or signed language.

2017 *How can I present information to* ***inform and explain****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can name very familiar people, places, and objects using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** present on very familiar and everyday topics using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** present on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** present on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences.	***I can*** give straightforward presentations on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics I have researched, using sentences and series of connected sentences.	***I can*** give detailed presentations on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics I have researched, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.	***I can*** deliver presentations on some concrete academic, social and professional topics of interest, using paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** deliver detailed presentations and elaborate on a variety of concrete academic, social and professional topics of interest, using organized paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** deliver cohesive presentations on a variety of complex concrete topics related to community interests and some specialized fields, and often deal with related issues hypothetically.	***I can*** deliver clearly articulated and well-structured presentations to various audiences on abstract or hypothetical issues and ideas, ranging from broad general interests to areas of specialized expertise.	***I can*** deliver sophisticated presentations with accuracy, efficiency, and effectiveness on global and highly abstract concepts in my field of expertise, adapting my language to the characteristics of the audience and embedding cultural perspectives.

2026 *How can I present information to* ***inform and explain****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can name very familiar people, places and objects, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** share information on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** share information on both familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** describe aspects of familiar topics and topics of interest, creating simple sentences.	***I can*** explain aspects of familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and strings of connected sentences.	***I can*** give detailed explanations, often across various time frames, on a variety of familiar and researched topics, creating short paragraphs.	***I can*** give detailed explanations across various time frames on a variety of familiar and some unfamiliar topics, using paragraphs.	***I can*** give detailed explanations across time frames on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** give detailed explanations on a variety of complex, concrete topics and some hypothetical or abstract issues, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** deliver clearly articulated, well-structured presentations to various audiences on a variety of hypothetical or abstract issues, including general social interests and some areas of personal and professional expertise, producing extended and precise discourse.	***I can*** adapt my language to the characteristics of the audience and embed cultural perspectives while presenting on global issues and abstract concepts, using complex, culturally nuanced discourse with accuracy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION

PROFICIENCY BENCHMARKS + PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 2017 TO 2026 COMPARISON

2017 *How can I present information to* ***give a preference, opinion, or persuasive argument****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express my likes and dislikes using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** express my likes and dislikes on very familiar everyday topics of interest, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** express my preferences on familiar and everyday topics of interest, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** express my preferences on familiar and everyday topics of interest and explain why I feel that way, using simple sentences.	***I can*** state my viewpoint about familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of connected sentences.	***I can*** state my viewpoint on familiar or researched topics and provide reasons to support it, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.	***I can*** state a viewpoint with supporting evidence on some concrete academic, social and professional topics of interest using paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** present an argument with supporting evidence, based on a variety of concrete academic, social and professional topics of interest, using organized paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** clearly and accurately present an argument with supporting evidence on complex concrete issues, and often deal with related issues hypothetically.	***I can*** deliver a clearly articulated and well-structured argument, refute counterarguments, and give extensive supporting evidence on abstract or hypothetical issues and ideas, ranging from broad general interests to areas of specialized expertise.	***I can*** tailor a sophisticated presentation to advocate my own or another's point of view or to persuade an audience whose attitudes and cultural perspectives may be different from my own.

2026 *How can I present information to* ***give a preference, opinion, or persuasive argument****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can express my likes and dislikes on very familiar topics, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** express my likes and dislikes on very familiar and everyday topics of interest, using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences	***I can*** express my preferences on familiar and everyday topics of interest, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** express my preferences and opinions and tell why I feel that way on familiar and everyday topics of interest, creating simple sentences.	***I can*** state my viewpoint and give some reasons to support it on familiar topics, creating sentences and strings of connected sentences.	***I can*** state my viewpoint and give reasons to support it, often across various time frames, on familiar or researched topics, creating short paragraphs.	***I can*** state a viewpoint with supporting evidence across various time frames on a variety of familiar and some unfamiliar topics, using paragraphs.	***I can*** present an argument with supporting evidence across time frames on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** clearly and accurately present an argument with supporting evidence on a variety of complex concrete topics, and some hypothetical or abstract issues, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** deliver a clearly articulated, well-structured argument, refute counterarguments, and provide extensive supporting evidence on a variety of hypothetical or abstract issues, including general social interests and some areas of personal and professional expertise, producing extended, precise discourse.	***I can*** tailor a sophisticated presentation to advocate my own or another's point of view, or persuade an audience whose attitudes and cultural perspectives may be different from my own, on global issues and abstract concepts, using complex, culturally nuanced discourse with accuracy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

2017 *How can I present information to* ***narrate about my life, experiences, and events****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can introduce myself using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.	***I can*** present information about myself, my interests, and my activities using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** present personal information about my life and activities, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** present personal information about my life, activities and events, using simple sentences.	***I can*** tell a story about my life, activities, events, and other social experiences, using sentences and series of connected sentences.	***I can*** tell stories about school and community events and personal experiences, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.	***I can*** tell stories about school and community events and personal experiences, using paragraphs across major time frames.	***I can*** tell stories based on concrete experiences in academic, social, and professional topics of interest, using organized paragraphs across major frames.	***I can*** give complex detailed narrations beyond the concrete, often addressing abstract experiences or hypothetical issues.	***I can*** present clearly-articulated, coherent, and detailed narrations on complex, abstract issues and hypothetical issues.	***I can*** narrate succinctly and precisely, often using historical or cultural references to engage an audience whose cultural attitudes, expectations, and perspectives may be different from my own.

2026 *How can I present information to* ***narrate about my life, experiences, and events****?*

NOVICE			INTERMEDIATE			ADVANCED			SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH	LOW	MID	HIGH		
I can introduce myself using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures, facial expressions, or visuals.	***I can*** share information about myself, my interests, and my activities using a mix of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences.	***I can*** share information about my life and activities, using simple sentences most of the time.	***I can*** describe activities and events, creating simple sentences.	***I can*** tell a story about activities, events, and other social experiences, creating sentences and strings of connected sentences.	***I can*** tell stories, often across various time frames, about school and community events and personal experiences, creating short paragraphs.	***I can*** tell stories across various time frames about school and community events and personal experiences, using paragraphs.	***I can*** tell detailed stories across time frames, based on concrete experiences in academic, social, and professional topics of interest, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** give detailed narrations on a variety of topics related to local and global issues and experiences, often at an abstract or hypothetical level, using organized paragraphs.	***I can*** deliver clearly articulated, coherent, and detailed narrations on complex abstract and hypothetical issues, producing extended, precise discourse.	***I can*** narrate succinctly and precisely, often using historical or cultural references to engage an audience whose cultural attitudes, expectations, and perspectives may be different from my own, using complex, culturally nuanced discourse with accuracy, efficiency, and effectiveness.