

**Advanced Level Certificate in English (ALCE)  
Speaking Section Scoring Rubrics: Descriptors of Salient Features**

	Range of Language	Accuracy	Fluency	Interaction
<b>FOCUS</b>	<b>Complexity of:</b> • grammar • syntax • vocabulary	<b>Accuracy of:</b> • grammar • syntax • vocabulary	<b>Length of utterances</b> <b>Hesitations</b> <b>Flow of speech</b>	<b>Contribution Understanding</b>
<b>5</b> <b>HIGH PASS</b> <i>Highly Effective Speaker</i>	Consistently shows great flexibility in formulating ideas by using a wide range of linguistic forms effectively. Consistently uses a broad range of syntactical structures appropriately, and displays a wide lexical range.	Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy, even in complex structures. Consistently chooses vocabulary appropriate for the topic and style. Minor errors may occur.	Consistently expresses him/herself effectively on complex topics at length. Hesitations are rare. Only a conceptually challenging topic can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.	Consistently contributes to the development of complex topics easily and effectively. Consistently understands the interlocutor.
<b>4</b> <b>PASS</b> <i>Effective Speaker</i>	Mostly uses a variety of grammatical and syntactical structures, and mostly displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the tasks effectively.	Mostly maintains a fairly high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy. Mostly chooses vocabulary appropriate for the topic and style. Errors may occasionally occur in more complex structures, but do not impede communication.	Mostly expresses him/herself with ease using both short and longer utterances spontaneously. Some hesitations may occasionally occur, particularly when the topic is conceptually challenging.	Mostly contributes to the development of complex topics effectively. Mostly understands the interlocutor, though may seek very occasional clarification.
<b>3</b> <b>LOW PASS</b> <i>Satisfactory Speaker</i>	Often uses some variety of grammatical and syntactical structures, and often displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the tasks satisfactorily.	Often maintains a satisfactory degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy. Often chooses vocabulary appropriate for the topic and style. Errors may sometimes occur in more complex structures, but do not impede communication.	Often expresses him/herself with ease using both short and longer utterances spontaneously. Some hesitations may occur. Conceptually challenging topics may sometimes hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.	Often contributes to the development of complex topics satisfactorily. Mostly understands the interlocutor, though may seek occasional clarification.
<b>2</b> <b>NARROW FAIL</b> <i>Limited Speaker</i>	Often uses a limited variety of complex grammatical and syntactical forms, and often displays a lack of lexical range in attempting to accomplish the tasks.	Errors may occur in both simple and complex structures, which may sometimes impede communication. Some vocabulary may be inappropriate for the topic and style.	Often produces both short and longer utterances on familiar topics, but encounters difficulty when dealing with complex topics. Hesitations are frequent enough to disrupt the flow of speech noticeably.	Often contributes to the development of familiar topics, but has difficulty developing complex topics. Can often follow speech on familiar topics, but has difficulty following the interlocutor on complex topics.
<b>1</b> <b>FAIL</b> <i>Highly Limited Speaker</i>	Mostly uses a very limited variety of grammatical and syntactical forms, and mostly displays a lack of lexical range in attempting to accomplish the tasks.	Errors may occur in both simple and complex structures, which frequently impede communication. Vocabulary may frequently be inappropriate for the topic and style.	Produces short and occasionally longer utterances on familiar topics, but mostly encounters difficulty when dealing with complex topics. Hesitations are frequent enough to disrupt the flow of speech very noticeably.	Contributes to the development of familiar topics, but has great difficulty developing complex topics. Can follow speech on familiar topics, but has great difficulty following the interlocutor on complex topics.