## Speaking assessment criteria grid

Give a mark out of 10 for each category (structure, vocabulary, development and fluency), and then add these marks to give an overall total out of 30.

| Mark | Structure | Vocabulary | Development and fluency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **9–10** | The candidate uses a range of structures accurately and consistently, and is confidently in control of the structures used. | The candidate uses a sufficient range of vocabulary to respond with precision. Shades of meaning are achieved and some sophisticated ideas are communicated. | The candidate shows sustained ability to maintain a conversation (and contribute) at some length. The candidate responds to a change of direction in the conversation, demonstrating the ability to expand and develop the topic and contribute original ideas.<br><br>Pronunciation and intonation are clear. |
| **7–8** | The candidate uses a range of structures that are generally accurate (and used) with some confidence. Errors will occur when attempting to use more complex sentences. | The candidate uses a sufficient range of vocabulary to convey information and ideas with competence and some confidence. | The candidate maintains a competent conversation, responding relevantly and at length, using some original ideas. Frequent prompting is unnecessary.<br><br>Pronunciation and intonation are generally clear. |
| **5–6** | The candidate uses simple structures securely, but has difficulty venturing beyond them. | The candidate uses a sufficient range of vocabulary to convey simple ideas and information clearly, but not entirely successfully. | The candidate makes an attempt to respond to questions and prompts. Effort is needed to develop the conversation which will not be entirely successful.<br><br>Pronunciation and intonation are not always clear, but the candidate can be understood. |
| **3–4** | The candidate uses very simple, limited structures with errors which restrict communication. | The candidate uses a restricted range of vocabulary and has difficulty in conveying simple ideas. There is likely to be hesitation, repetition and searching for words. | The candidate has to be encouraged to go beyond responses which are brief and widely spaced. The candidate struggles to develop a conversation.<br><br>Pronunciation and intonation cause some communication difficulty. |
| **1–2** | The candidate attempts a response, but rarely achieves communication. | The candidate has insufficient vocabulary to convey even simple ideas. | The candidate's responses are so brief that little is communicated.<br><br>Pronunciation and intonation patterns cause difficulty for even the most sympathetic listener. |
| **0** | No response. | No response. | No response. |