

Presentation Speaking: Cultural Comparison

Clarification Notes:

- The term “community” can refer to something as large as a continent or as small as a family unit.
- The phrase “target culture” can refer to any community large or small associated with the target language.

5: STRONG performance in Presentation Speaking

- Effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Clearly compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including supporting details and relevant examples
- Demonstrates understanding of the target culture, despite a few minor inaccuracies
- Organized presentation; effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax and usage, with few errors
- Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the presentation
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) improves comprehensibility

4: GOOD performance in Presentation Speaking

- Generally effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including some supporting details and mostly relevant examples
- Demonstrates some understanding of the target culture, despite minor inaccuracies
- Organized presentation; some effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with some errors which do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- General control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Generally consistent use of register appropriate for the presentation, except for occasional shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response mostly comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) usually improves comprehensibility

3: FAIR performance in Presentation Speaking

- Suitable treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including a few supporting details and examples
- Demonstrates a basic understanding of the target culture, despite inaccuracies
- Some organization; limited use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility
- Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Some control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register may be inappropriate for the presentation with several shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response generally comprehensible; errors occasionally impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) sometimes improves comprehensibility

2: WEAK performance in Presentation Speaking

- Unsuitable treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Presents information about the student’s own community and the target culture, but may not compare them; consists mostly of statements with no development
- Demonstrates a limited understanding of the target culture; may include several inaccuracies
- Limited organization; ineffective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Partially understandable, with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the listener
- Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Limited control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register is generally inappropriate for the presentation
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response difficult to comprehend at times; errors impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) usually does not improve comprehensibility

1: POOR performance in Presentation Speaking

- Almost no treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Presents information only about the student’s own community or only about the target culture, and may not include examples
- Demonstrates minimal understanding of the target culture; generally inaccurate
- Little or no organization; absence of transitional elements and cohesive devices
- Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility
- Very few vocabulary resources
- Little or no control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Minimal or no attention to register
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response difficult to comprehend; errors impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) does not improve comprehensibility

0: UNACCEPTABLE performance in Presentation Speaking

- Mere restatement of language from the prompt
- Clearly does not respond to the prompt; completely irrelevant to the topic
- “I don’t know,” “I don’t understand” or equivalent in any language
- Not in the language of the exam

- (hyphen): BLANK (no response although recording equipment is functioning)