

## 2.1 Communicative Activities: RECEPTION - SPOKEN

### OVERALL LISTENING COMPREHENSION

<b>C<sub>2</sub></b>	Has no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, delivered at fast native speed
<b>C1</b>	<p>Can understand enough to follow extended speech on abstract and complex topics beyond his/her own field, though he/she may need to confirm occasional details, especially if the accent is unfamiliar.</p> <p>Can recognise a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms, appreciating register shifts.</p> <p>Can follow extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly.</p>
<b>B2</b>	<p>Can understand standard spoken language, live or broadcast, on both familiar and unfamiliar topics normally encountered in personal, social, academic or vocational life. Only extreme background noise, inadequate discourse structure and/or idiomatic usage influence the ability to understand.</p> <p>Can understand the main ideas of propositionally and linguistically complex speech on both concrete and abstract topics delivered in a standard dialect, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.</p> <p>Can follow extended speech and complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar, and the direction of the talk is sign-posted by explicit markers.</p>
<b>B1</b>	<p>Can understand straightforward factual information about common everyday or job related topics, identifying both general messages and specific details, provided speech is clearly articulated in a generally familiar accent.</p> <p>Can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure etc., including short narratives.</p>
<b>A2</b>	<p>Can understand enough to be able to meet needs of a concrete type provided speech is clearly and slowly articulated.</p> <p>Can understand phrases and expressions related to areas of most immediate priority (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment) provided speech is clearly and slowly articulated.</p>
<b>A1</b>	Can follow speech that is very slow and carefully articulated, with long pauses for him/her to assimilate meaning.

**UNDERSTANDING INTERACTION BETWEEN NATIVE SPEAKERS**

<b>C2</b>	No descriptor available
<b>C1</b>	Can easily follow complex interactions between third parties in group discussion and debate, even on abstract, complex unfamiliar topics
<b>B2</b>	Can keep up with an animated conversation between native speakers.
	Can with some effort catch much of what is said around him/her, but may find it difficult to participate effectively in discussion with several native speakers who do not modify their language in any way.
<b>B1</b>	Can generally follow the main points of extended discussion around him/her, provided speech is clearly articulated in standard dialect.
<b>A2</b>	Can generally identify the topic of discussion around her that is conducted slowly and clearly.
<b>A1</b>	No descriptor available

### LISTENING AS A MEMBER OF A LIVE AUDIENCE

<b>C<sub>2</sub></b>	Can follow specialised lectures and presentations employing a high degree of colloquialism, regional usage or unfamiliar terminology.
<b>C1</b>	Can follow most lectures, discussions and debates with relative ease.
<b>B2</b>	Can follow the essentials of lectures, talks and reports and other forms of academic/professional presentation which are propositionally and linguistically complex.
<b>B1</b>	Can follow a lecture or talk within his/her own field, provided the subject matter is familiar and the presentation straightforward and clearly structured.
	Can follow in outline straightforward short talks on familiar topics provided these are delivered in clearly articulated standard speech.
<b>A2</b>	No descriptor available
<b>A1</b>	No descriptor available

### LISTENING TO ANNOUNCEMENTS & INSTRUCTIONS

<b>C2</b>	No descriptor available
<b>C1</b>	Can extract specific information from poor quality, audibly distorted public announcements e.g. in a station, sports stadium etc. Can understand complex technical information, such as operating instructions, specifications for familiar products and services.
<b>B2</b>	Can understand announcements and messages on concrete and abstract topics spoken in standard dialect at normal speed.
<b>B1</b>	Can understand simple technical information, such as operating instructions for everyday equipment.
	Can follow detailed directions.
<b>A2</b>	Can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcement.
	Can understand simple directions relating to how to get from X to Y, by foot or public transport.
<b>A1</b>	Can understand instructions addressed carefully and slowly to him/her and follow short, simple directions.

**LISTENING TO RADIO AUDIO & RECORDINGS**

<b>C2</b>	No descriptor available
<b>C1</b>	Can understand a wide range of recorded and broadcast audio material, including some non-standard usage, and identify finer points of detail including implicit attitudes and relationships between speakers.
<b>B2</b>	Can understand recordings in standard dialect likely to be encountered in social, professional or academic life and identify speaker viewpoints and attitudes as well as the information content.
	Can understand most radio documentaries and most other recorded or broadcast audio material delivered in standard dialect and can identify the speaker's mood, tone etc.
<b>B1</b>	Can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material on topics of personal interest delivered in clear standard speech.
	Can understand the main points of radio news bulletins and simpler recorded material about familiar subjects delivered relatively slowly and clearly.
<b>A2</b>	Can understand and extract the essential information from short recorded passages dealing with predictable everyday matters that are delivered slowly and clearly.
<b>A1</b>	No descriptor available

© The copyright of the descriptive scales and the illustrative scales (in all languages) reproduced in this document belongs to the Council of Europe.  
Publishers should ask permission prior to using these instruments, and they must mention the copyright.