# NOCN ESOL International Speaking
# Level C2 Proficient
# Mark Scheme and Guidance

## Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation are not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.

Total marks for Part 1 is 9.

| Question | Number of marks |
|---|---|
| 1. | 1 |
| 2. | 3 |
| 3. | 1 |
| 4. | 3 |
| 5. | 1 |
| Total marks | 9 |

## Part 2 - Responding to the situation / general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal and informal register, to speak with fluency and correct pronunciation with an application of accurate grammar at C2 level.

| Skills | 3 marks | 2 marks | 1 mark | 0 marks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Use of formal and informal complex language appropriate to situation** | Clear distinction between formal and informal complex language use is made throughout. | Distinction between formal and informal complex language use is mainly maintained. | Some attempt of formal and informal complex language use. | Learner does not demonstrate a distinction between formal and informal complex language use. |
| **Accuracy and grammar** | A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is maintained throughout. One or two errors which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension. | Occasional errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded. | Lack of accuracy occasionally impedes the meaning. Most errors are self-corrected but not all. | A significant number of errors which are not corrected. Meaning impeded. |
| **Pronunciation– stress and intonation** | Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning. | Occasional lapses in the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation when conveying the finer points of meaning. | Lacks shades of meaning in the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation. | Does not use stress or intonation and errors occur in pronunciation. Mainly monotone. |
| **Effective communication** | High level of fluency with natural use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices. | Good level of fluency and mainly controlled use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices with occasional errors. | Some level of fluency with limited evidence of discourse organisation and use of connectors and cohesive devices. | Impeded fluency with minimal discourse organisation and a lack of appropriate connectors and cohesive devices. |

## Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with use of idiomatic expressions and persuasion, with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation at C2 level.

| Skill | 3 marks | 2 marks | 1 mark | 0 marks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Use of idiomatic and colloquial expressions** | Uses complex sentences well, with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms naturally. | Some use of complex sentences with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. | Minimal use of complex sentences with an occasional use of an idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. | Very limited use of complex sentences. No use of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. |
| **Accuracy and grammar** | A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is correctly applied. One or two errors are made which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension. | Minor errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded. | Limited accuracy impedes the meaning. Some errors are self-corrected. | A significant number of errors which are not corrected. Meaning impeded. |
| **Pronunciation– stress and intonation** | Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning. | Occasional lapses in the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation when conveying the finer points of meaning. | Lacks shades of meaning in the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation. | Does not use stress or intonation and errors occur in pronunciation. Mainly monotone |
| **Engaging in discussion to persuade and justify opinion** | Engages in discussion to express and elicit opinion, persuade, defend and justify arguments when challenged. Able to persuade someone to a point of view. Confident in the management of turn taking. | Clear interaction with some persuasive arguments and opinions, but not always justified when challenged. Evidence of appropriate turn taking conventions. | Evidence of some detailed arguments, persuasion and opinions. Some evidence of appropriate turn taking conventions. | Very limited interaction to show any evidence of being able to give and defend arguments, opinions or use persuasion. Turn taking conventions may not be evident. |