

Wright State University
ORAL PROFICIENCY TEST SCALE

Pronunciation (The articulation of sounds)

- 0 - **Frequent** phonemic errors and foreign stress and intonation patterns that cause the speaker to be **unintelligible**.
- 1 - **Frequent** phonemic errors and foreign stress and intonation patterns that cause the speaker to be **occasionally** unintelligible.
- 2 - **Some** consistent phonemic errors and foreign stress and intonation patterns, but speaker is intelligible.
- 3 - **Occasional** nonnative pronunciation errors, but speaker is **always** intelligible.

Fluency (The rate of speech, pauses, flow)

- 0 - Speech is so **halting** and **fragmentary** or has such a nonnative flow that intelligibility is **virtually impossible**.
- 1 - **Numerous** nonnative pauses and/or a nonnative flow that **interferes** with intelligibility.
- 2 - **Some** nonnative pauses but with a more nearly native flow so that the pauses **do not interfere** with intelligibility.
- 3 - Speech is as **smooth** and **effortless** as that of a native speaker.

Comprehensibility (Can the speaker be understood?)

- 0 - Overall comprehensibility **too low in even the simplest type of speech**.
- 1 - **Generally not comprehensible** due to frequent pauses and/or rephrasing, limited grasp of vocabulary, or lack of grammatical control.
- 2 - **Comprehensible with errors** in grammar, choice of vocabulary items, or

infrequent pauses or rephrasing.

- 3 - **Completely comprehensible** in normal speech with occasional grammatical or usage errors.