

B O O S T

Bagrut Online Oral Skills Test

3 - point English Computerized Exam

2024-2025

(up to & including the A2 Level)

Introduction:

The following rubrics and guidelines will be used to assess basic oral reception and production skills (up to and including the A2 Level) of students taking the three-point exam. The Criteria table provides more specific guidelines for grading purposes and to further clarify definitions for each sub-category.

Rubrics & Guidelines for Marking Oral Production in Open Questions:

Parts C ("Talking About Yourself") and D ("Picture Story")

Markers will mark TWO open questions. In Part C, the students are given two topics and must answer one of them (question 11 or question 12). In Part D, the students are required to describe a picture story (question 13). Markers, therefore, will be marking either questions 11 & 13 or questions 12 & 13. For each of these two questions, markers will give two marks; one mark for Task Coverage (TC) and the other for Language Use (LU).

All marks are out of 100. Markers will calculate the mark out of 100 by multiplying the given mark by 10.

No in-between marks such as 78% will be given.

Task Coverage (85%) • Completion of tasks • Topic relevance • Intelligibility of speech • Fluency	9 or 10	7 or 8	5 or 6	3 or 4	1 or 2
Language Use (15%) • Vocabulary • Language	9 or 10	7 or 8	5 or 6	3 or 4	1 or 2

*See CRITERIA below for detailed definitions for each category.

Guidelines for Task Coverage (TC):

The mark for Task Coverage reflects the student's performance with regard to content; completion of the required tasks, relevance to the task or topic as well as the delivery; namely, intelligibility of speech and fluency.

When giving a mark for Task Coverage, most of the focus/weight will be on completion of the tasks and topic relevance with less given for the delivery unless it impedes upon our understanding.

Task Coverage comprises 85% of the final grade for each answer.

- *Students must complete all of the tasks in order to receive full points for Task Coverage.*
- *The mark for Task Coverage should reflect the student's performance with regard to completion of the required tasks. For example, if a student answers 50% of the task in Parts C and D (one out of the two sub questions in Part C or describes only half of the picture story in Part D), the total mark for Task Coverage will not exceed 5 out of 10. In such cases, the mark for Language Use will be given on merit and no extra deduction will be made.*
- *In Part C, the student is required to answer both sub-questions. The student does not have to give the same amount of time, details or depth to each part.*
- *In Part C, the student is instructed to answer the entire task (both sub-questions) in at least 20 seconds. If the student's answer is shorter than the 20-second requirement, deduct only if it affects the Completion of Tasks or Topic Relevance. If the student fails to complete the requirements of the task because his answers are under 20 seconds, deduct from Topic Coverage according to severity. In such cases, the mark given to Language Use may also reflect this lack of production.*
- *In Part C, if the student answers BOTH questions 11 and 12 in his/her one answer, mark on merit and do not deduct for the extra answer.*
- *In Part D, there is no requirement for length. However, the student is required to relate to each of the pictures. Accept if the student tells the full story without referring explicitly to each picture. The student does not have to give each picture the same attention. He can talk about one in more depth than others.*
- *In Part D, accept different or varied interpretations of the picture story as long as they are logical.*

T A S K C O V E R A G E 8 5 %	CRITERIA	9 or 10	7 or 8	5 or 6	3 or 4	1 or 2
	Completion of Tasks	All of the required tasks for the question are answered.	Most of the required tasks for the question are answered.	Half* of the required tasks for the question are answered. (Part 3 - 1 out of 2 sub-questions) (Part 4 - 2 out of 4 or 3 out of 5 pictures)	A substantial part of the required tasks for the question are unanswered .	The required tasks for the question are minimally answered.
	Topic Relevance	Answers are fully relevant to the task and show complete understanding of the given prompts. Content is logical and answers are logically organized.	Answers are mostly relevant to the task and show fairly good understanding of the given prompts. Content is mostly logical and answers are mostly logically organized.	Answers are partially relevant to the task and show partial understanding of the given prompts. Content is partially logical and answers are partially organized.	Answers are mostly irrelevant to the task and show some understanding of the given prompts. Content is mostly illogical and answers are minimally organized.	Answers are minimally relevant to the assigned task and show almost no understanding of the given prompts. Content is almost completely illogical.
	Intelligibility and Clarity of Speech	Speech is clear and intelligible.	Speech is mostly clear and intelligible.	Speech is partially clear and intelligible.	Speech is minimally intelligible	Speech is almost completely unintelligible
	Fluency	Speech is fluent with few hesitations and/or long pauses.	Speech is partially fluent with several hesitations and/or long pauses.	Speech is halted. Frequent hesitations and pauses partially interfere with understanding.	Speech is mostly halted with frequent hesitations and/or long pauses which interfere with understanding.	Speech is almost unintelligible due to frequent hesitation and prolonged pauses.

Guidelines for Language Use (LU):

The mark for Language Use reflects the students' performance with regard to Language and Vocabulary up to and including the A2 level.

Language Use comprises 15% of the final grade for each answer.

- *Students should not be penalized for mistakes made in language and vocabulary above the A2 level.*
- *Students who use language and vocabulary above the required A2 level correctly, should be given credit.*
- *Consistently poor use of language and vocabulary - which impedes upon the understanding of the answer - will affect the students' mark in Task Coverage as well.*

CRITERIA		9 or 10	7 or 8	5 or 6	3 or 4	1 or 2
L A N G U A G E U S E	Language	Answers include correct use of basic language structures.** (up to & including A2 level) <i>(**simple sentences in correct word order, present simple/progressive, past simple, future simple, modals, parts of speech, determiners, singular/plural form of nouns, pronouns)</i>	Answers include mostly correct use of language structures.	Answers include partial use of correct language structure.	Answers include minimal use of correct language structures.	Answers are mostly unintelligible due to consistent use of incorrect language structures.
	Vocabulary	Answers include correct and appropriate use of words, chunks and expressions. (up to & including A2 level)	Answers include mostly correct and appropriate use of words, chunks and expressions.	Answers include partial use of incorrect and inappropriate words, chunks and expressions.	Answers include minimally correct, and minimally appropriate use of words, chunks and expressions.	Answers are mostly unintelligible due to consistent use of incorrect and inappropriate words, chunks and expressions.

General Guidelines:

- *When deliberating between two marks, give the higher one.*
- *Do not give “in-between” marks such as 55 or 78.*
- *If the student uses a language other than English for religious holidays, national celebrations or culturally bound phrases, do not deduct.*
- *Use of languages other than English will lead to a deduction from BOTH TC and LU depending on severity.*
- *A score of 0 should be given only in the following cases:*
 - *when an answer is completely incomprehensible or gibberish*
 - *when the entire answer is in a language other than English.*
 - *when the student uses foul language and curse words*
 - *when the file is empty (no sound or production can be heard)*
 - *when you can tell that the student is reading his/her answer from an outside source (due to serious mispronunciation and/or speech that is fragmented and unnatural)*

- **Clarification regarding CHEATING and READING FROM AN OUTSIDE SOURCE:**

- **GIVING "CHASHAD" FOR SUSPECTED CHEATING:**

1. *If the student receives assistance in the form of someone clearly whispering answers to him, give a mark and fill in a chashad.*
2. *If the marker hears pages turning, a mark and a chashad will be given. (Please be sure that the source of this noise isn't the microphone, a candy wrapper or the proctor reading the newspaper.)*
3. *If the student gives an answer in Part C ("Talking About Yourself") or D ("Picture Story") according to the other version, give a chashad. In Part C, if the student has completed the first part ("Tell me a few things about yourself") which is common to both questions, then partial marks will be given (see the above guidelines). In Part D, the student will get a zero for describing a different story.*
4. *If students give identical answers (word for word) to Part D ("Picture Story"), give a mark and a chashad.*

- **READING ANSWERS FROM A PAGE/OUTSIDE SOURCE:**

If the marker is sure that the student is reading his/her answer from an outside source due to serious mispronunciation and/or speech that is fragmented and unnatural, a zero will be given to that answer. Do not give chashad. However, please take into consideration the following points before deciding that the student has read his/her answer.

- *In parts C and D, the students are given written information (that they can see on the screen) which includes instructions, the topic itself and sometimes "useful vocabulary". For example, in the Pizza Story, the students were told that "You may use the following words in your answer: dough, recipe." If the student uses this information in his answer, he/she is obviously reading from the screen. In such cases, do not relate to it as "reading his/her answer" (do not give a zero).*
- *The topics and questions for part C, "Talking About Yourself", can be found on the "Stay Up To Date" site. Teachers can prepare their students and students can prepare their answers beforehand. Please take this into account and do not automatically consider that the students are reading their answers since they may have learnt them by heart.*

CHECKLIST

Question	<i>9/10 fully</i>	<i>7/8 mostly</i>	<i>5/6 partiall y</i>	<i>3/4 mostly not</i>	<i>1/2 minimall y</i>
1. Did the student answer all the questions?					
2. Was the student's answer relevant?					
3. Was the student's answer fluent, clear and intelligible?					
4. Was the student's answer well organized?					
5. Was the student's language correct?					
6. Was the student's vocabulary correct?					

