

Strategies: Interpersonal Speaking



I will assess your interpersonal speaking (person-to-person, unrehearsed) skills a few times each quarter. You will hold a 10-minute conversation with 5-7 classmates about a specific topic that I will tell you in advance.

I will assess how well you:

- **Talk** in French, try to communicate, and stay on topic,
- **Accurately** use new structures and vocabulary from the unit,
- Listen carefully to others' comments and build off them,
- Are **Kind** to group members by contributing to conversation without taking over and by inviting others to participate in the conversation.

Since you can't prepare the conversation in advance, and you won't know exactly your classmates will discuss, here are some tips to prepare and participate during the assessment:

PREPARE

1. Read over the prompt. Write out a **brainstorm** with everything you know about this topic. Refer back to vocabulary activities, notes, readings, and listening guides to help you get ideas. Practice speaking **in full sentences** about the topic.
2. Come up with some **questions** you can ask your classmates during the conversation. Practice asking them out loud. Practice answering them **out loud**.

DURING THE CONVERSATION

1. T is for **Talk**! **Talk** in French, **try** to communicate, and stay on **topic**. Jump in on the conversation when you have something new to add about that topic. Avoid English – if you can't say it in French, choose something you can say in French! Speak in full sentences, not just words or phrases.
2. A is for **Accuracy**! Show that you know lots of structures and vocabulary from the unit. Careful preparation really pays off here.
3. L is for **Listen**! Make sure you've understood the speaker before you and that your comment builds off what s/he just said. Try to answer questions the first time they're asked, without asking your classmate to repeat the question.
4. K is for **Kind**! Keep the conversation going by speaking regularly throughout the conversation. Ask a few questions, either addressing them to the whole group or to a student who still has lots of jewels. Don't ask questions only of your friends. If you've already spoken a few times, give others a chance to participate before speaking again.