

Can Do Statements

Listening



At this Benchmark, I can:

- understand most simple sentences

When:

- I can see the person
- the person speaks at a slow to normal rate and helps me understand
- the person often uses pictures or gestures
- the topic is familiar

Interacting with Others

- Understand very short, simple social conversations (including greetings, introductions and endings).

For example:

- an apology from a friend
- an introduction to a new co-worker

Comprehending Instructions

- Follow 2- to 4-step common instructions and directions.

For example:

- instructions for a classroom activity
- directions to a washroom

Getting Things Done

- Understand common requests, warnings, and permission.

For example:

- a request for a day off work
- a request to borrow a book

Comprehending Information

- Understand short descriptions of a person, object, situation, personal experience, or routine.

For example:

- a description of a family photo
- details of a birthday party

Speaking



At this Benchmark, I can:

- say short, simple sentences
- talk about some common, everyday things I need and about my experiences
- begin to use basic grammar and sometimes connect my ideas

When:

- I can see the person
- the person sometimes helps me
- I can sometimes use pictures and gestures

Interacting with Others

- Have very short, simple social conversations.

For example:

- introduce myself to a new person
- talk to a receptionist about my appointment

Giving Instructions

- Give simple 2- to 3-step instructions and directions.

For example:

- tell a new student where to sit
- give directions to the classroom

Getting Things Done

- Make and respond to simple polite requests.

For example:

- ask if I may do something
- ask someone to help me

- Give very short, simple warnings, cautions, and apologies.

For example:

- tell someone to be careful

Sharing Information

- Ask for and give simple information about things I need and things I do.

For example:

- tell the doctor how I feel
- talk about what I did yesterday
- talk about my plans

- Describe things, people, and situations in a few short sentences.

For example:

- describe my home
- describe a person in my family

Reading



At this Benchmark, I can:

- read short, simple sentences
- understand some information in short, simple paragraphs

When:

- the topic is familiar
- there are some pictures, charts, or diagrams
- I sometimes use a dictionary in my language

Interacting with Others

- Understand very short, simple social messages.

For example:

- a short note from my teacher
- a short email with the details for an appointment

Comprehending Instructions

- Understand simple instructions with about 5 steps, often with pictures.

For example:

- directions to the bus stop
- steps to take care of someone's house while the person is away

Getting Things Done

- Find some information in simple forms, tables, and schedules.

For example:

- bus schedules

- Find some key information in short business texts such as flyers, form letters, and brochures.

For example:

- a flyer with information about a sale

Comprehending Information

- Understand the main idea and some important information in short, simple paragraphs.

For example:

- a story about my neighbourhood

- Find simple information in dictionaries and encyclopedias.

For example:

- a word in an online bilingual dictionary

Writing



At this Benchmark, I can:

- write short, simple sentences
- write common, everyday words
- use capital letters and some simple punctuation

When:

- the topic is familiar
- I write for a familiar person

Interacting with Others

- Write short, simple social messages to someone I know.

For example:

- an invitation to a co-worker about a party
- an email to a sick friend

Reproducing Information

- Copy 1 very short, simple paragraph.

For example:

- a short recipe
- details about my work schedule

Getting Things Done

- Complete short, simple forms with 12-15 items.

For example:

- an emergency contact form

- Write short, simple messages to get things done.

For example:

- a note to a co-worker asking him or her to turn off the lights

Sharing Information

- Write sentences about things I know.

For example:

- a short description of a family member
- a few sentences about my weekend