

Stage 8 Speaking Rubric

Criterion	Red	Amber	Green
	Towards Grade Level	At Grade Level	Beyond Grade Level
Fluency & Coherence	Key indicators: learner sustains and develops the turn in recognisable stages that build on each other; extended turns in which a topic is developed through a clear sequence of related ideas - pauses occur mainly at idea boundaries, within simple stretches delivery more fluent - uses a limited but functional set of cohesive devices (<i>because, when, after that, so</i>) and pronouns for reference; usage is still inconsistent	Key indicators: repetition and self-correction slow delivery, but the learner maintains flow and ideas develop clearly across the turn; long, extended turns that remain coherent and continuous without breaking down - pauses occur mainly at natural boundaries (end of clauses/sentences); longer hesitations appear mostly in complex parts - uses a range of connectors and cohesive devices (e.g., <i>because, although, however, after that</i>) to link ideas, may still be repetition or occasional misuse	Key indicators: smooth, extended speech, maintaining long turns with only occasional hesitation, even during complex stretches; speech has a steady, coherent rhythm; ideas develop naturally across extended stretches without breaking down - hesitation and self-correction occur, but do not disrupt fluency or interfere with clarity - uses a wide and varied range of discourse markers, pronouns and cohesive devices to connect ideas, accuracy generally secure, with only minor slips
Pronunciation	Key indicators: pacing may sound irregular but listeners can follow the message; produces extended speech that remains intelligible, with occasional unclear words or phrases - chunking into clear groups of words evident, though not always maintained - uses variations in stress and intonation to enhance meaning, though not always controlled	Key indicators: mispronunciations are occasional and cause little strain for listeners; produces connected speech across long stretches that is generally clear throughout - chunking into phrases is consistent, creating mostly steady rhythm - stress and intonation used to convey meaning, but patterns repetitive	Key indicators: mispronunciations are rare and do not affect communication; produces speech that is intelligible throughout, without breakdowns - words grouped into natural phrases, supporting a clear and listener-friendly rhythm - stress and intonation are varied to support meaning, though control not always sustained

Grammatical Range & Accuracy	Key indicators: flexible and accurate use of a broad range of grammatical structures across a variety of contexts (e.g., narrative, explanation, argument) - more precise control of tense, aspect and modality - some errors with more advanced forms; generally non-disruptive, even in less familiar or abstract topics	Key indicators: consistent control of complex structures; ability to use tense, modality and sentence variety (e.g., inversion, conditionals, reported speech) to express nuanced meanings and respond to contextual demands - grammar choices support coherence and tone - subtle errors are infrequent	Key indicators: uses a wide and varied range of grammatical structures with high accuracy and flexibility; natural control over complex forms (e.g., mixed conditionals, reduced clauses); awareness of stylistic variation in formal and informal registers errors are minimal (one or two minor errors) and usually limited to complex or unfamiliar contexts
Lexical Range & Accuracy	Key indicators: broad and varied range of vocabulary across general and some specialised topics - more precise, nuanced communication - flexibility in sentence structure and tone	Key indicators: wide range of vocabulary, including appropriate collocations and synonyms - growing awareness of subtle differences in meaning - ability to adjust word choice to suit context and register	Key indicators: some idiomatic expressions, phrasal verbs and advanced collocations to enhance fluency increasing ability to adapt language to different contexts and registers (formal/informal, spoken/written)