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## SVAR Conversational - Spoken English (U.S.)

This assessment measures the ability to comprehend spoken English and talk to others to convey information effectively. It also measures the ability to speak fluently and in a concise manner with proper pronunciation.

The candidate is likely to demonstrate an understanding of the main ideas, context, and details of speech regarding familiar situations typically encountered in work, school, and home life. They tend to deal effectively with most situations that typically arise while travelling in areas where English is commonly spoken. They are likely to deliver simple speech with connected sentences and paragraphs on topics that are familiar or are of personal interest. They can be expected to describe experiences, events, hopes, and future plans, and can give reasons and brief explanations for opinions and personal preferences.

### Competencies

#### Pronunciation

This competency is defined as the ability to speak with a neutral accent and articulate words in a manner that is generally understood by native and non-native speakers.

The candidate is likely to pronounce words correctly with a slight influence from their native language when speaking English. They may stress improper syllables at times. These occasional mistakes may make comprehension somewhat more difficult for both native and non-native speakers.

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#### Fluency

This competency is defined as the ability to deliver speech with correct rhythm and intonation, and express oneself effortlessly and articulately.

The candidate may have occasional interruptions, such as hesitations, repetitions, and pauses, that can make their spoken communication seem fragmented. These disruptions may at times interfere with comprehension of spoken information by native listeners.

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#### Active Listening

This competency is defined as the ability to comprehend and remember spoken information; to compensate for unfamiliar or missed words; and to anticipate upcoming details, based on the context of the speech.

The candidate is likely to consistently comprehend and reproduce new information that they receive in a variety of contexts and conversations. They can compensate for missed or unfamiliar words and grasp the meaning of the speech. Their responses contain minimal errors when passing along the information in subsequent communication, keeping the original meaning intact.

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### **Spoken English Understanding**

This competency is defined as the ability to discern main ideas and details in spoken information. The ability to comprehend the speaker's intent and to respond accordingly.

At the current proficiency level, the candidate is likely to understand spoken English.

However, while the candidate usually grasps the main idea and context of the conversation, they may miss important details. Occasionally, they may misinterpret some portions of speech and may fail to respond appropriately to more advanced questions and instructions.

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### **Vocabulary**

This competency can be defined as the ability to recognize words and phrases, as well as the proper context for words with similar meanings.

At the current proficiency level, the candidate is likely to understand English words and phrases as well as others.

However, while they can generally comprehend the words used in routine conversations, they may not grasp the language used in more formal or specialized communications.

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### **Grammar**

This competency is defined as the ability to construct proper sentences and paragraphs using correct syntax.

At the current proficiency level, the candidate is likely to use proper sentence structure and syntax. They are also likely to consistently arrange parts of speech to form meaningful sentences.

However, while they may make minor grammatical errors, these errors will not alter the sentence meaning or lead to miscommunication.