NSL Preliminary Beginners Skills Descriptors

Grade A (outstanding: 90-100)	Listening/Reading	Student demonstrates <i>extensive knowledge, perceptive analysis</i> and the ability to draw accurate conclusions from a <i>wide</i> range of spoken/written texts. Responses are <i>clearly expressed</i> showing a <i>very high degree of critical thinking</i> , identifying the required detail.
	Speaking	Student can maintain <i>effective</i> communication with a high level of <i>confidence</i> , speaks <i>spontaneously</i> and <i>creatively</i> drawing on the <i>full range</i> of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt.
		Responses are fluent and meaningful, using the <i>full range</i> of grammatical structures learnt and giving <i>detailed</i> information. Pronunciation and intonation are <i>highly developed</i> .
	Writing	Student can maintain <i>effective</i> communication in the written task with <i>creative flair</i> , drawing on the <i>full range</i> of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt.
		Sentences are <i>well structured</i> using a <i>broad range</i> of grammatical concepts learnt and giving detailed information. Spelling is <i>accurate</i> and text type is appropriate.
Grade B (thorough: 75-89)	Listening/Reading	Student demonstrates a <i>thorough knowledge</i> and <i>understanding</i> of a variety of spoken/written texts.
		Responses are <i>generally clearly expressed</i> showing a <i>high degree of critical thinking</i> , identifying <i>most</i> of the required detail.
	Speaking	Student can maintain <i>effective</i> communication with a level of confidence, drawing on a <i>comprehensive</i> range of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt.
		Responses are meaningful, using <i>a range</i> of grammatical structures learnt and giving <i>detailed</i> information.
		Pronunciation and intonation are <i>mostly correct</i> .
	Writing	Student can <i>communicate complex ideas</i> and <i>information</i> in the written task, drawing on <i>a comprehensive</i> range of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt.
		Sentences are well structured using a broad range of the grammatical concepts learnt and giving detailed information. There are some minor errors in spelling. Student demonstrates a good understanding of text types.

NSL Preliminary Beginners Skills Descriptors

Grade C (sound: 60-74)	Listening/Reading	Student demonstrates <i>sound understanding</i> of the meaning of a range of spoken/written texts. Student can apply skills in a range of familiar contexts and demonstrates skills in selecting and integrating information. Responses are <i>sound</i> , with a <i>degree of accuracy</i> but some relevant details are <i>omitted</i> .
	Speaking	Student can communicate relevant ideas in an appropriate manner and demonstrate skills in a range of familiar contexts, drawing on a range of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt. Sentences are coherent using a range of grammatical structures learnt, giving appropriate information but with some inaccuracies.
		Quality of pronunciation and intonation are not always consistent.
	Writing	Student can <i>communicate relevant ideas in familiar contexts</i> , drawing on a range of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions learnt.
		Sentences are <i>coherent</i> using <i>a range</i> of the grammatical structures learnt, giving <i>appropriate</i> information but with <i>inaccuracies</i> in spelling, grammar and understanding of text types.
Grade D (basic: 45-59)	Listening/Reading	Student demonstrates a <i>basic understanding</i> of spoken/written texts in familiar contexts. Responses are <i>basic, not clearly expressed</i> with some <i>incorrect</i> detail.
	Speaking	Student communicates at a <i>basic</i> level in some familiar contexts. Student uses some <i>relevant</i> vocabulary and expressions learnt. Sentences are <i>simple</i> and <i>descriptive</i> using a <i>basic range</i> of grammatical structures learnt and with <i>several inaccuracies</i> . Pronunciation and intonation often impede communication.
	Writing	Student provides a <i>basic</i> response to the task, using some of the <i>relevant</i> vocabulary learnt. Sentences are <i>simple</i> and <i>descriptive</i> using a <i>basic range</i> of grammatical structures learnt and with <i>major inaccuracies</i> in both spelling and grammar, with little understanding of text type.

NSL Preliminary Beginners Skills Descriptors

Grade E (elementary: 0-44)	Listening/Reading	Student demonstrates an <i>elementary knowledge</i> of spoken and written texts. Student provides <i>limited, incorrect or no</i> responses.
	Speaking	Student demonstrates <i>elementary skills</i> in communicating and <i>recounting information</i> . Student has difficulty comprehending and responding to questions, using only <i>simple words or simple phrases</i> . Responds hesitantly and with <i>many linguistic inaccuracies</i> which <i>impede</i> communication.
	Writing	Student provides an <i>elementary</i> response to the tasks. Student uses <i>only simple phrases</i> or <i>simple</i> vocabulary learnt. Responds often <i>incoherently</i> and with <i>many linguistic inaccuracies</i> .