

Analytic Oral Proficiency Assessment Scale (AOPAS)

Kost, C. R. (2004). An investigation of the effects of synchronous computer-mediated communication (CMC) on interlanguage development in beginning learners of German: accuracy, proficiency, and communication strategies. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 65, 4, 1346. Retrieved from ProQuest Digital Dissertations database. (Publication No. AAT 3131612).

Subscale	<i>Operationalisation criteria</i>
Pronunciation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of correct pronunciation and intonation so that the words spoken can be clearly understood by the listener without any confusion of meaning • Words are pronounced without a strong influence from the native language
Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of complete sentences without unnatural pauses and at a suitable pace • Fluent speakers offer information freely and are open and responsive to conversation partners
Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear understanding of what is spoken • Use of communication strategies (such as paraphrasing or asking questions) to sustain conversation when responding to unfamiliar content
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral proficiency is also characterised by a rich vocabulary • Terms are used accurately in the appropriate context and are not influenced by direct translation from the native language
Accuracy/structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of complete sentences and appropriate grammar (eg. tenses and verb conjugations) to accurately convey the intended meaning • Higher levels of oral proficiency require the creation of more complex sentences

<i>Pronunciation</i>	Mistakes	Points	Levels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct pronunciation and intonation • Very few mistakes which do not impede English-native interlocutor's comprehension 	1-3 mistakes	17-15	P6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very few pronunciation mistakes • Might have problem with a few specific words • Meaning is clear 	4-6 mistakes	14-12	P5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some mispronunciation, but sympathetic English-native interlocutor is able to understand • Native language influences pronunciation 	7-9 mistakes	11-9	P4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronunciation strongly influenced by native language • Pronunciation problems interfere with comprehension • Problematic for sympathetic native-English interlocutor 	10-12 mistakes	8-6	P3
Pronunciation problems manifest themselves throughout speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning frequently obscured by poor pronunciation • Only partially comprehensible (even to sympathetic English-native interlocutor) 	13-15 mistakes	5-3	P2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly incomprehensible 	16-18 mistakes	2-0	P1