

Berlitz Test of Speaking Skills

The Berlitz Test of Speaking Skills is an oral proficiency testing system designed to accurately measure the active oral communicative ability of your employees or applicants in a professional setting.

Designed through an ongoing partnership with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, this testing system is based on a guided dialogue between the Berlitz Rater and the examinee by telephone. Our raters are native –fluent in their test language and trained to lead a Berlitz Proficiency Interview in a professional and pleasant manner.

Through a series of questions, prompts, and tasks set in a customer-service context, the Berlitz Rater elicits oral language production from the examinee. It is measured in the areas of fluency, grammatical accuracy, lexical range, and phonological control.

The results are based on the Common European Framework-one of the most widely used and recognized language proficiency scales in the world-and easily interpreted to determine employee or applicant language qualification.

The Berlitz Test of Speaking Skills was developed through strict adherence to professional and ethical principles of test design as established in the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing¹ by the American Educational Research Association, the American Council on Measurement in Education, and the American Psychological Association.

To meet your staffing needs quickly and efficiently, our Call Center Staff handles your scheduling requests and administers the tests. Tests may be scheduled by phone or e-mail Monday-Friday between 5am and 5pm PST. A Schedule Confirmation will be e-mailed. Test results are provided by e-mail within 24 hours of test administration.

¹Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing. American Educational Research Association. 2000. 194pp.

**The Common European Framework
Berlitz Test of Speaking Skills**

PROFICIENCY:	Berlitz Scoring (CEF)	DPS Scoring	Descriptors:
Proficient User	C2	5	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	C1	4	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
Independent User	B2	3	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialization. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
	B1	3	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst traveling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics, which are familiar, or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
Basic User	A2	2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, and employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
	A1	1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.