## Mastery

**Grade 17**

- I can understand virtually everything I hear and, if required, can report back comprehensively on what I have heard.
- I can communicate effortlessly and confidently in most situations, showing a command of language which enables me to express finer shades of meaning.
- I can understand and interpret virtually everything I read and, if required, translate or report back comprehensively on what I have read.
- I can communicate fluently and effortlessly in writing in most situations, showing a command of language which enables me to express finer shades of meaning. I can create or translate texts accurately showing an appropriate sensitivity to style and register.

## Proficiency

**Grade 16**

- I can understand almost everything I hear, including in familiar specialised contexts, and, if required, can report back on what I have heard.
- I can communicate with ease in both formal and informal situations, using a wide range and variety of language appropriately.
- I can understand and interpret almost everything I read, including texts in familiar specialised contexts, and, if required, report back on what I have read.
- I can communicate with ease, producing texts for a range of purposes, using a sophisticated range and variety of structures.

**Grade 15**

- I can understand extended speech in unfamiliar contexts and can summarise the key points and most of the details.
- I can take a leading role in discussions speaking coherently in a wide variety of situations.
- I can understand texts outside my field of expertise and note the key points and most of the details.
- I can produce well-structured text of some length which clearly expresses an argument or specific viewpoint, using a wide range and variety of language.

## Advanced

**Grade 14**

- I can understand extended speech of some degree of complexity and abstraction involving a number of speakers and can summarise the key points.
- I can play a pro-active role in discussions on a range of topics in an appropriate register and can make myself understood with relative ease.
- I can understand a range of texts of some degree of complexity and abstraction including specialised texts written for a non-specialist audience, and note the key points.
- I can produce extended texts or reports on a range of topics in a variety of registers, using a wide range of language forms.

**Grade 13**

- I can understand extended speech of moderate length and complexity involving one or more speakers and can summarise the key points.
- I can sustain a conversation and can find ways of expressing myself with relative ease.
- I can understand a range of texts of moderate length and complexity, including specialised texts written for a non-specialist audience, and note the key points.
- I can produce extended texts or reports on a range of topics in an appropriate register, using a range of appropriate concrete and abstract vocabulary.

**Grade 12**

- I can understand the main points of authentic spoken passages and conversations in a range of different contexts.
- I can give a presentation on a chosen theme and argue my viewpoints with some degree of success.
- I can understand authentic texts of some degree of complexity and abstraction in a range of different contexts. I can produce a summary covering most essential points.
- I can write extended text using a wide range of language in a variety of registers covering more specialised contexts eg work-related or in a specialised area of study.

**Grade 11**

- I can understand the majority of points and am able to infer the meaning of a range of authentic passages and conversations spoken at near native speed.
- I can participate in discussions relating to a variety of situations and topics, taking the initiative where appropriate.
- I can understand and am able to infer the meaning of a range of more complex texts. I can produce a detailed report covering all essential points.
- I can write coherent text, in an appropriate register, for different purposes, including communicating information, ideas and opinions eg a review, an article or a report.

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**Listening** | **Speaking** | **Reading** | **Writing**

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**department for children, schools and families**

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**The Languages Ladder**