

**AIRLINE LEVELS**

- Level 1: Is unable to understand the simplest questions and to express himself/herself.
- Level 2: Can understand simple questions and statements. Speaking vocabulary inadequate to express anything but the most elementary needs, e.g. order a meal, ask for lodging, give simple directions, make purchases and tell time. Errors in pronunciation and grammar are frequent, but can be understood by a native speaker used to dealing with foreigners attempting to speak his language.
- Level 3: Can handle with confidence but not with facility most social situations including introduction and casual conversation about current events, as well as work and family. Can get the gist of most conversations on non-technical subjects and has a speaking vocabulary sufficient to express himself/herself simply with some circumlocutions; accent, though often quite faulty, is intelligible; can handle elementary constructions quite accurately but does not have thorough or confident control of the grammar.
- Level 4: Able to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social and academic topics. Comprehension is quite complete for a normal rate of speech; vocabulary is broad enough that he/she rarely has to grope for a word. Accent may be obviously foreign. Control of grammar good and errors never interfere with understanding and rarely disturb the native speaker.
- Level 5: Able to use the language fluently and accurately. Can understand and participate in any conversation with the range of his/her experience with a high degree of fluency and precision of vocabulary; would rarely be taken for a native speaker, but can respond appropriately even in unfamiliar situations; errors of pronunciation and grammar are quite rare.
- Level 6: Speaking proficiency equivalent to that of an educated native speaker. Has complete fluency in the language such that his speech on all levels is fully accepted by educated native speakers in all of its features, including breadth of vocabulary and idioms, colloquialisms, and pertinent cultural references