



The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer ACTFL OPIc®

General Description

The ACTFL OPIc® is an internationally used, semi-direct test of spoken proficiency designed to elicit a sample of speech via recorded, computer-adapted voice prompts. Corporations with a need for proficiency evaluations that can be delivered immediately, on-demand will be able to administer an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview-like test without the presence of a live tester to conduct the interview.

Completed tests are digitally saved and rated by ACTFL Certified OPIc Raters. The ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines – Speaking (Revised 1999) are the basis for assigning a rating. Research conducted demonstrates that ratings assigned to OPIc samples generally correlate to ratings assigned to direct assessments of speaking proficiency derived through ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interviews (OPI).

The OPIc is intended for all language learners from Novice to Advanced. Large scale testing of spoken language proficiency is now available for secondary and post-secondary language students. The OPIc can be used for placement, formative, and summative assessment purposes. In a business context, the OPIc is appropriate for a variety of purposes: employment selection, placement into training programs, demonstration of an individual's linguistic progress, and evidence of training effectiveness.

Test Length: Approximately 30 minutes.

Test Format: Digitally recorded prompts are delivered through computer via the internet, or telephonically using VOIP technology.

By computer: Test is delivered via the internet and taken on computer with a microphone headset. A test candidate moves through the test by “mouse clicking” on navigation aids found on the computer screen. Spoken responses are digitally recorded. At the end of the test, the candidate's responses are uploaded to the internet for instantaneous delivery to LTI.

By telephone: Test is delivered by telephone. A test candidate navigates through the test with the aid of verbal instructions and the phone key pad. The candidate's spoken responses are digitally recorded by LTI.

Test Content: Each test is individualized through the selection of tasks within topic areas according to the test taker's linguistic ability, work experiences, academic background and interests.

Rating: The OPIc is a criterion-referenced assessment. The ACTFL Certified Rater compares the candidate's digitally recorded responses to rating criteria as described in the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines – Speaking (Revised 1999)*.

Languages: Internet delivered versions of the OPIc are available in English and Spanish. Telephone delivered versions in these languages will be introduced shortly. Other languages will be launched in 2008.