NCSSFL-ACTFL CAN-DO STATEMENTS
Communication and Intercultural Competence

Proficiency Benchmarks
Performance Indicators

LINGUAFOLIO®
NCSSFL
## NCSSFL-ACTFL CAN-DO STATEMENTS
### Communication Proficiency Benchmarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOVICE</th>
<th>INTERMEDIATE</th>
<th>ADVANCED</th>
<th>SUPERIOR</th>
<th>DISTINGUISHED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interpretive Benchmarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Interpersonal Benchmarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Presentational Benchmarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Interpersonal Communication Proficiency Benchmarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Intercultural Communication Proficiency Benchmarks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can communicate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences and questions.</td>
<td>I can present information on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.</td>
<td><strong>Intercultural Investigation Benchmarks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences within texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can participate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.</td>
<td>I can communicate information, make presentations and express my thoughts about familiar topics, using sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td><strong>Intercultural Interaction Benchmarks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Intercultural Interaction Benchmarks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can maintain spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar, as well as unfamiliar, concrete topics using series of connected sentences and probing questions.</td>
<td>I can deliver detailed and organized presentations on familiar as well as unfamiliar concrete topics, in paragraphs and using various time frames through spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.</td>
<td>I can interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can interpret and infer meaning from complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to areas of specialized expertise, including supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.</td>
<td>I can deliver extended presentations on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, with precision of expression and to a wide variety of audiences, using spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can interact at a competent level in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.</td>
<td>I can interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can interpret and infer meaning from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can interact, negotiate, and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can deliver sophisticated and articulate presentations on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the audience, using spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of culture.</td>
<td>I can interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of culture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Interpreting Proficiency Benchmarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic informational texts?</th>
<th>What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic fictional texts?</th>
<th>What can I understand, interpret or analyze in conversations and discussions in which I am not a participant?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOVICE</strong></td>
<td>I can identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can identify familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can understand familiar questions and statements from simple conversations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERMEDIATE</strong></td>
<td>I can understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can usually follow the main message in various time frames in straightforward informational texts.</td>
<td>I can identify the main idea in short conversations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADVANCED</strong></td>
<td>I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can understand the underlying message and most supporting details across major time frames in informative texts.</td>
<td>I can understand the main idea and key information in short straightforward fictional texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPERIOR</strong></td>
<td>I can interpret and infer meaning from complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from unfamiliar, abstract topics in complex language in informational texts.</td>
<td>I can understand the main message and flow of events expressed in various time frames in conversations and discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISTINGUISHED</strong></td>
<td>I can interpret and infer meaning from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written or signed.</td>
<td>I can follow the flow of ideas and infer meaning from unfamiliar, abstract topics in complex language in informational texts.</td>
<td>I can understand abstract, complex and unfamiliar topics in extended conversations and discussions involving multiple speakers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Performance Indicators**

- **LOW**
- **MID**
- **HIGH**

**What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic informational texts?**

- I can identify some basic facts from memorized words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in informational texts.
- I can identify the main idea and key information in short straightforward informational texts.
- I can usually follow the main message in various time frames in straightforward informational texts.
- I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.

**What can I understand, interpret or analyze in authentic fictional texts?**

- I can identify some basic facts from memorized words and phrases when they are supported by gestures or visuals in fictional texts.
- I can usually follow the main story and actions expressed in various time frames in paragraph-length fictional texts.
- I can follow the main story and most supporting details across major time frames in fictional texts.
- I can follow the flow of ideas and some supporting detail across major time frames in fiction.

**What can I understand, interpret or analyze in conversations and discussions in which I am not a participant?**

- I can understand familiar questions and statements from simple conversations.
- I can usually understand the main idea and flow of events expressed in various time frames in conversations and discussions.
- I can understand the main message and supporting details across major time frames in conversations and discussions.
- I can follow the flow of ideas and some nuances from different viewpoints in conversations and discussions.

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Interpersonal Proficiency Benchmarks

### Performance Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interpersonal Proficiency Benchmarks</th>
<th>How can I exchange information and ideas in conversations?</th>
<th>How can I meet my needs or address situations in conversations?</th>
<th>How can I express, react to and support preferences and opinions in conversations?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOW</strong></td>
<td>I can provide information by answering a few simple questions on very familiar topics, using memorized words and phrases.</td>
<td>I can express some basic needs related to routines everyday activities, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words and phrases.</td>
<td>I can express basic preferences or feelings, using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MID</strong></td>
<td>I can request and provide information by asking and answering a few simple questions on very familiar everyday topics, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences.</td>
<td>I can interact with others to meet my basic needs in familiar situations by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can express my preferences or feelings and react to those of others, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIGH</strong></td>
<td>I can request and provide information by asking and answering practiced and some original questions on familiar and everyday topics, using simple sentences most of the time.</td>
<td>I can interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can express, ask about, and react with some details to preferences, feelings, or opinions on familiar topics, using simple sentences most of the time and asking questions to keep the conversation on track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOW</strong></td>
<td>I can exchange information in conversations on familiar topics by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of situations, creating sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can express, ask about, and react with some details to preferences, feelings, or opinions on familiar topics, using simple sentences most of the time and asking questions to keep the conversation on track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MID</strong></td>
<td>I can exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can interact with others to meet my needs in a variety of situations, creating sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can express preferences, feelings, or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of familiar topics, by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIGH</strong></td>
<td>I can exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and asking a variety of follow-up questions.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication that arises in a familiar situation, using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.</td>
<td>I can express preferences, feelings, or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of familiar topics, by creating simple sentences and asking appropriate follow-up questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOW</strong></td>
<td>I can maintain conversations by providing explanations and comparisons of preferences, opinions, and advice on familiar and concrete academic and social topics using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve an unexpected complication in a situation that is generally unfamiliar.</td>
<td>I can maintain conversations by providing explanations and comparisons of preferences, opinions, and advice on familiar and concrete academic and social topics using a few simple paragraphs across major time frames.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MID</strong></td>
<td>I can maintain discussions on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar concrete topics of personal and general interest, and sometimes academic, social or professional topics, by using probing questions and providing detailed responses across major time frames.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve abstract and complex matters on a wide variety of topics in a variety of situations.</td>
<td>I can maintain extended conversations by supporting, reacting to, and comparing preferences and opinions and expressing advice and emotions in detail across major time frames, and by asking probing questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIGH</strong></td>
<td>I can discuss and sometimes debate a variety of complex concrete and some abstract academic, social and professional topics and often deal with related issues hypothetically, using precise questions and explanations.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve highly abstract and complex matters in culturally appropriate ways on a wide variety of topics and to persuasively advocate a point of view that is not necessarily my own.</td>
<td>I can discuss, support, and sometimes debate opinions and advice on a variety of complex concrete topics, often addressing hypothetical or abstract issues, and asking precise questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPERIOR</strong></td>
<td>I can participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written or signed conversations on both very familiar and unfamiliar, concrete topics, using series of connected sentences and probing questions.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve abstract and complex matters on a wide variety of topics in a variety of situations.</td>
<td>I can discuss and debate a wide variety of complex issues and abstract ideas using precise, sophisticated, and academic language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISTINGUISHED</strong></td>
<td>I can participate and negotiate, and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written or signed language.</td>
<td>I can interact and negotiate to resolve highly abstract and complex matters in culturally appropriate ways on a wide variety of topics and to persuasively advocate a point of view that is not necessarily my own.</td>
<td>I can tailor language to a variety of audiences by adapting my speech and register in culturally authentic ways.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Presentational Proficiency Benchmarks

**Performance Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How can I present information to narrate about my life, experiences and events?</th>
<th>How can I present information to give a preference, opinion or persuasive argument?</th>
<th>How can I present information to inform, describe or explain?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>MID</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>MID</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>MID</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How can I present information to narrate about my life, experiences and events?**

- **LOW**: I can introduce myself using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.
- **MID**: I can present information about myself, my interests and my activities using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences.
- **HIGH**: I can present personal information about my life and activities, using simple sentences most of the time.

**How can I present information to give a preference, opinion or persuasive argument?**

- **LOW**: I can express my likes and dislikes on very familiar and everyday topics of interest, using a mixture of practiced or memorized words, phrases and simple sentences.
- **MID**: I can state my viewpoint about familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
- **HIGH**: I can state my viewpoint on familiar or researched topics and provide reasons to support it, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.

**How can I present information to inform, describe or explain?**

- **LOW**: I can name very familiar people, places, and objects using practiced or memorized words and phrases, with the help of gestures or visuals.
- **MID**: I can present on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics I have researched, using simple sentences and series of connected sentences.
- **HIGH**: I can give detailed presentations on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics I have researched, using a few short paragraphs, often across various time frames.

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### Intercultural Communication Benchmarks

**NOVICE**

**Investigation**
- I can identify products and practices to help me understand perspectives.

**Interaction**
- I can interact at a survival level with others in and from another culture in some familiar everyday contexts.

**Performance Indicators**
- How can I investigate products and practices to understand perspectives?

**INTERMEDIATE**

**Investigation**
- I can make comparisons between products and practices to help me understand perspectives.

**Interaction**
- I can interact at a functional level with others in and from another culture in some familiar contexts.

**Performance Indicators**
- How can I use my language and behavior to interact with others in and from another culture?

**ADVANCED**

**Investigation**
- I can explain some diversity among products and practices and how it relates to perspectives.

**Interaction**
- I can interact at a competent level with others in and from another culture in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.

**Performance Indicators**
- How can I investigate products and practices to understand perspectives?

**SUPERIOR**

**Investigation**
- I can objectively evaluate products and practices and mediate perspectives.

**Interaction**
- I can engage with complexity and pluricultural identities and serve as a mediator between and among cultures.

**Performance Indicators**
- How can I use my language and behavior to interact with others in and from another culture?

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