



CU Non-Native Thai Proficiency Test: Speaking

The Chula Non-Native Thai Speaking Proficiency Test is designed to assess the examinee's language ability to communicate in Thai. The speaking test of 45 minutes elicits the best possible information on the examinee's ability to speak Thai. The test team will use this sample to match the examinee's performance against the Chula Non-Native Thai Proficiency Scale of five levels given on the back page.

The CU Speaking Test comprises three parts:

Part I. Conversation:

Purpose: To determine how well the examinee is able to communicate in Thai about everyday social and personal topics in a face-to-face conversation with an educated native speaker of Thai.

Procedure: The examinee converses in Thai with the tester, who is an educated speaker, on topics concerning everyday life for up to ten minutes, depending on the examinee's proficiency.

Part II. Oral Report:

Purpose: To measure how well the examinee is able to organize ideas and present them clearly and continuously on a selected topic; also, to respond intelligibly to follow-up questions.

Procedure: The test team will decide whether the examinee can continue with Part II. If so, the examiner will have the examinee select a topic from five options. The examinee will give an oral report on the selected topic.

Part III. Interview:

Purpose: To see how well the examinee can formulate questions and manage interaction while obtaining general and detailed information in a face-to-face interview and how well she/he can understand and summarize precisely the information from the interview.

Procedure: The examinee may choose whether she/he will continue with Part III. Interview. If the examinee decides to continue, five topics will be given to her/him from which she/he will choose only ONE. This is to be done in one minute. The examinee will be given two minutes to collect thoughts before the interview begins.

In the interview, the examinee elicits information on the topic chosen from the tester. Then the examinee reports the information to the examiner in Thai. The examinee can stop periodically to report information to the examiner. When the topic of the report is adequately explored or the allowed time of ten minutes is up, the examiner signals to the examinee to conclude the report. The examinee will be given one minute to recover her/his thoughts and conclude the interview.

Registration:

To promote our test from November 2008 to January 2009, the Sirindhorn Thai Center will give the tests free of charge to not more than ten applicants per month.

To apply, contact Miss Kongkarn Laojanan.

Telephone : 0-2218-9480-1

Email : cuthaitest@gmail.com

The test will take place only at the Sirindhorn Thai Center Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, from November 2008 to January 2009.

After January 2009, the test schedule and the registration procedure will be announced on the Sirindhorn Thai Center website.

For Further Information:

Contact : Miss Kongkarn Laojanan
Telephone : 0-2218-9480-1
Email : cuthaitest@gmail.com

Thai Proficiency Scale of five levels

Distinguished

Is able to express oneself with fluency, grammatical accuracy, precision of vocabulary and idiomaticity with appropriateness within the range of personal and professional experience and scope of responsibilities. Can tailor language to fit the audience; can counsel, persuade, represent an official point of view, negotiate, advocate a position at length, and interpret informally. Has a good command of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms with awareness of connotative meanings. Can understand and use appropriate rhetorical devices and native cultural references in organizing discourse.

Superior

Is able to participate spontaneously and effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social, professional, and abstract topics with sufficient and accurate structure and vocabulary. Can manage extended cohesive discourse, explain or hypothesize on concrete and abstract topics. Can support or defend opinions on controversial matters. May make sporadic errors in low frequency simple structures and some high frequency complex structures, without such errors interfering in the understanding of a native speaker. Recognizes some high frequency idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms.

Advanced

Is able to converse in formal and informal situations, narrate events in current public interest, and express points of view in a field of specialization. Can make him/herself understood without difficulty by native interlocutors. Can communicate confidently on familiar topics. In less familiar topics uses, communicative strategies with noticeable strain.

Intermediate

Is able to maintain simple face-to-face conversation and to make him /herself understood on familiar everyday topics. Can initiate and close conversations and maintain minimal interaction.

Novice

Shows functional communicative ability at a minimal level. Can use only the language learned for the most common features in everyday life.

***Plus**

Is able to perform tasks at a level of proficiency one higher than the level indicated but not consistently.

Example:

Novice*plus: Ability higher than novice level but not consistent.