

BEST Plus 3.0 Scoring Rubric

Listening Comprehension <i>How well did the examinee understand the setup and questions?</i>	2	Response indicates appropriate understanding of the setup and question without repetition (though examinee may have checked comprehension)
	1	Setup and question need to be repeated before examinee responds appropriately, or Response indicates partial understanding of setup and question
	0	Response indicates complete misunderstanding of setup and question (even with one repetition), or No response, response incomprehensible, or response inappropriate

Language Complexity <i>How did the examinee organize and elaborate the response?</i>	4	Sustains a variety of structures; develops an idea in detail (using reasons, examples, explanations, descriptions, etc.); vocabulary more precise; response cohesive and often organized
	3	Uses strings of several sentences to provide additive detail , often through phrases and clauses (e.g., prepositional phrases, adverbial clauses, subordination); elaboration clearly beyond minimum
	2	Uses long strings of phrases or well-formed sentence(s) with emerging complexity (e.g., use of “because,” “if,” “but”) to provide some additional detail that is minimal but beyond basic
	1	Words, phrase(s), or simple sentence(s) (i.e., S-V-O) used to provide basic information with no elaboration; limited vocabulary
	0	No response, response incomprehensible, or response inappropriate

Communication <i>How clearly did the examinee communicate meaning?</i>	3	Response is comprehensible and easy to understand (despite inaccuracies, the listener does not need to fill in to understand meaning)
	2	Response is comprehensible but sporadically difficult to understand (from time to time the listener needs to fill in to understand meaning)
	1	Response is comprehensible but generally difficult to understand (much effort is required by the listener to fill in to understand meaning; confusions may exist)
	0	No response, response incomprehensible, or response inappropriate

The Meaning Development category is only used for a subset of BEST Plus 3.0 tasks and will not be visible for scoring other tasks.

Meaning Development <i>How did the examinee use language to develop meaning?</i>	3	A substantive and sophisticated response with well-developed meaning (e.g., through claims and evidence or appropriate supporting detail); includes complex or content-specific vocabulary ; response demonstrates control of appropriate registers (e.g., academic, conversational)
	2	A full response with appropriate supporting details and content-specific vocabulary ; response lacks sophistication in the development of meaning and use of detail; academic or formal registers may be used inconsistently
	1	A generally adequate response; response may include expanded language (e.g., a variety of structures) but meaning development is minimal and response may not fully address prompt
	0	No response, response incomprehensible, or response inappropriate

BEST Plus 3.0 Language Complexity Reference Sheet

Language Complexity refers to how the examinee organizes and elaborates the response. Different types of questions require different levels of linguistic complexity in their responses. Sometimes a one-word answer is appropriate. Sometime sentences, strings of sentences, or more complex language is needed to give an appropriate response. In rating this category, you will need to listen for several things. Is the response an appropriate word, phrase, sentence, or string of sentences? How complex is the grammar? Is the detail provided minimal or clearly beyond basic? Is the response organized and cohesive?

Score	Rubric Description	Examples	Notes
4	Sustains a variety of structures; develops an idea in detail (using reasons, examples, explanations, descriptions, etc.); vocabulary more precise; response cohesive and often organized.	Oh, I have no experience here in the United States, but from what I heard it's not easy to go to a doctor here because it is very expensive if you don't have any health insurance. Maybe I can compare it with Germany because I don't know a lot about Cameroon. So in Germany you just have to pay your insurance. So you pay monthly. It is not expensive at all, maybe 45 Euro, it's like \$50, and you access in all, at all branches in the medicine. And here I have my friend, she told me she went to see a doctor. It was last Saturday. She has to pay seventy, seventy dollars! It's like my, what I paid for the month, my monthly insurance in Germany. It's very expensive here.	Develops an idea in detail using reasons, examples, precise vocabulary, and complex grammatical structures; cohesive response
3	Uses strings of several sentences to provide additive detail , often through phrases and clauses (e.g., prepositional phrases, adverbial clauses, subordination); elaboration clearly beyond minimum	<p>Umm... I think the best way to find a home is by asking to a neighbor, to friends. Em, where can we find a affordable house or apartment. [Tell me more] And uh... because sometimes in... some areas are very expensive. And we prefer to pay less than more. So, that's why when I need to move to another apartment for some reason, I ask first to my um friends and family.</p> <p>Umm... Here you can... If you want to see a doctor you call somebody first to make an appointment. And then you can wait for hours or for days. They can let you know when exactly you has to be, you has to see the doctor. In my country it is different because if you want to see the doctor right now, you can see it. So the only thing has to do is to go to the doctor and make a line and the doctor will see you. That's a big difference. So... right there we don't call the doctor first.</p>	<p>Strings of several sentences to provide additive detail; use of adverbial phrases and subordinate clauses; elaboration clearly beyond minimum</p> <p>Strings of several sentences to provide additive detail; use of prepositional phrases and subordinate clauses; elaboration clearly beyond minimum</p>
2	Uses long strings of phrases or well-formed sentence(s) with emerging complexity (e.g., use of "because" "if," "but") to provide some additional detail that is minimal but beyond basic	<p>No, in my country is more easy to go to the doctor. Yeah. Because they... there is very... plan for health for the, for the people. Here is very expensive to go to the doctor. Very expensive. It is different in that my country. My country no is very expensive visit the doctor.</p> <p>Umm... I decided to buy my food in the Spanish stores--well--to buy the same food I eat in my country.</p>	<p>Strings of multiple phrases; use of "because;" some additional detail but repeats and rephrases the same information</p> <p>A well-formed sentence. Use of complementation to add detail (i.e., "to buy the same food...")</p>
1	Words, phrase(s), or simple sentence(s) (i.e., S-V-O) used to provide basic information with no elaboration; limited vocabulary	<p>Em... For more... work more hours... more money... I think.</p> <p>I buy the food in Giant and Shopper and Safeway.</p>	<p>Words, phrases; no elaboration; limited vocabulary</p> <p>Simple sentence; no elaboration</p>
0	No response, response incomprehensible, or response inappropriate		