

# HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

### LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

#### Speaking Descriptors

##### Level 5

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| <b>Pronunciation and Delivery</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pronunciation of words is clear and accurate.</li><li>• Use of stress and intonation enhances communication.</li><li>• Fluency is sustained with only occasional hesitation.</li></ul>                      |
| <b>Communication strategies</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A wide range of expressions and strategies is used to initiate and maintain interaction and to respond purposefully to others.</li><li>• Body language enhances communication.</li></ul>                    |
| <b>Vocabulary and language patterns</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary is varied and appropriate.</li><li>• Language patterns are accurate and appropriate.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Ideas and organization</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relevant information and ideas are clearly expressed and developed.</li><li>• Topics are expanded on cogently with explanations or detail.</li><li>• Conversational exchanges are well sustained.</li></ul> |

##### Level 4

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| <b>Pronunciation and Delivery</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pronunciation of familiar words is clear and accurate.</li><li>• Stress and intonation are sufficiently appropriate to convey meaning.</li><li>• Fluency is sustained, with some hesitation.</li></ul>       |
| <b>Communication strategies</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A range of expressions and strategies is used to maintain interaction and to respond purposefully to others.</li><li>• Some features of body language support communication.</li></ul>                       |
| <b>Vocabulary and language patterns</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary is appropriate.</li><li>• Language patterns are mostly accurate and appropriate. Any errors made do not impede communication.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Ideas and organization</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most information and ideas are relevant and clearly expressed and developed.</li><li>• Topics are often expanded on with explanations or detail.</li><li>• Conversational exchanges are sustained.</li></ul> |

### Level 3

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| <b>Pronunciation and Delivery</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pronunciation of most words can be understood.</li><li>• Some stress and intonation patterns help convey meaning.</li><li>• Fluency is evident in response to prompting.</li></ul>    |
| <b>Communication strategies</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some expressions and strategies are used to respond purposefully to others.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Vocabulary and language patterns</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A range of simple vocabulary is used appropriately.</li><li>• Simple language patterns are used accurately and appropriately. Errors do not usually impede communication.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Ideas and organization</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some ideas and information are relevant and expressed clearly.</li><li>• Detail is added to some responses.</li><li>• Conversational exchanges are sustained when prompted.</li></ul> |

### Level 2

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| <b>Pronunciation and Delivery</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pronunciation of familiar words can usually be understood within the overall context.</li><li>• Stress and intonation are used appropriately with simple utterances.</li><li>• Fluency is evident in response to very simple prompts on familiar topics.</li></ul> |
| <b>Communication strategies</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic expressions and strategies are used to respond purposefully to others.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Vocabulary and language patterns</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A small range of simple vocabulary is used appropriately.</li><li>• Some basic language patterns are used accurately in brief exchanges.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Ideas and organization</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some relevant simple information and ideas are expressed successfully.</li><li>• Some ideas and information are expanded on briefly.</li><li>• There is brief participation in conversation when prompted.</li></ul>   |

### Level 1

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| <b>Pronunciation and Delivery</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some simple familiar words are pronounced accurately enough to be understood.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Communication strategies</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some very basic comprehensible responses are given.</li></ul>  |
| <b>Vocabulary and language patterns</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several examples of simple vocabulary are used appropriately.</li><li>• A few simple formulaic language patterns are used appropriately.</li></ul>               |
| <b>Ideas and organization</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic relevant information is offered when the topic is very familiar.</li><li>• Some brief responses or statements are made when repeatedly prompted.</li></ul> |