

# Language Self Assessment Guide

## NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM - Boren Scholarships

	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2
Listening	I understand familiar words and very basic phrases concerning myself, my family, and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	I understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g., very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.	I understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encounter in work, school, leisure, etc. I understand the main point of many radio or TV programs on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	I understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar. I understand most TV news and current affairs programs. I understand the majority of films in the standard dialect.	I understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signaled explicitly. I understand television programs and films without too much effort.	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided I have some time to get familiar with the accent.
Reading	I understand familiar names, words, and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters in catalogues.	I read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus, and timetables, and understand short simple personal letters.	I understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I understand the description of events, feelings, and wishes in personal letters.	I read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints, I can understand contemporary literary prose.	I understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I understand specialized articles and longer technical instructions even when they do not related to my field.	I read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialized articles and literary works.
Spoken Interaction	I can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help me formulate what I am trying to say. I can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I cannot usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest, or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel, and current events).	I can interact with a degree of literacy and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious search for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contributions skillfully to those of other speakers.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely. If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.
Spoken Production	I can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where I live and people I know.	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe my experiences and events, my dreams, hopes, and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest. I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue given the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points, and round off with an appropriate conclusion.	I can present a clear, smooth-flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.
Writing	I can write a short, simple postcard, for example, sending a holiday greeting. I can fill in forms with personal details, for example, entering my name, nationality, and address on a hotel registration form.	I can write, short, simple notes and messages. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests. I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reason in support of or against a particular point of view. I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay, or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select a style appropriate to the reader in mind.	I can write clear, smoothly-flowing text in an appropriate style. I can write complex letters, reports, or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points. I can write summaries and review of professional or literary works.