

Sample Role-Play Rubrics*

Making Small Talk/Local & Tourist

<i>Check all achieved</i>	High	Medium	Low
Pragmatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Friendly expression and body language <input type="checkbox"/> Shows interest in others' comments (back channeling) <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains flow with culturally familiar language <input type="checkbox"/> Adjusts to and/or initiates conversational moves 	I could comfortably follow the speaker's intended meaning. Fluent, uninterrupted speech.	I could follow the speaker's intended meaning with effort. There were pauses and restatements.	I worked hard to follow the speaker's intended meaning. There were long pauses and restatements.
Work on... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sounds • stress • intonation • inflections • grammar/vocabulary 	I understood.	I understood with effort.	I worked hard to understand.

Asking for a Favor/Declining

<i>Check all achieved</i>	High	Medium	Low
Pragmatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Confident expression and body language <input type="checkbox"/> Signals intention to make a request <input type="checkbox"/> Softens request/refusal with nonverbal indicators and/or formulaic utterances <input type="checkbox"/> May reaffirm the relationship <input type="checkbox"/> Brings conversation to a successful close 	I could comfortably follow the speaker's intended meaning. Fluent, uninterrupted speech.	I could follow the speaker's intended meaning with effort. Some pauses and restatements.	I worked hard to follow the speaker's intended meaning. There were long pauses and restatements.

Expressing Frustration/Empathizing

<i>Check all achieved</i>	High	Medium	Low
Pragmatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attentive expression and body language <input type="checkbox"/> Signals support by echoing or restating <input type="checkbox"/> Checks partner's willingness to listen <input type="checkbox"/> Shifts conversation in a new direction 	I could comfortably follow the speaker's intended meaning. Fluent uninterrupted speech.	I could follow the speaker's intended meaning with effort. There were pauses and restatements.	I worked hard to follow the speaker's intended meaning. There were long pauses and restatements.

*These rubrics are working documents used in the oral communication strand of the ESOL Program at Lone Star College System.