

# **Albanian Defense Language Proficiency Test 5**

## **Familiarization Guide**



## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
Overview of the DLPT5 .....	3
Description of the Lower-Range Albanian DLPT5 .....	3
Scoring .....	5
Preparation for Taking the Albanian DLPT5 .....	5
Instructions for taking the Albanian DLPT5 .....	6
Test Procedures .....	7
Sample Passages and Questions .....	25
Appendix A: Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions .....	31
Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions: Listening .	31
Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions: Reading ...	35

## Introduction

This Familiarization Guide is designed to provide prospective examinees with information about the Albanian Defense Language Proficiency Test 5 (DLPT5) in constructed-response format. This guide contains general information about the test design, the format of the test, its length, its content, the skills tested, and procedures used in scoring and reporting the scores. In addition, screen shots on what the examinees will see when taking the test on the computer as well as information on testing procedures are provided.

## Overview of the DLPT5

The DLPT5 is designed to assess the global language proficiency in reading and listening of native speakers of English who have learned a foreign language as a second language and speakers of other languages with very strong English skills. The DLPT5 tests measure proficiency as defined by the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) Skill Level Descriptions, levels 0+ - 4 (see Appendix A). All DLPT5s will be delivered on the computer.

DLPT5s in many languages include both a Lower-Range Test and an Upper-Range Test. The Lower-Range Test measures ILR proficiency levels 0+ - 3, while the Upper-Range Test measures ILR proficiency levels 3 - 4. The Albanian test is lower-range only. The DLPT5 will be used to make operational readiness, incentive pay, and training decisions for civilian and military language analysts in the United States government.

## Description of the Lower-Range Albanian DLPT5

- **Test Design**
  - The Lower-Range Reading Test contains 60 questions with about 30 authentic passages. Each passage has up to 3 questions.
  - The Lower-Range Listening Test contains 60 questions with 30 authentic passages. Each passage has two questions and is played twice.
  - Examinees have 3 hours to complete the Reading Test and 3 hours to complete the Listening Test. Approximately halfway through each test,

examinees will be given a 15-minute break. The break does not count toward the test time. For both the Listening Test and the Reading test, examinees may take as much or as little time as they wish to answer the questions. Managing the time effectively is the examinee's responsibility.

- **Test Content**

- The Albanian DLPT5 is designed to measure proficiency in Standard Albanian regardless of how it has been acquired. For this reason, and because of the broad proficiency orientation of the test, its content is not tied to any particular language-training program. Prospective examinees should note that Standard Albanian is based on the Tosk dialect.
- The passages included in the test are sampled from authentic materials and real-life sources such as signs, newspapers, radio and television broadcasts, the Internet, etc.
- The passages cover a broad range of content areas, including social, cultural, political, economic, geographic, scientific, and military topics.

- **Test Format:** The test includes instructions for how to take the test, examples of how to answer the questions, and question sets containing the following parts:

- **Orientation:** This is a short statement in English that appears before each passage. Its purpose is to identify the context from which the passage is taken.
- **Passage:** This is the only element of the test that is in Albanian. The maximum length of a listening comprehension passage in the test is approximately 2 minutes. The maximum length of a reading comprehension passage is approximately 300 words. Most of the passages are much shorter than the maximum length.
- **Question statement:** Each individual question is based on the passage, is written in English, and is posed in the form of a complete question or an incomplete statement. The questions may ask about what is explicitly stated in the passage or, in some cases, what is implied in it. Occasionally questions may ask about expressions that are used in the passage. There are usually two questions for each passage; some passages may have three questions.
- **Answer box:** For each question, there is a box on the screen in which examinees type their answer in English. Examinees may also type notes in these boxes if they wish.

Because test security and confidentiality are extremely important, examinees should not discuss test content with anyone.

## Scoring

Examinee scores are reported in terms of ILR levels, including “plus” ratings. Lower-Range Tests are intended to cover ILR levels 0+ through 3. Possible scores are 0, 0+, 1, 1+, 2, 2+, and 3. Upper-Range Tests are intended to cover ILR levels 3 through 4. Possible scores are 3, 3+, and 4. Separate scores are reported for Reading and Listening.

Scores on either type of test reflect current functional language proficiency in reading and listening as defined in the ILR Skill Level Descriptions (see Appendix A). Scores do **not** reflect proficiency in speaking or writing, nor do they reflect examinees’ job-related performance or ability to perform specific language-related tasks under special circumstance (e.g., reading or listening to a target language passage indefinitely many times with the aid of supplemental reference materials and information sources).

For the Lower-Range Test, scores will be based on the number of questions answered correctly at each ILR level. Each question targets a specific ILR level. Examinees generally have to answer at least 70% of questions correctly at a given level to be assigned that level. Examinees must pass each lower level in order to pass a higher level. Examinee answers will be evaluated by scorers trained by testing experts at the Defense Language Institute according to a detailed scoring protocol.

Scores on the Upper-Range Test will be based on the number of passages for which the examinee demonstrates comprehension. Each passage targets a specific ILR level. Comprehension of a passage is demonstrated by supplying certain information from the passage specified by the test’s developers. Examinees generally have to demonstrate comprehension of at least 70% of the passages at a given level to be assigned that level. Examinees must pass each lower level in order to pass a higher level. Examinee answers will be evaluated by scorers trained by testing experts at the Defense Language Institute according to a detailed scoring protocol.

## Preparation for Taking the Albanian DLPT5

The purpose of this publication is to familiarize prospective examinees with the Albanian DLPT5 constructed-response format and general testing procedures. Other than carefully reading this guide so that the test instructions and format are familiar, there is very little to be gained from “studying” for the test. The best preparation for the Albanian DLPT5 is the acquisition of a solid base of general proficiency in Standard

Albanian, both through formal training, and through language exposure and use in a variety of real-life language-use settings. Examinees should know that study aids (i.e., dictionaries, reference books, etc) are not permitted for this test.

## Instructions for taking the Albanian DLPT5

The purpose of this section is to familiarize prospective examinees with how to take the computer-based Albanian DLPT5 constructed-response Reading and Listening Tests. Test procedures and instructions for both the Reading and Listening Tests are provided. Sample passages (translated into English) from ILR levels 1 - 3 in reading and listening with their associated questions and sample expected answers are included in this section.

Answers should be complete, concise, and relevant. Examinees are not expected to write essays or word-for-word complete translations. An example passage with explanations is given below to illustrate the types of answers that would be expected to receive credit.

*“According to an official spokesperson, the government of Treden has started a new program to help solve the growing refugee problem there. The program, announced last week by the Tredenian Minister of the Interior, involves the resettlement of refugees to vacant apartment buildings in the Tredenian capital. These refugees are currently being housed in overcrowded camps near Treden’s border with war-ravaged Norland. The camps were instituted in 2003 in response to the war. Since that time, the number and size of camps has grown, and the war is still going on. The average population of the camps is 3,000, and most camps were designed for at most 1,000 people. It is hoped that the new program will help alleviate this situation.”*

In order to receive credit, examinees must provide all the information requested to receive credit. Answers should be complete, concise, and relevant.

- Complete: examinees must provide all the information requested to receive credit. The examinee must not leave out information that was included in the passage and could reasonably be expected as part of an answer to the question being asked. If, based on the above passage, there had been a question “What action was taken by the government of Treden?” a complete answer would include all of the information that the government started a program to resettle refugees from camps near the Norlandian border to vacant apartment buildings in the capital. It would not be acceptable simply to write, “The government started a program,” or “The government helped some refugees,” or “The government supplied some people with apartments.” Where the question is in two parts, such as “What action was taken by the government of Treden and what was the reason for its action?”, **both** parts must be answered; i.e. the

- examinee must say both **what** action was taken and **why** the action was taken in order to receive credit.
- Concise: examinees should not write more than is called for by the question. The amount called for by questions tends to increase as the length and difficulty of the passages increases; nevertheless, examinees are not expected to write essays. As long as the answer is complete (see above), if it can be written in a sentence or even just a phrase, it should not be “padded.”
  - Relevant: examinees should not include information that does not answer the question, even if that information appears in the passage; the examinee’s entire answer should relate directly to the question being asked. Examinees are not expected to write a word-for-word translation of large parts of the passage or even of the entire passage in response to a question. With regard to the example passage cited above, if the question asks for the reason for the government’s action, the examinee should not offer a translation of the last five sentences of the passage; even though that part of the passage contains the critical information, it also contains some extraneous information.
  - Sense: the examinee’s response should make sense as an answer to the question asked. Examinees who use the text box for note-taking should ensure that they end up with a coherent answer that appears somewhere within the text box and that can be understood by an English-speaking rater.
  - Translation: As noted above, translation of the entire passage is not acceptable as the answer to any single question. Additionally, the strategy of translating pieces of the passage as answers to questions should be used with caution. It is common for questions to require inferences from what is directly stated in the passage or the synthesis of ideas and information from various parts of the passage, especially as the passages become longer and more difficult. Therefore, the answer to a question is sometimes not to be found in one or two key sentences or sections of the passage.
  - Time management: In both the Reading section and the Listening section, the examinee controls the amount of time used to answer a question. It is therefore the examinee’s responsibility to monitor time usage while answering and to manage time spent during the overall test. The examinee should **not** spend too much time on any one answer. Also, because of the way the test is scored, the examinee should use the time carefully to ensure that all of the questions at or below his or her ability are answered thoroughly. For the Upper-Range Test, examinees should ensure that, for any particular passage, all of the questions related to that passage are answered.

## Test Procedures

This section is to help prospective examinees become familiar with the test procedures of the Albanian DLPT5 constructed-response Reading and Listening Tests. First, there

will be a short description of what the examinees see before the actual test begins. Then screen shots of what examinees will see on the computer screen will be provided.

At the beginning of the test session, the examinee logs on to the system using a Common Access Card (CAC) or a user ID and password that were provided when the examinee registered to take the test. The examinee must click on the [CAC Logon] or [Submit] button before moving to the next screen.

**DMDC** Information and Technology for Better Decision Making

**DLPT Testing**

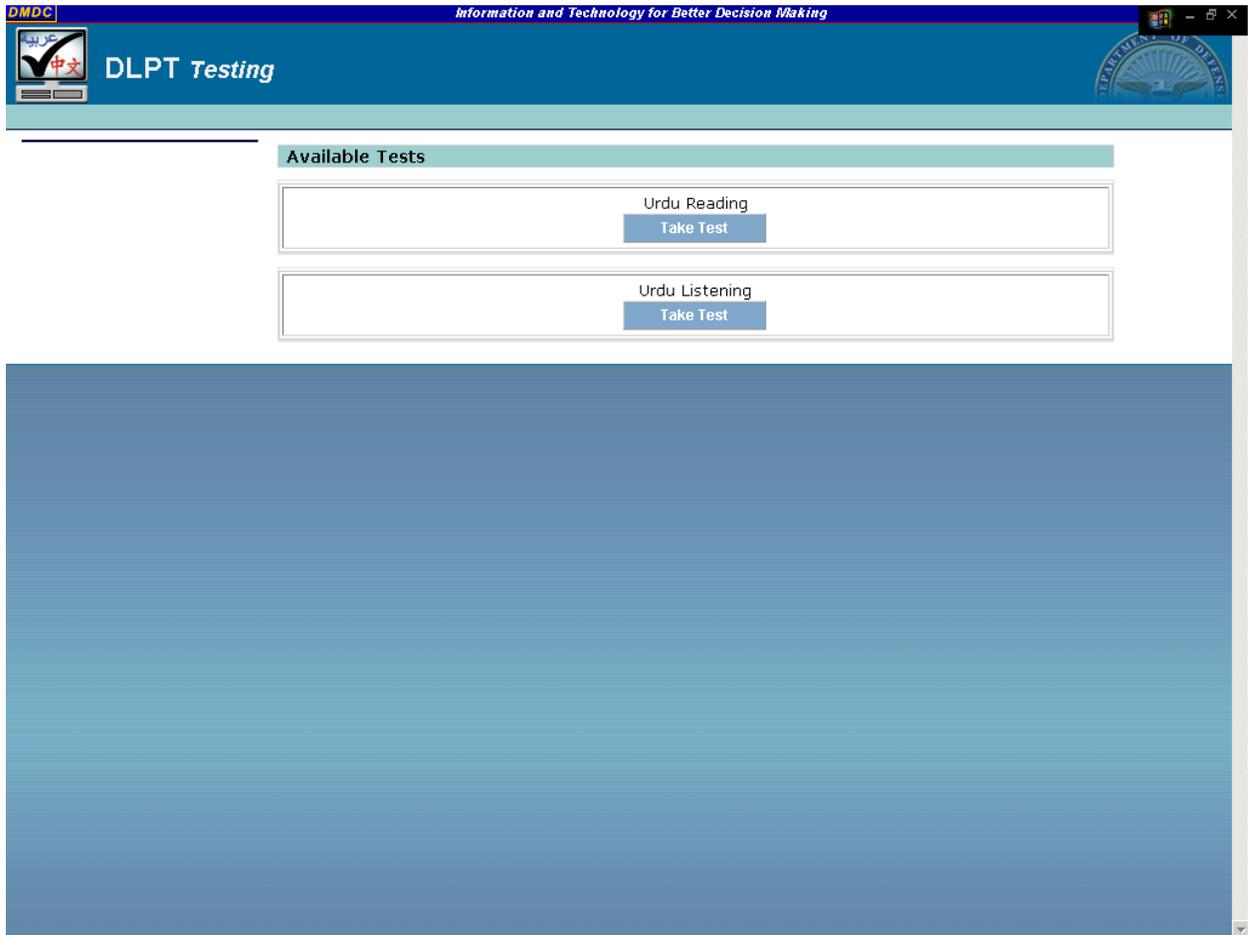
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### Candidate Logon

The Test Administrator has successfully logged in.

CAC Log on	User ID & Password
<input type="button" value="CAC Logon"/>	User ID: <input type="text"/>
	Password: <input type="password"/>
	<input type="button" value="Submit"/>

The next screen provides a list of tests for which the examinee is eligible; the examinee selects the appropriate test from the list.



Once the test has been selected, a series of introductory screens appears. These screens contain the Privacy Act Statement, the Disclaimer for Defense Language Institute Tests, the Test Administration Statement (of the examinee's ability to take the test at that time), and the Non-Disclosure Statement. The examinee must click on the indicated checkboxes under the Disclaimer and the Non-Disclosure Statement before moving to the next screen.

DLPT5 Lower Range Reading Comprehension Test for Language X

<p>DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE</p> <p><b>Defense Language Proficiency Test 5</b> Constructed Response Format</p>  <p><b>Language X</b> Language Code Xx</p> <p><b>Lower Range Reading Comprehension Test</b></p>	<p><b>FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY</b></p> <p><b>Controlled Item (Test Material)</b></p>  <p>Not to be shown to unauthorized persons Not to be reproduced without authority granted by the Commandant Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center</p> <p>If you have difficulty with the instructions or any functions of this test, click the [Help] button in the lower left-hand corner of the screen.</p> <p><b>To begin, click the [Next] button below.</b></p>
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[Help](#) Introduction: Screen 1 of 6 [Next](#)

**Privacy Act Statement:**

Disclosure of requested information is solicited under the authority of Title 10, United States Code 3012, Executive Order 9397 and Army Regulation 600-2 and is mandatory. Social Security Number is used as the personal identifier number of all personnel under control of the Department of Defense, and is used in connection with updating information in official records and training files. Use of Social Security Number provides for objective scoring of Defense Language Institute tests, as the examinee's Social Security Number is the only identifier so as to maintain confidentiality when reporting test scores to examinees. Failure to provide Social Security Number may result in misidentification and non-credit for tests, and/or inadequate counseling and guidance.

**Disclaimer for Defense Language Institute Tests:**

Materials for this test come from authentic sources within the target culture. These sources often include conversations or written material of a controversial nature which are essential for understanding world events. As a result, there may be topics, ideas, and language in the areas of politics, international relations, mores, etc., that may be considered contentious. The presence of controversial statements on a test should not be construed as representing the opinions of the test development team, the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, or the Department of the Army.

I confirm having read and understood both the Privacy Act Statement and the Disclaimer.

Click on the checkbox above to confirm.

**Test Administration Statement:**

I understand that I am not required to take the Language X Reading Comprehension Test at this time if there are extenuating circumstances such as fatigue, illness, emotional distress, family or financial problems, etc., which may interfere with my performance on the test; and that the test will be administered at another time acceptable to me, the Test Administrator, and my unit commander.

**Non-Disclosure Statement:**

I understand that this test is **FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY** and the unauthorized discussion, disclosure or possession of any part of this test is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and will result in appropriate administrative action to fix responsibility for such unauthorized behavior with criminal sanctions of up to two years hard labor and dishonorable discharge for those involved. Such unauthorized discussion or disclosure refers to **RELATING ANY ASPECT OF THIS TEST TO ANYONE**, including an instructor, fellow service member, spouse, or class member.

I confirm having read and understood both the Test Administration and the Non-Disclosure Statements.

Click on the checkbox above to confirm.

Help

Introduction: Screen 3 of 6

Next

The next few screens contain examples of the screen layout for examinees to familiarize themselves with the features of the test, instructions for taking the test and a sample test passage. The text and questions in these screens appear smaller than the text and questions on the actual test passages.

## Reading Comprehension Test

Example of screen layout for the Reading Comprehension Test: The example text represents a generic foreign language; it is not meant to be legible. Explanations of the parts of the screen are provided.

The screenshot shows a test interface with a blue title bar at the top. The main area is divided into two panes. The left pane contains a passage titled "Passage #1" with two paragraphs of illegible text. The right pane contains three numbered questions with corresponding text input boxes. A status bar at the bottom displays "Passage 1 of 5", "3 questions", and "Test ends in: 37:39", along with "Back" and "Next" buttons. A "Help" button is located in the bottom left corner.

**ORIENTATION STATEMENT**  
 \* explains the source of the passage in English.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE PASSAGE**  
 \* Paragraphs may be marked ¶1, ¶2, etc.  
 \* If a question asks about a specific word or phrase, it is highlighted in red in the text.  
 (The text shown here represents a generic foreign language. It is not meant to be legible.)  
 \* A red line indicates the end of a passage.  
 \* To see an entire passage, you may need to scroll.  
 Click on this button if you have any technical difficulties.

**TITLE BAR**  
 • indicates the test title.

**QUESTIONS**  
 • To answer a question, click in the textbox and begin typing.  
 • To change an answer, erase it and retype.  
 • If a question asks about a specific word or phrase, it is highlighted in red.  
 • A red line indicates the end of the questions.

**STATUS BAR**

Passage #	# of Questions for this passage	Time remaining	Go to:
Passage 1 of 5	3 questions	Test ends in: 37:39	Previous Passage   Next Passage

## Instructions screen for the Reading Comprehension Test:

DLPT5 Lower Range Reading Comprehension Test for Language X

**INSTRUCTIONS**

This test measures your reading comprehension. It contains a number of reading passages, and there are two or three questions based on each passage. In taking the test you should do the following:

- Read the short statement before each passage that tells you where the passage came from.
- Read the passage and questions carefully.
- Type your answers in English in the text boxes provided. Your answers should be complete, concise, and relevant. You must provide all the information requested to receive credit. The answer to each question may be stated overtly in the passage or only implied.
- Click on the [Next] button at the bottom right of the screen to go to the next passage.

---

**A sample passage follows on the next screen.**  
**If you need help during the test, click on the [Help] button.**

[Help](#) Introduction: Screen 6 of 6 [Back](#) [Next](#)

The next screen contains one sample passage with its associated question or questions.

Example of a reading sample passage:

DLPT5 Lower Range Reading Comprehension Test for Language X

**Sample Passage**

*A note to a daughter*

Xxxxx Xxxxxx,

Xxyxyxy yxyxydyxyxyxy xyxyxyxy xyxy xyxyx  
yxyxyxyx xx. X yxyxyx xyxy xyxy xyxyxyx . Yxyxy  
yxyx yxy xyx xyxy xyx yxyxyxy. Yuxxyxy  
xyxy xyxyxy.

Yxy xyx xxx yxy,  
Yxyxy Xxyxy

---

End of Sample Passage  
Mark this passage for later consideration.

**Type your answers in the boxes below.**

S1. What did Mrs. Xxyxyy request?

S2. Why did Mrs. Xxyxyy make the request?

---

End of questions for Sample Passage

Help Sample Passage 2 questions Back Next

After the sample passage, the examinee clicks on the [Next] button and moves to the test navigation information screen.

Test navigation information screen:

This screen contains instructions on how to go back to review answers at the end of the test and information on the length of the test. By clicking on the [Start Test] button, the examinee moves to the first passage of the test and starts the clock.

DLPT5 Lower Range Reading Comprehension Test for Language X

### End-of-Test Review Information

- After the last passage, *if there is still time on the clock*, you will have the opportunity to review your answers before submitting the test.
- From the review page you will be able to jump to any given passage.
- You will be able to respond to any questions you have not answered, or you can change an answer.
- Detailed instructions for this review will be given at the end of the test.

### Start of Test

- This reading test contains 30 passages and 60 questions.
- You are allowed 3 hours to complete the test.
- There will be a break at approximately 90 minutes. The break does not count against your time.
- When you are ready, click on the [Start Test] button below.
- The screen will move to Passage 1 and the clock will begin.

Help      End of Instructions      Test ends in: 180:00      Back      Start Test

# Listening Comprehension Test

Example of screen layout for the Listening Comprehension Test:

The screenshot shows a test interface with a dark blue border. At the top, a title bar contains the text "DLPT5 Constructed Response Test for Listening Comprehension" and "Language X". Below the title bar, an orientation statement reads "This passage is taken from a news broadcast." followed by two numbered questions. Question 1 asks "What phenomenon are the villagers experiencing?" and question 2 asks "What do they think is the cause of this?". Each question has a text input box with a vertical scrollbar. A red horizontal line is positioned below the second question. Below the red line, the text "End of this passage." and "Mark this passage for later consideration." with a checkbox is visible. At the bottom of the interface, a status bar displays "Help", "Passage 1 of 10", "2 questions", "Test Ends in: 178:02", and "Play Audio".

**TITLE BAR**

- indicates the test title and section.

**ORIENTATION STATEMENT**

- explains source of passage in English.

**QUESTIONS**

- To answer a question, click in the text box and type.
- To change your answer, erase it and retype it.
- A red line indicates the end of the questions.
- To see all the questions, you may need to scroll.

**STATUS BAR shows:**

- Current passage number
- Total number of passages
- Number of questions for current passage
- Timer status
- Play Audio and Help buttons

Click on this button if you have any technical difficulties.

To hear the audio for a passage, click on this button.

Passage # Total # of passages

# of Questions for this passage

Time Remaining

The next two screens contain instructions for the Listening Comprehension Test.

DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X

Test Sequence	The Clock
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When a passage screen opens, you will see the passage number, orientation statement, and questions with their text boxes.</li><li>• At the very bottom of the screen a [Help] button and a [Play Audio] button will be visible.</li><li>• When you click on the [Play Audio] button, the audio will begin. The phrase 'Audio Playing' will be displayed in the status bar at the bottom of the screen. The [Help] button will not be active while the audio is playing. If you experience technical difficulty when the [Help] button is not visible, raise your hand.</li><li>• You may answer questions at any time during the playing of the audio. You may also use the text boxes to take notes.</li><li>• You may not move to the next passage until the audio finishes playing. When the audio finishes, the [Next] button appears at the bottom of the screen. Click on it when you are ready to move on to the next passage. You will not be able to go back to previous passages until the end of the test.</li><li>• The [Help] button reappears at the end of the audio playing for each passage. If you need help concerning a passage, make sure that you click on the [Help] button before moving to the next passage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The amount of time allotted for this test is 180 minutes (3 hours).</li><li>• There is a break in the middle of the test. It does not count against your time.</li><li>• It is your responsibility to keep track of where you are in the test, and how much time is remaining.</li></ul> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BEFORE YOU PROCEED, adjust your volume.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Test Volume</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click on the <a href="#">[Test Volume]</a> button to hear a short audio file.</p>

[Help](#) Introduction: Screen 6 of 7 [Back](#)

**ATTENTION: You should hear a voice reading the instructions below.**

**If the audio is not clear or loud enough, raise your hand now to alert the Test Administrator.**

- When a passage screen opens, you will see a short statement in English that explains the context from which the passage was taken, and below that, the questions associated with the passage.
- When you are ready to hear the passage, click on the [Play Audio] button located at the bottom right corner of the screen.
- You will then hear the short statement in English followed by the passage. Each passage will be played twice. There will be a short tone signal between the two playings.
- You do not have to wait until the passage has finished playing to begin answering the questions. You may also use the text boxes to take notes.
- After hearing the passage you will be reminded to answer the questions. Read each question carefully.
- Type your answers in English in the text boxes provided. Your answers should be complete, concise, and relevant. You must provide all the information requested to receive credit. The answer to each question may be stated overtly in the passage or only implied.
- Click on the [Next] button at the bottom right of the screen to go to the next passage.

---

**A sample passage follows on the next screen.**

**If you need help during the test, click on the [Help] button.**

Example of listening sample questions (the sample passage audio is played while the screen is displayed):

After the sample passage, the examinee clicks on the [Next] button and moves to the test navigation information screen.

DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X

**Sample Passage**    **Type your answers in the boxes below.**

**From a conversation between a woman and her sister**

**S1. What problem did the woman have?**

**S2. What suggestion did the sister have?**

---

End of questions for Sample Passage  
Mark this passage for later consideration.

**Help**    **Sample Passage 2 questions**    **Play Audio**

Test navigation information screen:

As with the Reading Test, the examinee clicks on the [Start Test] button to hear the first passage and start the clock.

DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X

### End-of-Test Review Information

- At the end of the test, *if there is still time on the clock*, you will have the opportunity to review your answers before submitting the test.
- From the review page you will be able to jump to any given passage.
- You will be able to respond to any questions you have not answered, or change an answer.
- You **will not hear** the audio again during this review period.
- Detailed instructions for this review will be given at the end of the test.

---

### Start of Test

- This listening test contains 30 passages and 60 questions.
- The test is 180 minutes (3 hours) long.
- There will be a 15-minute break after Passage 18. The break does not count against the total time allowed for the test.
- When you are ready, click on the [Start Test] button below.
- The screen will move to Passage 1 and the clock will begin.

Help    End of Instructions    Test ends in: 180:00    Back    Start Test

### **Navigating in the Listening Test**

When a passage screen opens, examinees can start the audio by clicking on the [Play Audio] button whenever they are ready to listen to the passage. Each passage will be played twice. There will be a short tone between the two playings. When the audio finishes, the [Next] button will appear. Examinees can move on to the next passage once the audio has finished playing by clicking on the [Next] button. Examinees can type in the text boxes at any time after the passage screen opens. They can take as much or as little time as they wish to answer. Examinees will not be able to go back to previous passages until the end of the test. (Note: for the Reading Test, examinees will be able to go back to previous passages if they wish.)

## End-of-Test Review Information

At the end of each test, a review screen appears for examinees to review their responses to the questions before submitting the test.

From the review page, examinees will be able to jump to any given passage.

They will be able to respond to any questions they have not answered, or they can change an answer.

The audio for the Listening Test will **not** be played again during this review period.

Example of the review screen:

DLPT5 Lower Range Listening Comprehension Test for Language X

### End of Listening Test

- In the chart below, an asterisk (\*) in the Answer column means that you have answered a question.
- If you see the word **BLANK**, it means that **no answer** has been registered for this question.
- If you see an **X** next to a passage number, it means that you marked that passage for further consideration as you were taking the test.
- To review/change any answer, click the row in the chart which corresponds to the question number.

Passage	Q #	Answer		Passage	Q #	Answer		Passage	Q #	Answer		Passage	Q #	Answer
1	1	*	X	9	17	*		17	33	*		25	49	*
	2	*			18	*			34	*			50	*
2	3	*		10	19	*		18	35	*		26	51	*
	4	*			20	*			36	*			52	*
X	3	*		11	21	*		19	37	*		27	53	*
	6	*			22	*			38	*			54	*
4	7	*		12	23	*		20	39	*		28	55	Blank
	8	*			24	*			40	*			56	*
5	9	*		13	25	*		21	41	*		29	57	*
	10	*			26	*			42	*			58	*
6	11	*		14	27	*	X	22	43	Blank		30	59	*
	12	*			28	*			44	Blank			60	*
7	13	*		15	29	*		23	45	*				
	14	*			30	*			46	*				
8	15	*	X	16	31	*		24	47	*				
	16	*			32	Blank			48	*				

- When you are satisfied and are ready to submit your test, click the [Submit] button below.

Review Answers      Test ends in: 05:32      Submit

## Sample Passages and Questions

Below are some sample Albanian passages, questions, and answers. Note that it is not necessary to provide the exact wording of the answers in order to get credit; any response that expresses the key ideas is correct.

### Reading Comprehension

#### Level 1

##### A note to a teacher

Zonja Flutura,

Mirela nuk mund të vijë në shkollë këtë të premte. Ne do të shkojmë në qytetin e Vlorës pasi kushëriri im do të martohet të dielën. Ju lutemi, merreni si të arsyeshme mungesën e vajzës sime për këtë të premte në shkollë.

Ju faleminderit shumë,

Hyrije Shala

#### **1. What did Mrs. Shala request?**

Mrs. Shala requested that the teacher excuse her daughter's absence from school.

#### **2. What explanation did Mrs. Shala provide to support her request?**

She and her daughter are going to a cousin's wedding.

## Level 2

From a daily newspaper

Monumentet arkeologjike të qytetit të Durrësit si amfiteatri, termat antike, muret bizantine, dhe të tjera monumente bëhen të pavizitueshme pas rënies së muzgut, si pasojë e mungesës së ndriçuesve të fuqishëm, megjithëse gjenden në qendër të qytetit.

Durrësit 2600 vjeçar, qytetit më të vjetër të Adriatikut lindor, i mungon ende një guidë njohëse dhe një planimetri e qytetit antik, çka do të lehtësonte vizitat individuale dhe në grup të turistëve vendas dhe të huaj. Adresat e monumenteve arkeologjike gjenden me shumë vështirësi. Gjendja e tyre lë mjaft për të dëshiruar, ndërsa në amfiteatër apo në pika të tjera turistiko-arkeologjike rrallë gjen ciceronë të kualifikuar dhe turistët nuk ngurojnë të pyesin për shpjegime rojtarët e objekteve, të cilët zëvendësojnë specialistët arkeologë.

### **1. What common problem do the archeological monuments in this city have?**

They are immersed in total darkness.

*or*

It is impossible to visit them after daylight hours because of the lack of illumination.

*or*

They are kept in poor condition.

### **2. What are two of the problems the visitors of this city encounter, and how do they go about solving some of them?**

*Problems: any two of the following:*

--There aren't any qualified guides to introduce them to the archeological sites.

--The visitors cannot find the monuments' locations because there are no maps of the archeological sites.

--The sites are accessible only during the daylight.

*Solution:*

They ask the guards for information about the archeological monuments.

*To get credit, examinees must list at least two problems and provide the solution.*

### Level 3

From an editorial in a newspaper

Ishte ditë e ftohtë dje, shumë e ftohtë. Por bashkë me të ftohtin që të hynte në palcë, u mësua "zyrtarisht" se është rritur çmimi i energjisë elektrike. I ftohti bëhej më therës, bëhej më i egër. Egërsia e tij dukej më qartë kur shihje fytyrat e njerëzve tek dispeçeria në qendër të Tiranës, jo shumë larg bashkisë së kryeqytetit. Radhë e gjatë, shumë e gjatë... Të kujtonte kohë që nuk janë më të shkuara, por janë më prezente se kurrë, kohë kur hanim me tollon. Por edhe kuponi kishte nazet e veta sepse për të marrë ata kupona të shkretë duhej të prisnim me orë në radhë. Tani tolloni është rikthyer sërish, më i egër se kurrë, më i pamëshirshëm se kurrë, për shkak të egërsisë së kohës. Por edhe njerëzit, po aq të përulur dhe të frikësuar si atëherë.

Kjo kohë e rikthimit të tollonit, natyrisht nuk është kthyer me atë si punë triske që na vinte shtëpi më shtëpi dhe na raciononte mishin, gjalpin, vezët, dhe ku fëmijët e shfaqnin qartë në fytyrat e tyre të zbehta mungesën e proteinave. Ajo është kthyer me çmimet e larta, të paarrtshme për gati 70% të popullsisë, me rritjen e çmimit të energjisë elektrike me 40% si dhe me rritjen e tarifave të telefonisë fikse trefish. Këta njerëz mbi të cilët rëndon ky terror ekonomik, ende nuk e kuptojnë se vjedhja në këtë shtet ka hyrë si lagështira në shtëpitë e vjetra dhe i rrënon e i mbush me erë të qelbur. Megjithatë, duket se shprehja "Durimi ka kufi", tashmë nuk po ka shumë vlerë. Malli për tollonin është i madh.

**1. What comparison does the author make and what idea is he trying to convey by it?**

He compares the former communist regime when the country experienced food shortages with the current time. He wants to illustrate that new times haven't eliminated old problems.

**2. What is the author's attitude toward his countrymen, and why does he feel this way?**

He is critical of them because they do not oppose the government's unlimited power.

*or*

He is frustrated because of his countrymen's submissive attitude of complying with whatever the government imposes on them.

## Listening Comprehension

*Note: Examinees will not see passage transcripts in an actual DLPT5 Listening Test.*

### Level 1

This passage is from a conversation between a woman and her husband.

Woman: Gëzim, dua të bëj një byrek me mish sot për darkë.

Man: Oh sa mirë, unë vdes për byrek!

Woman: Vetëm se puna është që nuk kam qepë edhe domate.

Man: Po shkoj unë në dyqan t'i blej. Sa kile të marr?

Woman: Po merr nja një kile domate dhe nja gjysmë kile qepë dhe unë po filloj të bëj brumin.

Man: Në rregull atëherë.

**1. What problem did the woman have?**

She ran out of onions and tomatoes.

**2. What assistance did the man offer?**

He will go to the store to buy vegetables.

## Level 2

This passage is from a local news report

Man:

Dje qeveria kosovare ka vënë në fuqi ligjin që ndalon importin e mishit nga disa vende europiane. Marrja e kësaj mase u bë e domosdoshme pasi Hungaria, Polonia, Çekia, Sllovakia, Rumania dhe Bullgaria, në një mbledhje në Lubjanë kanë pranuar se ushqimi që u është dhënë kafshëve në këto vende përmban agjentin që shkakton sëmundjen e lopëve të çmendura, sëmundje që mbartet nga kafshët tek njeriu.

Qeveritarët kosovarë bëjnë të ditur se në tregjet ushqimore të Kosovës ende mund të ketë mish që përmban agjentin që shkakton këtë sëmundje, dhe i paralajmërojnë qytetarët që të kenë kujdes e të mos blejnë mishin e sjellur nga këto vende.

### **1. Why are the citizens of Kosovo at risk?**

There is a threat of getting sick from a deadly disease.  
*or*  
There can be a contaminated meat on the market.

### **2. What has the government done regarding the mentioned problem?**

It has banned the import of live cattle and meat from some European countries.

### Level 3

This passage is from an interview with a writer

Woman: Atëherë unë po vazhdoj me pyetjen. Në jetën tuaj sa zuri vend krijimtaria krahas miqve, shokëve tuaj edhe krijimtaria edhe familja apo miqtë?

Man: Të dyja këta për një shkrimtar, jo vetëm shkrimtar por edhe intelektual e të gjitha, të dyja këto gjëra janë tepër të domosdoshme pa miq dhe shokë nuk bëhet krijimtari, gjithashtu edhe pa familje. Pa familje nuk do të thotë, vetëm thjeshtë si i martuar, pa familje pa të gjithë të kesh një nënë, të kesh një baba, të kesh, në mos e ke grua e ke të dashur ose e ke simpatizante por këta njerëz janë tepër të domosdoshëm për ta kthyer njerinë atë qenien në njeri, se mbetesh pastaj primitivitetin afër bagëtime, këto e kthejnë në njeri edhe krijimtaria edhe shokët e miqtë edhe në përgjithësi jam i lumtur që i kam këta. Disa bëjnë firo se largohen, disa edhe vdesin, disa të tjerë të marrin inat nuk të duan siç të deshën sepse ndahen nga pikpamje të ndryshme qoftë pasurie, qoftë politike, qoftë ideologjike qoftë e ke pak zor ta zbulosh krijimtarinë tënde.

Unë kam pasur një fat që isha djali i madh i shtëpisë. Edhe im atë do të më linte zëvendës mua edhe më merrte nëpër gjithë sebetet, më merrte në dasma, që të mësoja ti thosha të trashëgohen, tu shumofshin fëmijët sa grurë ka hambari ose të tjera që të dija të llafosesha me njerzit. Vija krushk kur merrnin nusen në fshat, në një fshat tjetër, djalë 10-11-12 vjeçar hypja në kalë edhe me krushqit se do të mësoja si bëhet kjo punë, si merren nuset, si i rri duvaku, si urimet që bëjnë, ose vija në sebetet kur vdiste njeri që ti thosha vetë shëndoshi.

Unë duhet të mbaja mend kur çel manushaqja, kur çel luleshqerra, kur lulëzon shelgu, kur çel bajamja kur janë ato pufkat e plepave që të mërztin janë ato, që ti dish se kur shkruan një gjë, thua që në korrik dhe gusht bulevardi ishte mbushur me t'atilla kur e lexon një që e di thotë, e po ky qenka buf fare.

#### **1. According to the man, what specific role does family play in one's life?**

Family members contribute to the development of emotions that turn a being into a human.

*or*

They put a soul into a living being.

#### **2. From the man's point of view, what special trait contributes to writer's creativity?**

Ability to recall details of life experiences.

*or*

Memory helps the writer gain credibility over the reader.

## Appendix A: Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions

### Preface

The following descriptions of proficiency levels 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 characterize spoken-language use. Each higher level implies control of the previous levels' functions and accuracy. The designation 0+, 1+, 2+, etc. will be assigned when proficiency substantially exceeds one skill level and does not fully meet the criteria for the next level. The "plus-level" descriptions, therefore, are subsidiary to the "base-level" descriptions.

A skill level is assigned to a person through an authorized language examination. Examiners assign a level on a variety of performance criteria exemplified in the descriptive statements. Therefore, the examples given here illustrate, but do not exhaustively describe, either the skills a person may possess or situations in which he/she may function effectively.

Statements describing accuracy refer to typical stages in the development of competence in the most commonly taught languages in formal training programs. In other languages, emerging competence parallels these characterizations, but often with different details.

Unless otherwise specified, the term "native speaker" refers to native speakers of a standard dialect.

"Well-educated," in the context of these proficiency descriptions, does not necessarily imply formal higher education. However, in cultures where formal higher education is common, the language-use abilities of persons who have had such education is [sic] considered the standard. That is, such a person meets contemporary expectations for the formal, careful style of the language, as well as a range of less formal varieties of the language.

These descriptions may be further specified by individual agencies to characterize those aspects of language-use performance which are of insufficient generality to be included here.

## Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions: Listening

### Listening 0 (No Proficiency)

No practical understanding of the spoken language. Understanding is limited to occasional isolated words with essentially no ability to comprehend communication. (Has been coded L-0 in some nonautomated applications. [Data Code 00])

### Listening 0+ (Memorized Proficiency)

Sufficient comprehension to understand a number of memorized utterances in areas of immediate needs. Slight increase in utterance length understood but requires frequent long pauses between understood phrases and repeated requests on the listener's part for repetition. Understands with reasonable accuracy only when this involves short memorized utterances or formulae. Utterances understood are relatively short in length. Misunderstandings arise due to ignoring or inaccurately hearing sounds or word endings (both inflectional and non-inflectional), distorting the original meaning. Can understand only with difficulty even such people as teachers who are used to speaking with non-native speakers. Can understand best those statements where context strongly supports the utterance's meaning. Gets some main ideas. (Has been coded L-0+ in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 06]

#### Listening 1 (Elementary Proficiency)

Sufficient comprehension to understand utterances about basic survival needs and minimum courtesy and travel requirements in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics, can understand simple questions and answers, simple statements and very simple face-to-face conversations in a standard dialect. These must often be delivered more clearly than normal at a rate slower than normal with frequent repetitions or paraphrase (that is, by a native used to dealing with foreigners). Once learned, these sentences can be varied for similar level vocabulary and grammar and still be understood. In the majority of utterances, misunderstandings arise due to overlooked or misunderstood syntax and other grammatical clues. Comprehension vocabulary inadequate to understand anything but the most elementary needs. Strong interference from the candidate's native language occurs. Little precision in the information understood owing to the tentative state of passive grammar and lack of vocabulary. Comprehension areas include basic needs such as: meals, lodging, transportation, time and simple directions (including both route instructions and orders from customs officials, policemen, etc.). Understands main ideas. (Has been coded L-1 in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 10]

#### Listening 1+ (Elementary Proficiency, Plus)

Sufficient comprehension to understand short conversations about all survival needs and limited social demands. Developing flexibility evident in understanding a range of circumstances beyond immediate survival needs. Shows spontaneity in understanding by speed, although consistency of understanding is uneven. Limited vocabulary range necessitates repetition for understanding. Understands more common time forms and most question forms, some word order patterns, but miscommunication still occurs with more complex patterns. Cannot sustain understanding of coherent structures in longer utterances or in unfamiliar situations. Understanding of descriptions and the giving of precise information is limited. Aware of basic cohesive features (e.g., pronouns, verb inflections) but many are unreliably understood, especially if less immediate in reference. Understanding is largely limited to a series of short, discrete

utterances. Still has to ask for utterances to be repeated. Some ability to understand facts. (Has been coded L-1+ in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 16]

#### Listening 2 (Limited Working Proficiency)

Sufficient comprehension to understand conversations on routine social demands and limited job requirements. Able to understand face-to-face speech in a standard dialect, delivered at a normal rate with some repetition and rewording, by a native speaker not used to dealing with foreigners, about everyday topics, common personal and family news, well-known current events and routine office matters through descriptions and narration about current, past and future events; can follow essential points of discussion or speech at an elementary level on topics in his/her special professional field. Only understands occasional words and phrases of statements made in unfavorable conditions, for example through loudspeakers outdoors. Understands factual content. Native language causes less interference in listening comprehension. Able to understand facts; i.e., the lines but not between or beyond the lines. (Has been coded L-2 in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 20]

#### Listening 2+ (Limited Working Proficiency, Plus)

Sufficient comprehension to understand most routine social demands and most conversations on work requirements as well as some discussions on concrete topics related to particular interests and special fields of competence. Often shows remarkable ability and ease of understanding, but under tension or pressure may break down. Candidate may display weakness or deficiency due to inadequate vocabulary base or less than secure knowledge of grammar and syntax. Normally understands general vocabulary with some hesitant understanding of everyday vocabulary still evident. Can sometimes detect emotional overtones. Some ability to understand implications. (Has been Coded L-2+ in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 26]

#### Listening 3 (General Professional Proficiency)

Able to understand the essentials of all speech in a standard dialect including technical discussions within a special field. Has effective understanding of face-to-face speech, delivered with normal clarity and speed in a standard dialect on general topics and areas of special interest; understands hypothesizing and supported opinions. Has broad enough vocabulary that rarely has to ask for paraphrasing or explanation. Can follow accurately the essentials of conversations between educated native speakers, reasonably clear telephone calls, radio broadcasts, news stories similar to wire service reports, oral reports, some oral technical reports and public addresses on non-technical subjects; can understand without difficulty all forms of standard speech concerning a special professional field. Does not understand native speakers if they speak very quickly or use some slang or dialect. Can often detect emotional overtones. Can understand implications. (Has been coded L-3 in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 30]

#### Listening 3+ (General Professional Proficiency, Plus)

Comprehends most of the content and intent of a variety of forms and styles of speech pertinent to professional needs, as well as general topics and social conversation. Ability to comprehend many sociolinguistic and cultural references. However, may miss some subtleties and nuances. Increased ability to comprehend unusually complex structures in lengthy utterances and to comprehend many distinctions in language tailored for different audiences. Increased ability to understand native speakers talking quickly, using nonstandard dialect or slang; however, comprehension is not complete. Can discern some relationships among sophisticated listening materials in the context of broad experience. Can follow some unpredictable turns of thought readily, for example, in informal and formal speeches covering editorial, conjectural and literary material in subject matter areas directed to the general listener. (Has been coded L-3+ in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 36]

#### Listening 4 (Advanced Professional Proficiency)

Able to understand all forms and styles of speech pertinent to professional needs. Able to understand fully all speech with extensive and precise vocabulary, subtleties and nuances in all standard dialects on any subject relevant to professional needs within the range of his/her experience, including social conversations; all intelligible broadcasts and telephone calls; and many kinds of technical discussions and discourse. Understands language specifically tailored (including persuasion, representation, counseling and negotiating) to different audiences. Able to understand the essentials of speech in some non-standard dialects. Has difficulty in understanding extreme dialect and slang, also in understanding speech in unfavorable conditions, for example through bad loudspeakers outdoors. Can discern relationships among sophisticated listening materials in the context of broad experience. Can follow unpredictable turns of thought readily, for example, in informal and formal speeches covering editorial, conjectural and literary material in any subject matter directed to the general listener. (Has been coded L-4 in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 40]

#### Listening 4+ (Advanced Professional Proficiency, Plus)

Increased ability to understand extremely difficult and abstract speech as well as ability to understand all forms and styles of speech pertinent to professional needs, including social conversations. Increased ability to comprehend native speakers using extreme nonstandard dialects and slang, as well as to understand speech in unfavorable conditions. Strong sensitivity to sociolinguistic and cultural references. Accuracy is close to that of the well-educated native listener but still not equivalent. (Has been coded L-4+ in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 46]

#### Listening 5 (Functionally Native Proficiency)

Comprehension equivalent to that of the well-educated native listener. Able to understand fully all forms and styles of speech intelligible to the well-educated native listener, including a number of regional and illiterate dialects, highly colloquial speech and conversations and discourse distorted by marked interference from other noise. Able to understand how natives think as

they create discourse. Able to understand extremely difficult and abstract speech. (Has been coded L-5 in some nonautomated applications.) [Data Code 50]

## Interagency Language Roundtable Language Skill Level Descriptions: Reading

### R-0: Reading 0 (No Proficiency)

No practical ability to read the language. Consistently misunderstands or cannot comprehend at all. [Data Code 00]

### R-0+: Reading 0+ (Memorized Proficiency)

Can recognize all the letters in the printed version of an alphabetic system and high-frequency elements of a syllabary or a character system. Able to read some or all of the following: numbers, isolated words and phrases, personal and place names, street signs, office and shop designations. The above often interpreted inaccurately. Unable to read connected prose. [Data Code 06]

### R-1: Reading 1 (Elementary Proficiency)

Sufficient comprehension to read very simple connected written material in a form equivalent to usual printing or typescript. Can read either representations of familiar formulaic verbal exchanges or simple language containing only the highest frequency structural patterns and vocabulary, including shared international vocabulary items and cognates (when appropriate). Able to read and understand known language elements that have been recombined in new ways to achieve different meanings at a similar level of simplicity. Texts may include descriptions of persons, places or things; and explanations of geography and government such as those simplified for tourists. Some misunderstandings possible on simple texts. Can get some main ideas and locate prominent items of professional significance in more complex texts. Can identify general subject matter in some authentic texts. [Data Code 10]

### R-1+: Reading 1+ (Elementary Proficiency, Plus)

Sufficient comprehension to understand simple discourse in printed form for informative social purposes. Can read material such as announcements of public events, simple prose containing biographical information or narration of events, and straightforward newspaper headlines. Can guess at unfamiliar vocabulary if highly contextualized, but with difficulty in unfamiliar contexts. Can get some main ideas and locate routine information of professional significance in more complex texts. Can follow essential points of written discussion at an elementary level on topics in his/her special professional field.

In commonly taught languages, the individual may not control the structure well. For example, basic grammatical relations are often misinterpreted, and temporal reference may rely primarily on lexical items as time indicators. Has some difficulty with the cohesive factors in discourse, such as matching pronouns with referents. May have to read materials several times for understanding. [Data Code 16]

### R-2: Reading 2 (Limited Working Proficiency)

Sufficient comprehension to read simple, authentic written material in a form equivalent to usual printing or typescript on subjects within a familiar context. Able to read with some misunderstandings straightforward, familiar, factual material, but in general insufficiently experienced with the language to draw inferences directly from the linguistic aspects of the text. Can locate and understand the main ideas and details in material written for the general reader. However, persons who have professional knowledge of a subject may be able to summarize or perform sorting and locating tasks with written texts that are well beyond their general proficiency level. The individual can read uncomplicated, but authentic prose on familiar subjects that are normally presented in a predictable sequence which aids the reader in understanding. Texts may include descriptions and narrations in contexts such as news items describing frequently occurring events, simple biographical information, social notices, formulaic business letters, and simple technical material written for the general reader. Generally the prose that can be read by the individual is predominantly in straightforward/high-frequency sentence patterns. The individual does not have a broad active vocabulary (that is, which he/she recognizes immediately on sight), but is able to use contextual and real-world cues to understand the text. Characteristically, however, the individual is quite slow in performing such a process. Is typically able to answer factual questions about authentic texts of the types described above. [Data Code 20]

### R-2+: Reading 2+ (Limited Working Proficiency, Plus)

Sufficient comprehension to understand most factual material in non-technical prose as well as some discussions on concrete topics related to special professional interests. Is markedly more proficient at reading materials on a familiar topic. Is able to separate the main ideas and details from lesser ones and uses that distinction to advance understanding. The individual is able to use linguistic context and real-world knowledge to make sensible guesses about unfamiliar material. Has a broad active reading vocabulary. The individual is able to get the gist of main and subsidiary ideas in texts which could only be read thoroughly by persons with much higher proficiencies. Weaknesses include slowness, uncertainty, inability to discern nuance and/or intentionally disguised meaning. [Data Code 26]

### R-3: Reading 3 (General Professional Proficiency)

Able to read within a normal range of speed and with almost complete comprehension a variety of authentic prose material on unfamiliar subjects. Reading ability is not dependent on subject matter knowledge, although it is not expected that the individual can comprehend thoroughly subject matter which is highly dependent on cultural knowledge or which is outside his/her general experience and not accompanied by explanation. Text-types include news stories similar to wire service reports or international news items in major periodicals, routine correspondence, general reports, and technical material in his/her professional field; all of these may include hypothesis,

argumentation and supported opinions. Misreading rare. Almost always able to interpret material correctly, relate ideas and "read between the lines," (that is, understand the writers' implicit intents in text of the above types). Can get the gist of more sophisticated texts, but may be unable to detect or understand subtlety and nuance. Rarely has to pause over or reread general vocabulary. However, may experience some difficulty with unusually complex structure and low frequency idioms. [Data Code 30]

R-3+: Reading 3+ (General Professional Proficiency, Plus)

Can comprehend a variety of styles and forms pertinent to professional needs. Rarely misinterprets such texts or rarely experiences difficulty relating ideas or making inferences. Able to comprehend many sociolinguistic and cultural references. However, may miss some nuances and subtleties. Able to comprehend a considerable range of intentionally complex structures, low frequency idioms, and uncommon connotative intentions, however, accuracy is not complete. The individual is typically able to read with facility, understand, and appreciate contemporary expository, technical or literary texts which do not rely heavily on slang and unusual items. [Data Code 36]

R-4: Reading 4 (Advanced Professional Proficiency)

Able to read fluently and accurately all styles and forms of the language pertinent to professional needs. The individual's experience with the written language is extensive enough that he/she is able to relate inferences in the text to real-world knowledge and understand almost all sociolinguistic and cultural references. Able to "read beyond the lines" (that is, to understand the full ramifications of texts as they are situated in the wider cultural, political, or social environment). Able to read and understand the intent of writers' use of nuance and subtlety. The individual can discern relationships among sophisticated written materials in the context of broad experience. Can follow unpredictable turns of thought readily in, for example, editorial, conjectural, and literary texts in any subject matter area directed to the general reader. Can read essentially all materials in his/her special field, including official and professional documents and correspondence. Recognizes all professionally relevant vocabulary known to the educated non-professional native, although may have some difficulty with slang. Can read reasonably legible handwriting without difficulty. Accuracy is often nearly that of a well-educated native reader. [Data Code 40]

R-4+: Reading 4+ (Advanced Professional Proficiency, Plus)

Nearly native ability to read and understand extremely difficult or abstract prose, a very wide variety of vocabulary, idioms, colloquialisms and slang. Strong sensitivity to and understanding of sociolinguistic and cultural references. Little difficulty in reading less than fully legible handwriting. Broad ability to "read beyond the lines" (that is, to understand the full ramifications of texts as they are situated in the wider cultural, political, or social environment) is nearly that of a well-read or well-educated native

reader. Accuracy is close to that of the well-educated native reader, but not equivalent. [Data Code 46]

R-5: Reading 5 (Functionally Native Proficiency)

Reading proficiency is functionally equivalent to that of the well-educated native reader. Can read extremely difficult and abstract prose; for example, general legal and technical as well as highly colloquial writings. Able to read literary texts, typically including contemporary avant-garde prose, poetry and theatrical writing. Can read classical/archaic forms of literature with the same degree of facility as the well-educated, but non-specialist native. Reads and understands a wide variety of vocabulary and idioms, colloquialisms, slang, and pertinent cultural references. With varying degrees of difficulty, can read all kinds of handwritten documents. Accuracy of comprehension is equivalent to that of a well-educated native reader. [Data Code 50]