



## **TOOL // Core French - Assessing Speaking Skills**

### **What is it used for?**

The activity and rubric allow the teacher to collect summative data on students' ability to apply conversational skills in French.

### **How do you use it?**

The teacher explains to the students that they will be asked to have a conversation in French with a partner for approximately 1 – 2 min. First, one student will ask the other about their likes or dislikes focusing on one area: food, clothing, sports, hobbies, leisure activities. Each student must ask 2-3 questions and the partner must respond. The student asking the questions must also include a comment that shows they understood what was said. They will then reverse roles. Model with one of the students so that everyone is clear on what the expectations are going to be. Provide the outline of the task and the success criteria to the students. As well, post possible structures they might wish to use. As pairs, they decide on what they are going to ask each other about. Each partner then prepares their own questions. Students have a brief period of time to prepare and practise with their partners; however, they are expected to develop their conversation in a relatively natural way - not memorized!

In a separate period, have an activity that half the class will be working on while the other half will be meeting in pairs to have their conversations. Use iPhones, iPads or any other form of recording technology for students to record their conversations. Evaluate their performances using the rubric. Meet with students to give feedback afterwards using their recordings.

*(This task was adapted from Gr. 8 Assessing Speaking Skills in Core French  
[www.bced.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca))*



## Assignment – Conversation in French

You are to have a short 1-2 min. conversation with a partner about your likes and dislikes related to a topic you choose. You will need to prepare 3-4 questions for your partner to respond to. You will need to be prepared to respond to your partner’s questions to you. Your conversation should follow the following format:

- ✓ Greet each other and ask about how they are feeling.
- ✓ Ask your questions or respond to partners questions in French in full sentence.
- ✓ Use appropriate vocabulary that we have learned in class.
- ✓ Close the conversation in an appropriate way.

### Success Criteria

- ☺ Questions use appropriate vocabulary and structures
- ☺ Responses use simple, related statements
- ☺ Includes known expressions and vocabulary
- ☺ Use of French is sustained and consistent
- ☺ Pronunciation of words is understandable
- ☺ Conversation flows smoothly
- ☺ All components of the conversation outline are included



### Rubric

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Incorporates one or two very simple questions Response are limited and at times hard to understand Conversation is very stilted or choppy Has difficulty recognizing and responding to questions Pronunciation interferes with communication Limited use of French Few components included	Incorporates one or two somewhat appropriately structured questions Response are somewhat clear and understandable Conversation is somewhat stilted or choppy Some of the time recognizes and responds using simple statement Some pronunciation is appropriate Inconsistent use of French Some key components included	Incorporates several appropriately structured questions Response are clear and usually understandable Conversation flows generally smoothly Usually recognizes and responds appropriately using related statements Most of the time uses appropriate pronunciation Usually sustains French during conversation Most components are included	Incorporates a variety of well structured questions Response are very clear and easily understood Conversation flows smoothly Recognizes and responds effectively using related statements Consistently uses appropriate pronunciation Sustained use of French All components are included