

Appendix C. A-LINC Descriptions for Levels 1, 2, and 3

A-LINC LEVEL 1

May speak a little, but usually not at all. May recognize some letters but have trouble pronouncing them.

Understanding is very limited and may range from no apparent comprehension, to comprehending short phrases or key words.

May be unable to copy Roman script. Can usually print own name, but cannot manage address or anything else. May not handle pen/pencil at all, or only with awkwardness. May not read/write in own language, or with minimal ability.

Usually has little or no sight word recognition. Usually has little or no ability to phonetically decode words. If words can be decoded, there may be no understanding of their meaning.

A-LINC LEVEL 2

Minimal speaking ability, with very little vocabulary, usually limited to topics of personal information. Speech is frequently interrupted by hesitations while searching for needed words/structures.

Can understand only a little, usually with the help of gestures, and only if words are spoken at a slow pace. May tend to

repeat phrases/questions just heard rather than respond to them.

Writing usually quite limited, e.g. to name/address, and some high-frequency words.

Can read alphabet and numbers and basic words or sentences.

A-LINC LEVEL 3

Can speak with simple sentence structures, using present tense, but attempts at linking or sequencing sentences prove difficult. Speech is fragmented, i.e. a mixture of sentences and phrases, or single key words strung together without function words. Will struggle to search for words. Vocabulary limited to personal information, daily life, or similar familiar topics. Pronunciation problems often make speech hard to understand.

Listening ability is often better than speech production, with the ability to understand basic instructions/questions, often by picking up on key content words rather than necessarily understanding everything.

Writing is mainly limited to single words, phrases and simple sentences, such as personal information required for filling out a form. Frequent errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Can read basic information presented in simple sentences within a known, usually practical context, such as basic forms, lists, familiar classroom material.