

Beginner-Level Standards**Communication—Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.**

- Comprehend language consisting of simple vocabulary and structures in face-to-face conversation with peers and familiar adults
 - Exchange simple greetings and answer questions about self and family
- Comprehend the main idea of more extended conversations with some unfamiliar vocabulary and structures as well as cognates of English words
 - Speak in complete sentences, using present tense and, occasionally, markers for past and future tenses
- Call upon repetition, rephrasing, and nonverbal cues to derive or convey meaning from a language other than English
- Use appropriate strategies to initiate and engage in simple conversations with more fluent or native speakers of the same age group, familiar adults, and providers of common public services.
 - Use appropriate body language and gestures to supplement the spoken word
- Understand the main idea and some details of simple informative materials written for native speakers
 - Obtain information from materials written in the target language including short notes, brief messages, posters, printed advertisements, illustrated simple texts from newspapers, and magazines
 - Guess the meaning of more complex written material, using context, recognition of cognates, accompanying illustrations, and prior knowledge of situations and issues
- Compose short, informal notes and messages to exchange information with members of the target culture
 - Write a brief message about an everyday activity, using simple sentence structure, not necessarily limited to the present tense

Cultures & Comparisons—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Use some key cultural traits of the societies in which the target language is spoken
 - Recognize cultural patterns and traditions of the target cultures in the target language
 - Understand the cultural implications of the spoken language and the dynamics of social interaction

Communities—Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Correctly use and interpret cultural manifestations, such as gestures accompanying greeting and leave-taking and the appropriate distance to maintain

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures

Intermediate-Level Standards

Communication—Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

- Comprehend messages and short conversations when listening to peers, familiar adults, and providers of public services either in face-to-face interactions or on the telephone
 - Follow conversations and understand messages that concern everyday life and the larger society
- Understand the main idea and some discrete information in television, radio, or live presentations
 - Watch television programs in the target language
 - Discuss songs, stories, and selected excerpts from the literature of the target language
- Initiate and sustain conversations, face-to-face or on the phone, with native-speaking or more fluent individuals
- Select vocabulary appropriate to a range of topics, employ simple and complex sentences in present, past, and future time frames, and express details and nuances by using appropriate modifiers
- Exhibit spontaneity in their interactions, particularly when the topic is familiar, but often rely on familiar utterances
- Use repetition and circumlocution as well as gestures and other nonverbal cues to sustain conversation
 - Listen to native speakers live or on tape, and use nonverbal cues, repetition, and rephrasing to understand
- Read and comprehend materials written for native speakers when the topic and language are familiar
 - Read personal letters and notes, sample business correspondence, pamphlets, feature articles or editorials in newspapers or magazines published for the general public and discuss the positions presented in them
 - Read selected short stories and poems and identify the main idea and some specific ones
- Write short notes, uncomplicated personal and business letters, brief journals, and short reports
 - Write a short response to a classroom situation
- Write brief analyses of more complex content when given the opportunity for organization and advanced preparation, though errors may occur more frequently
 - Give an oral presentation on an assigned topic, using learned and practiced vocabulary, complex sentence structures in the present, and some sentence in the past and future

- Produce written narratives and expressions of opinion about radio and television programs, newspaper and magazine articles, and selected stories, songs, and literature of the target language
- Read simple materials independently, but may have to guess at meanings of longer or more complex material

Comparisons—Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Use cognates and contextual and visual cues to derive meaning from texts that contain unfamiliar words, expressions, and structures
 - Identify subtleties of meaning through the use of learned vocabulary and structures including present, past, and future tense
- Recognize that there are important linguistic and cultural variations among groups that speak the same target language
 - Describe linguistic variations including accent, idioms, and styles between two cultures that speak the same language

Cultures & Communities—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Exhibit more comprehensive knowledge of cultural traits and patterns
- Draw comparisons between societies
 - Write in their own language an essay about cultural similarities between their country and a country in which the target language is spoken
- Understand how words, body language, rituals, and social interactions influence communication
 - Role play daily activities such as ordering in a restaurant or shopping, using authentic materials from target language cultures
 - Simulate an encounter between two friends in a target language culture, using appropriate social conventions, gestures, and body language

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures

Advanced-Level Standards

Communication—Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

- Understand standard speech delivered in most authentic settings
 - Detect emotional overtones and understand inferences in personal communications and formal presentations
- Understand the main ideas and significant relevant details of extended discussions or presentations, and of recorded songs, feature programs on radio and television, movies, and other media designed for use by native speakers
 - Report orally on a radio news broadcast that covers contemporary themes and issues
 - Give an oral presentation on an assigned topic, using culturally appropriate vocabulary, expressions, gestures, and verbal and nonverbal cues, simple and complex sentences, and the full range of time frames
- Comprehend subtler, nuanced details of meaning with some repetition and rephrasing
- Engage in extended discussions with native or fluent speakers on a broad range of topics that extend beyond their daily lives and are of general interest to the target cultures
 - Maintain a natural conversation pace
 - Produce virtually error-free speech in brief exchanges with classmates, using simple structures and familiar vocabulary. Errors which may interfere with communication tend to occur during more extended and complicated discourse

Comparisons—Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Draw on a wide range of language forms, vocabulary, idioms, and structures learned in class as well as those acquired through independent exposure to the language

Cultures & Communities—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Demonstrate sophisticated knowledge of cultural nuances in a target language culture
 - Read and understand poetry written for native speakers
- Model how spoken language, body language, and social interaction influence communication
 - Exchange greetings with native speakers and use culturally appropriate grammatical forms and body language
- Write in the target language in a matter that articulates similarities and differences in cultural behaviors
 - Write a simulated dialogue between native speakers about a topic of current interest

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures