

STANAG 6001

Overview of Listening Text Characteristics by Level

Leve l	Speaker Purpose	Typical Text Type	Listener Purpose
1	Orient by communicating main ideas.	Simple short sentences with simple vocabulary. Text organization is somewhat loose, but follows cultural norms.	<i>Orient oneself</i> by identifying topics and main ideas.
2	Instruct by communicating factual information.	Connected factual discourse with compound and complex sentences dealing with concrete information. Discourse is paragraph-length, with sentences carefully sequenced within paragraphs. The speaker's personal viewpoint is subordinated to a factual presentation.	Acquire information by understanding not only the main topics and facts, but also supporting details such as temporal and causative relationships.
3	Evaluate situations, concepts, conflicting ideas; present and support arguments and/or hypotheses with both factual and abstract reasoning.	Extended discourse on a variety of unfamiliar or abstract subjects; using either formal or informal speech such as might be found in professional discussions, supported opinion, hypothesis, argumentation and elaboration. References may be made to previous statements, to common cultural values, etc. The speaker's unique personal point of view is evident.	<i>Learn</i> by relating ideas and conceptual arguments, by understanding the messages "in the lines" and "between the lines," by recognizing the speaker's tone and intent.
4	Project lines of thought beyond the expected, connect previously unrelated ideas or concepts; present complex ideas with nuanced precision and virtuosity.	Extended discourse that is tailored for the message and the intended audience. To achieve the desired tone and precision of thought, the speaker will often skillfully use low-frequency vocabulary, cultural and historical concepts, and demonstrate understanding of the audience's shared experience and values.	<i>Listen "beyond the lines,"</i> understand the speaker's sociolinguistic and cultural references, follow innovative turns of thought, and interpret the message in view of its wider cultural, societal, and political setting.

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