

Can-do scales

Listed below are a number of “can-do” scales. They consist of statements about your language proficiency in both Dutch and English. What I am interested in is how well or bad you perceive your current language proficiency in both languages to be. Please read each description carefully and circle the appropriate number to indicate whether, at the present time, you would be able to carry out each task in each language. Thus, you can only circle one number per language and per statement. Please use the following scale:

- 1 = I cannot do this at all
- 2 = I can do this, but with much difficulty
- 3 = I can do this, although with some difficulty
- 4 = I can do this fairly easily
- 5 = I can do this without any difficulty at all

An example:

When I am in a noisy place, such as a bar or pub, I can still understand and participate in a conversation.

Dutch	English
1 2 3 ④ 5	1 2 ③ 4 5

	Listening comprehension	Dutch	English
1.	I can understand most TV news and current affairs programmes.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
2.	I can understand the main points of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
3.	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided that I have some time to get familiar with the accent.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
4.	I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
5.	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
6.	I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
7.	I can understand the majority of films in standard dialects.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
8.	I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	Reading proficiency	Dutch	English
9.	I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
10.	I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
11.	I can read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialised articles and literary works.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
12.	I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
13.	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

		Dutch	English
14.	I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
15.	I can understand contemporary literary prose.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	Speaking ability	Dutch	English
16.	I can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
17.	I can present a clear, smoothly flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
18.	I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
19.	I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel, current events).	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
20.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
21.	I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
22.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
23.	I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
24.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
25.	If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
26.	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
27.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

		Dutch	English
28.	I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
29.	I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
30.	I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
31.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
32.	I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skillfully to those of other speakers.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	Writing proficiency	Dutch	English
33.	I can select style appropriate to the reader in mind.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
34.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
35.	I can write complex letters, reports or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
36.	I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
37.	I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
38.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
39.	I can write summaries and reviews of professional or literary works.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
40.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
41.	I can write clear, smoothly flowing text in an appropriate style.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
42.	I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
43.	I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlying what I consider to be the salient issues.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5