Listening Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice High

How well do 2nd Grade GERMAN students understand what they hear?
Students are able to understand short, learned utterances and some sentence-length utterances, particularly where context strongly supports understanding and speech is clearly audible. They can comprehend words and phrases from simple questions, statements, high-frequency commands and courtesy formulae. At this level, students may require repetition, rephrasing and/or a slowed rate of speech for comprehension.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Listening

When students exhibit Novice High listening proficiency in GERMAN, here are some examples of the kinds of things they are able to understand:

1. short, simple conversations about daily life, routines and other familiar topics
2. short, simple descriptions of people
3. short, simple messages and announcements
4. information pertaining to subject area content
5. directions and instructions limited to one or two steps
6. simple stories that follow a logical order and are supported by props, visuals and/or gestures

Speaking Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice High

How well do 2nd Grade GERMAN students speak?
They are able to manage successfully a number of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. Conversation pertains to predictable topics such as basic personal information, basic objects and a limited number of activities, preferences and immediate needs, in addition to the content from subjects they are learning. These speakers respond to simple, direct questions or requests for information. When they inquire about something, their questions tend to be formulaic rather than tailor-made to the context.

These speakers are able to express themselves by relying heavily on learned phrases or recombinations of these phrases and what they hear from their speaking partner. Their language, which consists mostly of short and sometimes incomplete sentences in present time, may only partially communicate what it intended. First language may strongly influence pronunciation, as well as vocabulary and syntax, as they attempt to personalize their language. Frequent misunderstandings may arise but, with repetition or rephrasing, sympathetic speaking partners who are used to non-natives can generally understand these speakers.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines—Speaking

When students exhibit Novice High speaking ability in GERMAN, here are examples of the kinds of things they can do with familiar topics:

1. ask and give basic information about people
2. ask and give basic information about places
3. ask and give basic information about their daily routines
4. ask and give basic information events (birthday party, an outing)
5. ask questions to gain new information
6. exchange information with other people about what to do, where to go and when to meet
7. tell what happens at a particular kind of event (birthday party, sports event)
8. tell how to do something (ex. play a game, make food, solve a math problem)
9. give simple directions to a location
10. tell about something learned at school or in the community
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Reading Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice Mid
How well do 2nd Grade GERMAN students read?
They are able to recognize the letters of the writing system. They can identify a number of highly contextualized words and phrases including cognates and borrowed words but rarely understand material that exceeds a single phrase. Rereading is often required.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines--Reading

When students exhibit Novice Mid reading ability in GERMAN, here are some examples of the kinds of things they can read:

1. words on a list from very familiar topics
1. very simple information on familiar topics
2. short, simple descriptions, especially if there are pictures or other supportive visuals

Writing Ability

Proficiency Target: Novice Mid
How well do 2nd Grade GERMAN students write?
They copy or transcribe familiar words or phrases and reproduce from memory a modest number of isolated words and phrases in context. Novice-Mid writers exhibit a high degree of accuracy when writing on well-practiced, familiar topics using limited formulaic language. With less familiar topics, there is a marked decrease in accuracy. Errors in spelling may be frequent. They can supply limited information on simple forms and documents and provide other basic biographical information, such as names, address, phone number.

adapted from the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines--Writing

When students exhibit Novice Mid writing ability in GERMAN, here are some examples of the kinds of things they can write:

1. basic personal information (name, address, phone number, birth date)
2. brief descriptions of people or places mostly in list form
3. responses to simple questions
4. simple information related to subject matter content