Class Level Objective for PORT 201, following the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)

2012 Guidelines

Intermediate Low

Speakers at the Intermediate Low sublevel are able to handle successfully a limited number of uncomplicated communicative tasks by creating with the language in straightforward social situations. Conversation is restricted to some of the concrete exchanges and predict able topics necessary for survival in the target-language culture. These topics relate to basic personal information; for example, self and family, some daily activities and personal preferences, and some immediate needs, such as ordering food and making simple purchases. At the Intermediate Low sublevel, speakers are primarily reactive and struggle to answer direct questions or requests for information. They are also able to ask a few appropriate questions. Intermediate Low speakers manage to sustain the functions of the Intermediate level, although just barely.

Intermediate Low speakers express personal meaning by combining and recombining what they know and what they hear from their interlocutors into short statements and discrete sentences. Their responses are often filled with hesitancy and inaccuracies as they search for appropriate linguistic forms and vocabulary while attempting to give form to the message.
Their speech is characterized by frequent pauses, ineffective reformulations and self-corrections. Their pronunciation, vocabulary, and syntax are strongly influenced by their first language. In spite of frequent misunderstandings that may require repetition or rephrasing, Intermediate Low speakers can generally be understood by sympathetic interlocutors, particularly by those accustomed to dealing with non-natives

The description above is from: https://www.languagetesting.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/OPI.FamiliarizationManual.pdf)

CRITERIA FOR THE PAST-NARRATION TASK
MID-TERM Oral Practice

Note that a past-narration is a type of task primarily associated with Advanced levels. In general, Intermediate Level speakers, although able to perform past narrations at times, are not able to sustain the level of detail, text type, and accuracy at all times.

In evaluating a speech sample, the following criteria are considered:

- the functions or global tasks the speaker performs,
- the social contexts and specific content areas in which the speaker is able to perform them,
- the accuracy (i.e., degree to which the message is understood), and
- the type of oral text or discourse the speaker is capable of producing.

Rubric for Oral-Mid Term Practice (based on the standards for the OPI – Oral Proficiency Interview from ACTFL)

CATEGORIES	**DESCRIPTIONS**	**POINTS (0-25) 25 = A+**
FUNCTIONS/GLOBAL TASKS	Able to narrate in the past more than half of the time. Includes enough details and there is a variety of vocabulary. Does not resource to English, instead explains unknown words in Portuguese.	
SOCIAL CONTEXTS	Able to communicate in informal exchanges with people accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers of Portuguese.	
ACCURACY	Produces sentence structures in the past with a certain level of accuracy. At times, produces inaccurate structures, but still understandable given the context of the story being reported.	
TYPE OF ORAL TEXT	Produce string of sentences most of the time. The oral text type is characterized by short paragraphs as well. Eventually is able to produce longer discourse, but unable to sustain it.	

Point System

0 – 10 points – Needs much improvement. Does not meet minimum requirements for the level.
11- 15 points – Below target, but still able to communicate some words.
16 - 22 points – At level. Student is able to communicate at the class level.
23 - 25 points – Above the expected level for the class.