

ISLPR LANGUAGE SERVICES PTY LTD

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personalising assessment and instruction

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INTRODUCTION TO THE ISLPR[®] 1 (INTERNATIONAL SECOND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY RATINGS)

(formerly the Australian Second Language Proficiency Ratings)

GENERAL ORGANISATION

The program consists of 20 contact hours. This is generally spread over three or three and a half days, although less intensive modes are sometimes run. Participants are expected to spend time before the program in the preparation of a personal testing kit and time outside contact hours in other 'homework' tasks.

RELEVANCE AND REQUIREMENTS

The program is relevant to second language teachers, language program administrators, or anyone with an interest in the direct assessment of second language proficiency or the implications of proficiency for curricular purposes. Participants should have a degree in a language-related field or a degree plus experience in second language teaching or testing. If not native speakers of the focal language, they need close to native-like proficiency (at least ISLPR 4 in all macroskills).

GOALS

By the end of the program, participants will have developed:

1. an understanding of
 - the concept of proficiency underlying the ISLPR
 - the scale itself
 - the purposes for which it can be used
2. the ability to
 - select and prepare test materials
 - elicit behaviour in the macroskills of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing
 - rate the proficiency of second language learners for low-stakes, in-house purposes.²

SUMMARY OF CONTENT (*as in intensive mode over three days*)

- Day 1* Introduction to the ISLPR and rating and discussion - lower proficiency levels
Day 2 Rating and discussion - higher proficiency levels
Day 3 Practicum in elicitation and rating

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

The program does not involve formal assessment of participants' performance, but feedback is given to individuals on the quality of their elicitation and the accuracy of their ratings. All participants receive a certificate stating the program duration and content.

PROGRAM FEE (covering all tuition and handouts) as at January 2012: \$550 per participant (including GST)

¹ The trade mark ISLPR[®] is owned by David Ingram and Elaine Wylie, Directors of ISLPR Language Services Pty Ltd.

² Participants employed by ISLPR Language Services Pty Ltd to test for high-stakes purposes do an induction program and the quality of their on-going testing is monitored.

Participants who wish to test for high-stakes purposes for other organisations should enquire about licensing and quality assurance measures that the ISLPR authors have introduced.