

# Virtual Intermediate Oral Response Assignment Specifications

**NOTE:** These specifications are for an audio recorded performance to be uploaded to Sakai's Assignment tool. The specifications are addressed to both the instructor and students. Instructors are asked to review the specifications with their students to ensure understanding.

## General Outline

- **Individual** assignment that integrates reading and listening inputs and synthesizes that information in the form of an oral response (5-7 minutes).
- Builds on online classwork and homework related to a reading text (*Don't Kill Your Language*) and a listening text (*4 Reasons To Learn A New Language*).
- Calls for students to critically assess how the texts are associated and what insights and conclusions can be derived from those associations.
- Asks students to upload their audio file to Assignments on Sakai.

## Schema

- Online class pre-reading and pre-listening tasks and discussions.
- Comprehension tasks for both reading and listening texts (including exploring tone, register and authorial or speaker's purpose).
- Bridging task and take-up.
- Discussions on integrating and synthesizing.

## Specific Instructions

- To successfully complete this assignment, it is very important to understand each input carefully. In addition to your in-class work with the reading and listening texts, explore them carefully again—make further notes on the listening and annotate the reading text with questions and comments. Note any language difficulties, especially in relation to vocabulary, phrases or clauses you do not understand. Raise these concerns with your teacher if necessary. The more you have mastered the meaning of each text, the better you will be able to relate them one to the other.
- Using the table below, brainstorm the following: important ideas; similarities between the two texts; differences between the two; important connections; and finally, conclusions resulting from those connections. As you are filling in the table, ask yourself the following questions:
  - What is the purpose of each text?

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- To inform? To persuade? To cause an emotional response? To inspire? To correct previously published information?
  - Who is the intended audience of each text?
    - The average person? Peers within the field? People who view things differently? Certain groups within society?
  - What is the main idea of each text?
    - What are the important points or positions of the two texts?
  - How are the texts associated?
    - Similar theme? Similar or different audience? Similar or different perspectives? Similar or different conclusions?
  - What are your resulting conclusions?
- What can be concluded from the connections of the two texts? Is one position weaker or stronger in light of the other? Or conversely, does one approach build on the other or provide further support? Or does each text need the other in some way? How is the theme enhanced by the two approaches?

Oral Response 1 Brainstorm Plan	Main ideas	Similarities (as per questions above)	Differences (as per questions above)	Important connections	Resulting conclusions
Reading text: <u><i>Don't Kill Your Language</i></u>					
Listening text <u>4</u> <u><i>Reasons To Learn A New Language</i></u>					

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- After your brainstorming table is filled in, begin to form an outline of your response.

Your outline can follow the template below:

- Introduction
  - reading and listening titles and their author and speaker
  - brief summary statement that captures the main connections and resulting conclusion(s)
- Important Ideas
  - Don't Kill Your Language
  - 4 Reasons To Learn A New Language
- Connections
  - due to similarities (in depth)
  - due to differences (in depth)
- Resulting Conclusions
  - your argument for what can be concluded about the connections

With a completed outline, it is now time to write your oral response script. Remember it must be **5-7 minutes**. *Your teacher will help you develop your script, but it is necessary to complete all the above steps first.*

When your script is complete, practice it thoroughly to be sure that your timing and clarity are the best they can be.

Finally, record your performance and upload the audio file to the Assignment tool on Sakai. *Your teacher will direct you regarding this.*

**NOTE:** Please refer to the provided rubric to understand how the assignment will be marked.

**This is an individual assessment.**