AAPPL Assessments and Professional Development
What’s what and why

- NFLC has made significant investment
  - Four year development

- AAPPL Assessments
  - Test of interpersonal listening/speaking
  - Discriminates among four gradations of Novice on the ACTFL Performance Scale

- AAPPL Professional Development
  - Series of on-line courses on standards-based assessment and instruction
Available at NO COST
AAPPL Assessments—key characteristics

Based on the 5 C’s of the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning

- Communities
- Communication
- Cultures
- Connections
- Comparisons
AAPPL Assessments—key characteristics

- Test of academic language
  - Linked to school, curriculum, or school environment
- Delivered on-line
- Highly-authentic, likely-familiar experience
The Video Chat
The Video Chat

AAPPL creates a realistic-looking video chat

Will be familiar to anyone who has ever used Skype
The premise

- Test is a student of a STARTALK Language.
- Teacher asks you to do a video chat with an exchange student who wants to know about you and your school.
- The language lab manager greets the student
The premise

Lab manager explains how to use the video chat

The conversation begins

Starts with greetings
  - Your name
  - Other basic personal information

Moves on to other subjects

Ends

The computer records students’ spoken responses

Trained raters rate the responses

The computer calculates a final score
Looking under the hood

- Each task has four speaking turns
- Tasks elicit sustained conversation
- Composed of 7 “leveled*” tasks
Tasks align to linguistics demands of major levels on the ACTFL scale

www.actflproficiencyguidelines2012.org

Novice tasks → Novice Guidelines

Intermediate tasks → Intermediate Guidelines
### Under the hood...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Task</th>
<th>5 Teacher-Selected Tasks</th>
<th>Core Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1n</td>
<td></td>
<td>2n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3n</td>
<td></td>
<td>4n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5i</td>
<td></td>
<td>6i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7i</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flexibility: Aligning tests with your instruction
Teacher customizes test

- 7 total tasks
- 2 are core (appear in every test)
  - Introductions
  - Questions
- 5 are teacher selected
  - 3 Novice tasks
  - 2 Intermediate tasks
One step further

Chinese
- Mandarin

Arabic
- MSA
- Levantine
- Egyptian
Novice pool: Choose 3

- Transportation
- Physical Education
- School Clothes
- Calendar
- Weather
- Restaurant
- Shopping
- Family
- Leisure
- Colors
- Foods
Intermediate Pool: Choose 2

- Books
- School Technology
- Sports/Olympics
- Daily Routine
- Music
- Travel
- Geography
What do I do now?

1. Go to www.aappl.org/startalk
2. Download pool overview
3. Download registration form
4. Send to ACTFL
Systems check

- Need a language lab and a proctor
- Broadband internet
- Headphones & Microphones
- Run systems check for a report
## ACTFL AAPPLL System Check. Is your system ready?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Minimum Requirements</th>
<th>Your System Information</th>
<th>Meets Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Browser</strong></td>
<td>Safari 2.0.4, Netscape 7.2, or FireFox 2.0</td>
<td>Firefox 3.6.10 on MacIntel</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screen Resolution</strong></td>
<td>960 x 600 with thousands of colors</td>
<td>1,176 x 610 with millions of colors</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Recommended minimum size for optimal experience)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JavaScript</strong></td>
<td>JavaScript 1.1</td>
<td>JavaScript 2.0</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cookies</strong></td>
<td>Cookies Enabled</td>
<td>Cookies Enabled</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bandwidth</strong></td>
<td>1,000 kilobits per second</td>
<td>1,628 kbps - <a href="#">Test Your Bandwidth</a></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Optimally 1,500 kbps)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flash Player</strong></td>
<td>Flash Player 10.0</td>
<td>Flash Player 10.0 r45</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Microphone</strong></td>
<td>Headset with External Microphone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language Support</strong></td>
<td>Foreign Language Keyboard/Fonts Installed</td>
<td>Can you type in this box using the target language? <a href="#">YES NO</a></td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Needed if Presentational Writing is being assessed)</td>
<td><a href="#">View Online Instructions</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Development

- 8-part series
- Developed by ACTFL
- Voiced by Paul Sandrock
Welcome to STARTALK's professional development online series. Here you will find a six-part self study course on developing your students' competence in interpersonal communication. It was developed exclusively for STARTALK by Paul Sandrock of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

It is recommended that you proceed sequentially. Each module lasts between 10 to 30 minutes; the total time for the series is approximately 80 minutes.

Click on the link to begin each module. You may stop and start the video as you wish. You may also rewind and review parts of the module you are viewing. At the end of each module you are asked to (1) complete a check for understanding intended for you to review the main ideas from that module (it is not recorded for a score) and (2) write a reflection that captures how you will apply what you have learned.
What to do

- Go to [http://www.actfl.org/files/startalk/index](http://www.actfl.org/files/startalk/index)
- Work through at your own pace
- Modules 7&8 to be developed and delivered by Fall 2012
Stop by the poster session!

- View a sample of the AAPPL Test
- Try out the PD