# VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY GUIDELINES
## ADVANCED LEVEL: SPEAKING

**Lê Phảm, Thuý-Kim - Arizona State University**  
**Ngô, Như Bình - Harvard University**  
**Hill, Kim-Loan - University of California at San Diego**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>FUNCTION</th>
<th>GRAMMAR &amp; USAGE</th>
<th>ACCURACY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Combination of topics mentioned in beginning and intermediate levels and following topics:  
1. Current events and affairs.  
2. Politics.  
3. Economics.  
4. History.  
5. Language.  
6. Cultural and moral issues.  
7. Social issues.  
8. Literature and poetry.  
9. Arts and fine arts. | 1. Initiating, sustaining and concluding conversations on the common topics.  
2. Using a variety of language strategies to convey meanings (short, responsive comments, pause fillers, circumlocutions.)  
3. Trying to speak with culturally appropriate language and behavior and using a wide range of vocabulary.  
4. Handling complicated activities, such as elaborating, complaining, negotiating, convincing others, providing personal perspectives, and defending opinions.  
5. Discussing/Presenting/Debating concrete topics relating to particular interests and special fields of competence. | 1. Emphasizing the differences between styles.  
2. Introducing more complex grammatical patterns and vocabulary characteristic of spoken Vietnamese.  
3. Introducing affixation, compounding, reduplication and borrowings more systematically.*  
4. Introducing more idioms, sayings and proverbs related to the topics.  
5. Introducing some systematic phonetic and lexical differences between the Hanoi and Saigon dialects. | 1. Speaking in paragraphs and using more sophisticated, abstract vocabulary and some circumlocutions; however, still making errors which do not considerably interfere with comprehension.  
2. Feeling more confident when using idioms, sayings, pro-verbs.  
3. Enhancing speech rate but occasionally feeling hesitation. |

*We suggest introducing the following:  
1. Some affixes which make up systems. For instance: **đồ trướng**, **đồi viện**, **đồi tuyến**, **đồi ngữ**, **đoàn trướng**, **hội trướng**, **lớp trườn**, **hiệu trườn**, **cửa hàng trườn**.  
2. Meanings of different types of coordinate compounds: a) **quần áo**, **mua bán**  
h), **chợ búa**, **việt lách**, etc.  
3. Meanings of different types of subordinate compounds: a) **xe đạp**, **xe máy**, **xe hơi**, b) **xanh um**, **xanh biếc**, **xanh rì**, **xanh lơ** etc.  
4. Main patterns of reduplication: total (**đúng đúng**, **khẳng khẳng**) and partial (alliterative: **đúng dắn**, **khẳng khit**; rhyming: **lung tung**, **bảng những**).  
5. Semantic, grammatical or stylistic differences between Chinese borrowings and Vietnamese synonyms **quốc gia** and **nhà nước**, **phi cơ** and **máy bay** etc.

**References**  