

**VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE
PROFICIENCY GUIDELINES
ADVANCED LEVEL: READING**

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CONTENT	FUNCTION	GRAMMAR & USAGE	ACCURACY
<p>Combination of topics mentioned in beginning and intermediate levels and following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following essential points of written discourse on the common topics, as well as discourse in the areas of special interest or knowledge. 2. Understanding texts with unknown vocabulary in context using reading strategies such as anticipating and contextual guessing strategies. 3. Enhancing knowledge of technical terms in the learner's field. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emphasizing the differences between styles. 2. Introducing more complex grammatical patterns and vocabulary characteristic of <i>spoken</i> 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. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can understand the main ideas of most written communication on familiar topics and show an emerging awareness of culturally implied meanings beyond the surface meanings of the text but may fail to grasp socio-cultural nuances of the message. 2. May get wrong messages when reading between the lines and beyond the lines. 3. Still have difficulties dealing with materials which contain jargon, slang, idioms, technical terms or dialectal words and expressions.

*We suggest introducing the following:

1. Some affixes which make up systems. For instance: *đội trưởng, đội viên, đội tuyển, đội ngũ, đoàn trưởng, hội trưởng, lớp trưởng, hiệu trưởng, cửa hàng trưởng.*
2. Meanings of different types of coordinate compounds: a) *quần áo, mua bán* b) *chợ búa, viết 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 (*đùng đùng, khăng khăng*) and partial (alliterative: *đúng đắn, khăng khít*; rhyming: *lung tung, bẻng nhặng*).
5. Semantic, grammatical or stylistic differences between Chinese borrowings and Vietnamese synonyms *quốc gia and nhà nước, phi cơ and máy bay* etc.

References

1. Omaggio, Alice C. (1986) *Teaching Language in Context*, Heinle & Heinle Publishers, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts.
2. The College Entrance Examination Board (1996) *Language Learning Continuum from Articulation and Achievement: Connecting Standards, Performance, and Assessment in Foreign Language*, New York (pp. 24-28).
3. Ngô, Như Bình (2001) *Vietnamese Language: Teaching and Learning Framework (linguistic part)*. To be published by the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages (COTSEAL) in 2001.