

Speaking Strategy Cards + Role-Play Evaluation Rubric

GranTeach EKT Project — E8-M1

PART 1 — Speaking Strategy Cards

These 20 printable cards help learners practice compensatory strategies in speaking. They are divided into 4 groups: Circumlocution, Approximation, Word Coinage, and Fillers/Stalling.

Circumlocution

- Describe the object without naming it.
- Say what it is used for.
- Compare it with something similar.
- Mention its shape, size, or color.
- Explain where you can usually find it.

Approximation

- Use a similar word with a close meaning.
- Add a short clarification after it.
- Say 'kind of', 'sort of', or 'like a... ' to explain.
- Combine two known words to get closer meaning.
- Ask the listener if they understand correctly.

Word Coinage

- Invent a logical new word using English roots.
- Show it's temporary: 'Let me coin a word... '.
- Immediately explain what it means.
- Use prefixes/suffixes to make it understandable.
- Ask if your invented word makes sense.

Fillers/Stalling

- Use polite fillers like 'Let me think for a second... '.
- Say 'How can I put it... ' or 'What's the word... '.
- Avoid repeating 'uh/um' too often.
- Use one filler, then continue with new information.
- Keep eye contact while thinking.

PART 2 — Role-Play Evaluation Rubric

Quick rubric (0–4 scale) to assess each student's role-play performance.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	4
Fluency	Stops frequently	Hesitant	Fairly smooth	Mostly smooth	Natural flow
Use of Strategies	None used	1 strategy attempt	Some correct use	Consistent use	Natural & flexible use
Interaction	Monologue only	Little turn-taking	Some interaction	Good response to partner	Excellent interaction & support
Pronunciation	Hard to understand	Mostly unclear	Understandable	Mostly clear	Clear & confident

Scoring Tip: Total = 16 points maximum. Add short notes for feedback.