

# Web-based Formative Assessment of Foreign Languages: Online Diagnostic Assessment (ODA)



**DLIFLC**  
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# Presentation Outline

- ▶ *What is ODA?*
- ▶ *How ODA works (Demo)*
- ▶ *Sample Diagnostic Profile*



# Diagnostic Assessment

**Diagnostic Assessment** is a formative tool that helps determine learners' **strengths and weaknesses** and provides **feedback** on their learning needs.



# Online Diagnostic Assessment

- Assesses language abilities ranging from **ILR skill levels 1 to 3**
- To provide the learner with **immediate individualized feedback** (diagnostic profile) in reading and listening skills
- Detailing performance in four areas: **comprehension, lexicon, syntax and discourse** (Additional speech processing feedback for aural texts)



# ODA Highlights

- Web-based
- Standardized across languages
- Criterion-referenced (ILR based)
- Machine-grading CR Items
- Adaptive: Multi-stage testing (MST)
- Full ranges of FLO-domain topics
- Immediate feedback
- Keeps history of diagnostic profiles



# Unit of Assessment

- ▶ **Assessment Unit: Testlet**
  - ▶ **Passage**
  - ▶ **Comprehension checking items (2 to 3)**
  - ▶ **Probing linguistic items**
    - ▶ Vocabulary
    - ▶ Structure
    - ▶ Discourse



# Sampling Scheme - MST

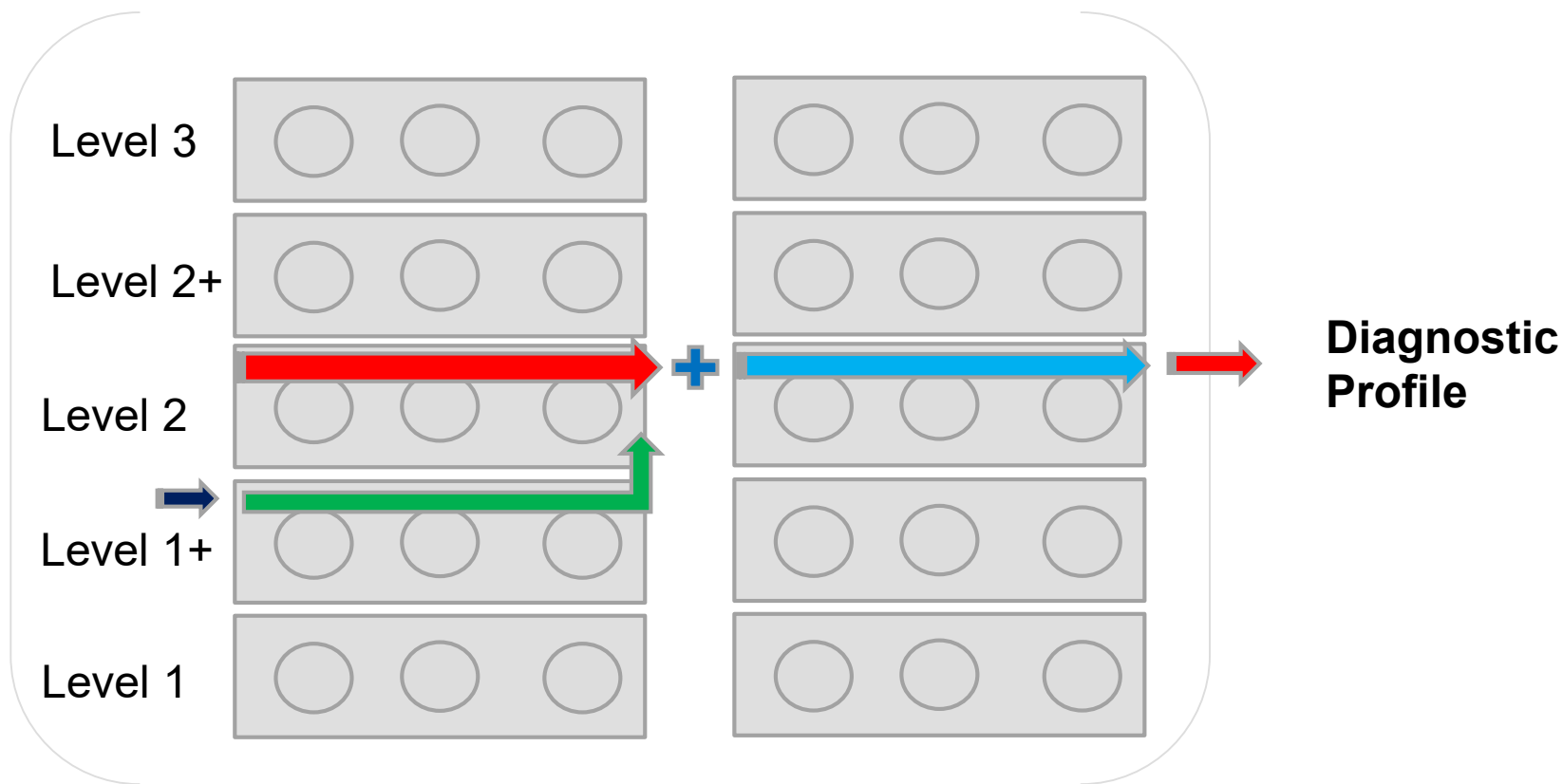
- ▶ **From a pool of testlets**
- ▶ **By ILR Level (1, 1+, 2, 2+, 3)**
- ▶ **By FLO Topic Domain**
  - Culture/Society**
  - Politics/Economy**
  - Environment/Geography**
  - Science/Technology**
  - Military/Security**





# ODA Structure: Multi-Stage Testing

## TEST PANEL





# ODA Session

- ▶ *Multi-level starting points: L1, L1+, L2, L2+, and L3*
- ▶ *Adapts to the learner's performance, and moves up or down*
- ▶ *Determines and verifies floor and ceiling levels*
- ▶ *Collects diagnostic data*
- ▶ *Generates an individualized diagnostic profile and keeps the user's history*



# Demo

<https://oda.dliflc.edu>



# Diagnostic Function

## *Content Comprehension Items*

- Determine comprehension and ILR level

## *Linguistic Items*

- Probe reasons for successfully/unsuccessfully answering comprehension questions



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# Individual Diagnostic Profile

## ▶ English Reading Sample



# Site Info, Q & A

<https://oda.dliflc.edu>

<https://www.dliflc.edu/online-learning/>