SPEAKING SESSION · SCORE SHEET

Didier Herrera

Conversation with our guest speaker Nina · Elementary English · 27 August 2026

82%

Pass = 3.0

Nota: 4.1 / 5.0

How it went

You did it great, Didier.

You held a real conversation in English with someone you had never met, and Nina understood you all the way through. Keep practising, because you are doing it well and you make yourself understood.

Two things held you back, and you probably felt both of them while you were speaking. First, you needed **vocabulary**: there were moments when you knew exactly what you wanted to say and did not have the word for it. Second, **structure**: sometimes you could not find the right way to put the sentence together, so the idea came out in pieces. And we must work on your pronunciation.

None of that is a problem at your level. It is simply what happens when your ideas are bigger than your vocabulary, and that is a good problem to have.

Nina's recommendations

Lo que escribió Nina en su hoja de evaluación

Nina filled in her own feedback form after the session. This is what she wrote. Her form is the last page of this document.

Understanding	Speaking	Vocabulary	Grammar	Pronunciation	Confidence
Very good	Getting there	Good	Very good	Very good	Getting there

What went well

"Didier is so smart! His use of English to convey meaning felt like a genuine conversation, and I can tell by the way he spoke that his brain is naturally wired for bilingualism."

One thing to practise

"Didier was most fluent when he was relaxed and enjoying himself. I would encourage him to grow his vocabulary by reading articles or books in English, as he is a fast learner."

Two things there are worth keeping. Nina noticed you were **most fluent when you were relaxed**, so the English is already in you and comes out when you stop worrying about it. And her advice, **read in English**, is exactly the same advice as mine about vocabulary. When two people who listened to you separately say the same thing, it is worth doing.

Nina notó que hablabas mejor cuando estabas relajado, y su consejo (leer en inglés) es el mismo que el mío sobre el vocabulario.

Where you stand

La evaluación de tu profesor

Skill	Level	Note
Understanding Nina	**Strong**	You followed her questions and answered them. Nina marked this *very good*.
Getting your message across	**Strong**	You made yourself understood the whole way through, which is the point of speaking.
Vocabulary range	**Needs work**	You had ideas you could not put into words yet. This is the main thing to grow.
Sentence structure	**Needs work**	The ideas were right, but the words sometimes came out in Spanish order or in pieces.
Pronunciation	**Needs work**	Several words came out with Spanish sounds. The list is on the next page.

What you got right

Lo que te salió bien

arepas, eggs · **I am 16 years old.** · **I cook breakfast for my family.**

And the biggest one is not a sentence at all. Nina said your English “felt like a genuine conversation”. That is not something you can fake or memorise. It means you were **thinking in English**, not translating from Spanish in your head, and it is the thing most students at your level cannot do yet.

The two most important things

1. Read in English. This is how you get the words.

Nina and I noticed the same gap, separately: you know what you want to say and the word is not there yet. Reading is the fastest way to fix that, because it gives you words in whole sentences instead of in a list. Pick things you already care about: space, football, games. Twenty minutes, three times a week. Write down five new words each time and use them out loud.

Lee en inglés sobre lo que ya te gusta: espacio, fútbol, videojuegos. Veinte minutos, tres veces por semana, y anota cinco palabras nuevas cada vez.

2. Say the whole sentence, not just the piece.

Several answers came out as fragments: *“yes but not”*, *“4:30”*, *“not my thing favourite”*. You had the idea every time. Build the sentence around it before you speak: subject first, then verb, then the rest. **It** + **is** + *not my favourite thing*. **I** + **wake up** + *at 4:30*.

Empieza siempre por el sujeto y el verbo, y después lo demás. Una frase completa se entiende mucho mejor que un pedazo.

WHAT TO CORRECT

Read the middle column out loud three times. Say the whole sentence, not just the word.
Lee la columna del medio en voz alta tres veces. Di la frase completa, no solo la palabra.

Sentence structure and grammar

Estructura de la frase y gramática

You said	You should say	Why
I do chocolate.	**I made chocolate and arepas.**	For food you *make* it, you do not *do* it. And Nina asked about **today**, which is finished, so: *made*.
After I went to school and after study.	**After that, I went to school, and then I studied.**	Do not use *after* twice. The second one is **then**.
Yes but not.	**Not really.**	A short, natural way to say *más o menos no*. Much better than *yes but not*.
Not my thing favourite.	**It is not my favourite thing.**	Two fixes. Start with **It is**, and the adjective goes **before** the noun: *favourite thing*, not *thing favourite*.
My sisters have...	**My sisters are...**	To describe what someone **is**, use *are*. *Have* is for what they own.
I cook the breakfast.	**I cook breakfast.**	No *the* before breakfast, lunch or dinner. Same for *I have lunch*.
4:30.	**I wake up at 4:30 am.**	Answer with a full sentence, not only the number. The number alone sounds abrupt.
I don't think in it.	**I don't think of it.**	Spanish says *pensar EN*, English says **think OF** or **think ABOUT**. Never *in*.
I don't like it **too**.	**I don't like it either.**	In a **negative** sentence, *too* becomes **either**. Positive: *I like it too*.
The motorbike is of my mom.	**That is my mom's motorbike.**	English does not say *of my mom*. Put the owner first and add **'s**: *my mom's*.
We have 1 motorbike.	**We have a motorbike.**	For one single thing, say **a**, not *one*. *One* is only when the number matters.

Pronunciation

Pronunciación

You said	You should say	Why
Cholight.	**Chocolate.**	Three parts: **CHOC**-o-late. The ending is *-late*, not *-light*.
But (Spanish *but*).	**But, said like bat.**	The English **u** here is open, close to Spanish *a*. Not the Spanish *u*.

You said	You should say	Why
First **division**.	**First di-VI-sion.**	The *i* is not the Spanish *ee*. *First* sounds like **ferst**, and *division* is **di-VI-zhun**.
Burguer.	**Burger, said BUR-ger.**	No *gu* sound. Two parts only, and the *r* is soft.
Tirty.	**Thirty.**	The **th** sound: tongue between your teeth. Practise *three, thirty, think, thing*.

Saying more, not just saying it right

Decir más, no solo decirlo bien

You answered *"I eat burger"*. That is correct, and it is also finished in three words. Nina had nothing to reply to. Try adding one sentence of your own every time:

"I always eat the traditional burger. It is simple, but I really like it."

Same idea, but now there is something for the other person to answer. One extra sentence is all it takes. This is also what grows out of reading: the more you read, the more you have to add.

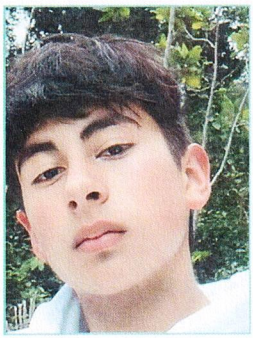
Añade siempre una frase más. Con una basta para que la conversación siga.

Before the next session

Para la próxima

Practise this	How	Why it helps
Read in English, 20 minutes	**Articles about space, football or games**	Nina and your teacher both said this. Five new words each time.
Read the middle column out loud	**Whole sentences, three times each, slowly.**	Pronunciation only improves out loud, never by reading silently.
Practise the th sound	**three, thirty, think, thing, thanks**	Two minutes a day. Tongue between the teeth.
Add one extra sentence	**Answer, then say one more thing about it.**	Turns a short answer into a conversation.
Relax and enjoy it	**It is not a test.**	Nina noticed you were most fluent exactly when you were enjoying yourself.

Well done, Didier. See you in the next class!



Feedback: Didier

Date: 27.08.2026

Skill	Needs practice	Getting there	Good	Very good
Understanding Followed the questions, with normal repetition	○	○	○	✓
Speaking Kept the conversation going and said enough	○	✓	○	○
Vocabulary Had the words for the topics	○	○	✓	○
Grammar Basic sentences and verbs (mistakes are normal at this level)	○	○	○	✓
Pronunciation Clear and easy to understand	○	○	○	✓
Confidence Relaxed and grew more confident during the chat	○	✓	○	○

What went well

Didier is so smart! His use of English to convey meaning felt like a genuine conversation and I can tell by the way he spoke that his brain is naturally wired for bilingualism. ☺

One thing to practise

Didier was most fluent when he was relaxed and enjoying himself. I would encourage him to grow his vocabulary by reading articles or books in English, as he is a fast learner.

Anything else