Proficiency Testing Project
Structural List (Dari)

Novice 1:

1. Pronouns:
   - demonstrative ‘this’, ‘that’
   - personal ‘I’, ‘we’, ‘he’, ‘they’, etc.
   - Possessive ‘my’, ‘his/her’, ‘their’
2. Personale endings ‘1st person singular’, ‘1st person plural’
3. Conjugation of verb ‘to be’ ‘I am a student’
4. Negative sentences; ‘I am not a student’
5. PARTICLE ‘however, how, thus’
7. Numerals;
8. Numerical plurals: ‘three books’
9. Ordinal numbers
10. Definite direct Object Marker; ‘a’ ‘rā’
11. Preposition of place; ‘in’ ‘on’
12. Ezāfat (-e) or suffix ‘-e’
13. Comparatives and superlatives Adjectives. ‘smaller’, ‘the smallest’
14. Expressing availability: ‘there is’, ‘available’, ‘there is none’, ‘not available’
15. Basic tenses:
   a. Imperative: ‘Listen!’
   b. Present tense of the verb ‘to be’ ‘am’, ‘are’, ‘is’, etc.
   c. Present continuous (imperfective): ‘eats’, ‘I am reading’
   d. Present tense of verb ‘to have’, ‘to know’
   e. Simple past tense of verb ‘to be’
16. Combining conjunction: ‘and’
17. Contrasting conjunction: ‘but’

Common errors:
- Errors in spelling;
- Improper use of the personal endings;
- Using English sentence structure, for example instead of using SOV they use (SVO). (Word order confused).
While writing, students mostly forget to write the long vowels and sometimes, write the vowels that are not required (but only have the sound). For example: 

\[\text{گل} = \text{گول} \text{ or} \text{ بسیر} = \text{پیسیر} \]

Problems in perception and production of specific Dari sounds, for example: 

\[\text{[x]}, \text{[ğ], [q].} \text{ distinguishing [u] from [o] which (might) impede meaning: } \]

\[\text{پُر} = \text{پور} \text{ or } \text{گُل} = \text{گول} \]

Improper location of adverbs in regards to time and place.

**Novice 2:**

1. Basic tenses:
   - Future tense of the verb “to be”: 
   - Present subjunctive: ‘I must read’; ‘if (she/he) does not come’;
   - Present perfect: ‘(He) has gone’.
   - Past perfect: ‘(He) had gone.’

2. Auxiliary verbs;  
   - ‘want’, ‘can’

3. Definite direct object suffix; 

4. Prepositions with pronouns; ‘to me’, ‘for you’

5. Reflexive pronoun:

6. Pronouns ‘another’ and ‘others’.


8. Present participle – attributive function, nominalization: ‘passenger’;
   - ‘announcer’;

9. Verbal noun - ‘speech’, ‘visit’

10. Usage of infinitives as a noun: ‘I like reading books’;

11. Passive voice; ‘to be’ come’


13. Forming Compound verbs; ‘to work’, ‘to write’

14. Conjunctions; ‘which, that, whom’

15. Paired adverbs ‘slowly’ and ‘quickly’;

16. Prepositions; ‘from’, ‘in’,

17. Present conditional subordinate clauses (‘if’ clauses): ‘If he does not come…’

18. Pronouns Expressing direct object with definite marker; ‘me’, ‘Your’, ‘us’.

19. Use of a number ک [one as an indefinite article;

20. Forming nouns with suffixes and prefix; -[gar], [mand], [ham], 

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Common errors:
Errors in spelling;
Confusing subjunctives with the present form of the verbs:
ما میخواهیم که رستورانت 'We want to go to a restaurant';
كتاب نوشته است ) كتاب اين نوشته بود.
Error in agreement of a verb and subject: 
شما نان میخوری خور/ خویش
Improper use of reflexive pronoun
Improper use of prepositions

Intermediate I:

1. Reciprocal Pronouns; ‘each other’ 'one another'
2. Distributive Pronouns; ‘anyone’ ‘everything’
3. Past imperfective (Past continuous); ‘he was going to school’
4. Perfect Subjunctive tense; ‘He might be coming.’
5. Making compound verbs with verb; [gaštan] [gostan] 'to show, to seem'
6. Usage of Arabic adverbs in Dari; ‘approximately,’ ‘especially’
7. Modal verbs; ‘may, perhaps’, ‘must’
8. Forming compound verbs with simple verb; [namudan] ‘to show, to seem’
9. Location of components (adverbs, direct and indirect objects, modifiers, etc.) in a sentence;
10. Relative clauses; ‘the person who’ ‘the man who’
12. Cohesive devices: ‘on the other hand’ ‘in short’; ‘before you go.’
13. Usage of adverbs with adjectives; ‘a very tall man’
14. Prepositional phrases; ‘besides’
15. Subordinate clauses of time;

Common errors:
Errors in locating adverbs of time and place: من درس میخواهم در پوهشون instead of
کلاسی در پوهشون درس میخوان.
Improper usage of negative conditional clauses
مگر این دیدید؟ Instead of را میگر این دیدید؟
Problems in order of adverbs and adjectives
او یک بسیار مرد بلند بود. Instead of
او یک مرد بسیار بلند بود.
Misusing auxiliary verb with its future form; Instead of من سبا میخواهیم رفتم. من سبا خواهیم رفتم.

Intermediate II:

1. Direct and indirect speech;
2. Tenses:
   a. Past conditional: 'If only Babrak had told';
   b. Past potential conditional: 'If Babrak was able to do';
   c. Present perfect tense/present participles;
   d. Past perfect tense/ past participles.
3. Regular and irregular infinitives; خوردن - خور، گفتن - گفتن
4. Other real conditional clauses; به شرطی که ... در صورتی که ...
5. Wishes and exclamations; کاش که ...
6. The suffix ی:
   a. Indefinite; 'bookish'
   b. Relative; ‘بچه هایی را که’
   c. Noun; ‘دوست - دوستی’
   d. Adjectives; ‘آمریکایی - آمریکا’
7. Prepositional phrases: 'in short', 'in a good manner', 'for a suitable price', 'especially';
8. Verbal phrases: 'to finish', 'to keep in mind, to take into account', 'to make clear';
9. Usage of word بدون; ‘we are not going without you.’
10. Sentences with unreal conditions:
11. Subject oriented subordinate clauses: 'anyone who might have seen this man ...'
12. Subordinate clauses of place;
13. Derivation of compound verbs;

Common errors:
Errors in using the suffix ی
Improper use of word بدون ‘without’; بدون شما من کار را نکرده می‌توانم. Instead of بدون شما من کار را نکرده می‌توانم.
Difficulties in usage of Past perfect and present perfect;
Errors in forming nouns from suffixes like; روآن, [ن]چ [گر] [مند], [ن]چ [گر] [مند], [گر] [ی]

Advanced I:

1. Tenses:
   a. Past conjectural: 'maybe you have heard',
   b. Future tense of doubt: '… may come';
2. Reported speech: 'he said that he is coming.'
3. Object oriented subordinate clauses: 'I have heard that …'
4. Extended use of compound verbs;
5. Double substantive compounds (noun-noun or adjectives-noun);
   'hardhearted', 'beautiful'
6. The forming of adjective/adverbs with suffix āna/gāna مودب- مودبانه: اینه/گانه
   'polite - politely', 'child - childish'
7. The irreal conditional; 'We should have gone.'
   'You should have known that we weren't coming.'
8. Past narrative of being 'I haven't seen him for six years.'
9. In Past expression of temporal duration; 'I had been there for three years when…'
10. Definite future tense; 'Tomorrow I'll go to Kabul and see my uncle.'

Common errors:
Confusion in usage of direct and reported speech;
Errors in usage of Past expression of temporal duration
Errors in using the irrealis moods
Errors in using of Past narrative of temporal durations

Advanced II:

1. Conditionals;
   a. Actual: 'if you knew, then, why don't you say so.'
   b. Doubtful: 'If he has done something wrong, then, he has to admit.'
2. Expressing Indirect command with subjunctives;
   'The police asked us to stop.'
3. Use of some verbs with particular prepositions and postpositions:
4. Clauses of concession or concessive clauses: 'آگر گناه کرده باشد پس بايد اعتراف کند.
5. Mode Clauses; 
6. Compatibility of nouns with certain verbs: 'با اینکه، با وجود اینکه، آگر چه، آگر هم چيزی نگفت مثل اینکه فراموش کرده باشد. 
7. Synonymy: 'از دنیای رفتن - چشم از دنیا بستن'
8. Use of idioms: 'to be annoyed', 'to insult', 'to unite';
9. Onomatopoeic words: 'شر، غوغو، خرخر';
10. Complex idiomatic phrases: 'to commit', 'to submit, accept'
    'در کنار هم کارکردن', etc.
11. Polite pronouns; 'شما' 'آن‌ها'
12. Usage of Arabic terminology; 'to be excused', 'aware'
Common errors:
Still, some mistakes in sentence structure;
Errors in agreement between various parts of speech;
Lack of pragmatic competency;
Errors in using of prepositions, verbal and noun phrases;
Improper use of idioms