



## **A CU Thai Speaking Proficiency Test at Guangxi University for Nationalities, Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University: An illustration of different teaching aims.**

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### **Abstract**

Programs in teaching a second or foreign language in different institutes differ in their goals. Some institutes aim at the students' ability to communicate in everyday life; other institutes aim at professional use of the language in all skills. A language proficiency test should assess the students' proficiency level regardless of the various programs.

The Sirindhorn Thai Language Center at Chulalongkorn University offers the Thai language proficiency test for non-native speakers. For the past two years, the center has given the proficiency test in speaking to students of Thai at Guangxi University for Nationalities, Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University. To our observation, In the overall picture, Guangxi University for Nationalities's students show prominence in interacting spontaneously, while Peking University students and Beijing Foreign Studies University students can express opinion in broader range of topics and current events. The differences in proficiency domains can be related to the different aims of each program. It can be said then that the CU Thai oral proficiency tests can reflect the purpose or the goal of the program to a certain extent.