

Speaking practice test

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- confidently do a full IELTS Speaking practice test.
- plan how to deal with areas of weakness.



IELTS SKILLS

1. Answer the questions about the Speaking test.

1. What information will the examiner ask you to give at the beginning of the test?
A. Your school B. Your full name C. Your date of birth
2. When the examiner asks where you are from, you should say ...
A. Your town or city B. Your country C. Your address
3. In Part 1 of the test, what will the examiner not ask you?
A. Questions about work or study B. Questions about home or family C. Questions about abstract issues
4. When answering Part 1 questions, how long should your responses be?
A. 15 seconds B. One minute C. As long as possible
5. In Part 2, how long will you have to speak for?
A. One minute B. One to two minutes C. As long as you want
6. In Part 2, how will you know when to stop speaking?
A. You can check your watch B. You will hear a timer go off C. The examiner will stop you
7. What will the examiner do immediately after you stop speaking in Part 2?
A. Ask another question B. Introduce Part 3 C. Give you feedback
8. When answering Part 3 questions, how long should your responses be?
A. 25 seconds B. One minute C. As long as possible

- 2. Decide which assessment criteria each piece of advice refers to. The first one has been done for you. Label them as follows:**

Fluency: F

Lexical Resource: L

Grammatical Range and Accuracy: G

Pronunciation: P

1. Don't speak too quickly. P
2. Remember to use linking words, e.g. *also*, *so*, and *however*. _____
3. Don't forget to use past tense endings and the verb *be*. _____
4. Try to use some higher level words. _____
5. Extend your sentences with clauses starting with *which ...* or *if ...*, etc. _____
6. Practise speaking aloud just before the exam. _____
7. Extend your responses by giving extra information. _____
8. Don't repeat words too often. _____
9. Don't pause for more than a couple of seconds. _____
10. Vary your intonation and stress. _____
11. Try not to repeat the words the examiner uses. _____
12. Respond in the same tense that the examiner uses. _____

- 3. Which piece of advice from activity 2 do you think is most useful? What other strategies will you use in the test?**



IELTS PRACTICE

- 4. Do the practice test in groups, following the instructions provided.**
- 5. In groups, give feedback to each other. What do you need to improve to do better in the Speaking test?**

Student A – Examiner script and instructions

Ask Student B these questions.

Good morning/afternoon. Can you tell me your full name?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Can you tell me where you're from?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, let's start with some questions about yourself.

Ask the candidate these Part 1 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

1. Do you study or have a job?
2. Why did you choose that course/job?
3. Do you enjoy your course/job?
4. How long will you continue to do this course/job for?

Let's talk about colours.

5. What colour clothes do you normally wear?
6. Has your favourite colour changed since you were a child?
7. Do any colours have special meanings in your culture?
8. What's the best colour for decorating a house?

Now let's talk about cars.

9. Can you drive?
10. Do many people drive where you live?
11. What's the best thing about travelling by car?
12. What kind of car would you like to buy?

Now, I'd like you to speak about a topic. Before you begin speaking you will have one minute to plan what you are going to say. During that time, you can make notes if you like. Is that clear?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Good. Take a pen and a sheet of paper. Now, here is your topic.

Tear off the Part 2 task card and give it to your partner.

I'd like you to talk about a time when you were annoyed because you couldn't use the internet.

Wait for one minute.

OK? So, remember, I'll tell you when to stop. Please start speaking now.

Allow the candidate to speak for two minutes. Support the candidate by listening to them with interest.

Thank you. Do you think people often find themselves in this kind of situation?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, I'm going to ask you a few more questions about this topic.

Ask the candidate these Part 3 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

Let's talk about using the internet.

1. What kind of things is it easier to do on the internet?
2. What are the advantages of learning on the internet?
3. Are there any things it is better to do offline?

Let's talk about internet availability.

4. Why do some countries not have good access to the internet?
5. What would life be like if you could never use the internet?
6. Should the government make sure there is internet access everywhere?

Thank you. That's the end of the test.

[Tear here]

Part 2 – Task card

Describe a time when you were annoyed because you couldn't use the internet.

You should say:

- where you were
- why the internet wasn't available
- what you did instead of using the internet

and explain why you felt annoyed about it.

Student B – Examiner script and instructions

Ask Student C these questions.

Good morning/afternoon. Can you tell me your full name?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Can you tell me where you're from?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, let's start with some questions about yourself.

Ask the candidate these Part 1 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

1. Do you live in a large or small town at the moment?
2. How long have you lived there?
3. Is it an exciting place to live?
4. What town would you most like to live in?

Let's talk about the weather.

5. Are you enjoying today's weather?
6. Do you have a favourite kind of weather?
7. Recently, has it been hotter or colder than usual?
8. Would you travel somewhere because you like the weather?

Now let's talk about shopping.

9. Do you have a favourite shop?
10. What was the last thing you went shopping for?
11. Do you buy more things online or in shops?
12. Will you go shopping this weekend?

Now, I'd like you to speak about a topic. Before you begin speaking you will have one minute to plan what you are going to say. During that time, you can make notes if you like. Is that clear?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Good. Take a pen and a sheet of paper. Now, here is your topic.

Tear off the Part 2 task card and give it to your partner.

I'd like you to talk about a special occasion when people visited your home.

Wait for one minute.

OK? So, remember, I'll tell you when to stop. Please start speaking now.

Allow the candidate to speak for two minutes. Support the candidate by listening to them with interest.

Thank you. Do you ever talk about this special occasion with your friends or family?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, I'm going to ask you a few more questions about this topic.

Ask the candidate these Part 3 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

Let's talk about special occasions in our lives.

1. What moments in our lives should we celebrate?
2. Why is it important to celebrate things?
3. Why do special occasions often involve eating?

Let's talk about national celebrations.

4. Why do countries hold national celebrations?
5. Are there any national celebrations which you think are unnecessary?
6. Should governments spend more or less on national celebrations?

Thank you. That's the end of the test.

[Tear here]

Part 2 – Task card

Describe a special occasion when people visited your home.

You should say:

- who came to your home
- why they came to your home
- what you did together

and explain why the occasion was so special.

Student C – Examiner script and instructions

Ask Student A these questions.

Good morning/afternoon. Can you tell me your full name?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Can you tell me where you're from?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, let's start with some questions about yourself.

Ask the candidate these Part 1 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

1. Is the building that you live in new or old?
2. What do you like most about your home?
3. What is the neighbourhood that you live in like?
4. Will you move home one day?

Now I'd like to talk about times of the year.

5. What time of year do you like the most?
6. Does work or study become more difficult at different times of the year?
7. What month of the year do people go on holiday in your country?
8. Would you like to have your birthday at a different time of year?

Let's talk about games.

9. Do you enjoy playing games?
10. What was the last game you played?
11. Are there any people you don't enjoy playing with?
12. What game would you like your children to learn?

Now, I'd like you to speak about a topic. Before you begin speaking you will have one minute to plan what you are going to say. During that time, you can make notes if you like. Is that clear?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Good. Take a pen and a sheet of paper. Now, here is your topic.

Tear off the Part 2 task card and give it to your partner.

I'd like you to talk about a talent you'd like to have.

Wait for one minute.

OK? So, remember, I'll tell you when to stop. Please start speaking now.

Allow the candidate to speak for two minutes. Support the candidate by listening to them with interest.

Thank you. Do you think you might develop this talent one day?

Wait for the candidate to respond.

Now, I'm going to ask you a few more questions about this topic.

Ask the candidate these Part 3 questions. Spend no more than four minutes on this part of the test.

Let's talk about natural talents.

13. Do you believe everyone has a talent?
14. Do you think men and women usually have different talents?
15. Which talents are most respected in your culture?

Let's talk about developing talents.

16. How can schools encourage children to find hidden talents?
17. Should governments spend more money on training talented people than on others?
18. Is it easier for children or adults to develop talents?

Thank you. That's the end of the test.

[Tear here]

Part 2 – Task card

Describe a talent you'd like to have.

You should say:

- what the talent is
- when you've seen other people using this talent
- how difficult it seems

and explain why you'd like to have it.

Assessment grid (one copy per student)

Tick (✓) the boxes if the statements are true.

Part of the test:	1	2	3
Fluency			
The speaker uses a variety of linking words, e.g. <i>also</i> , and <i>because</i> .			
The speaker extends responses with plenty of extra information.			
The speaker avoids long pauses and slow speech.			
Vocabulary			
The speaker uses new language that you have been studying.			
The speaker doesn't often repeat words in the question or on the task card.			
The speaker doesn't use the same words many times.			
Grammar			
The speaker uses a variety of tenses (past, present and future).			
The speaker avoids making basic mistakes.			
The speaker extends sentences with words like <i>which</i> and <i>if</i> .			
Pronunciation			
I am generally able to understand the speaker's words.			
The speaker is quite easy to listen to.			
The speaker sounds quite interesting.			