

Education: identifying question types

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

- understand how Part 3 relates to other parts of the test.
- recognise different Part 3 question types.
- learn language structures to answer a variety of Part 3 questions.



INTRODUCTION

1. Look at the pictures and answer the questions.



A. Design and technology



B. Art



C. Chemistry

1. Did you learn any of these subjects at school?
2. Which school subjects did you enjoy the most?
3. Which school subjects do you think are the least important?



GET TO KNOW IELTS

2. In Part 3 of the IELTS Speaking test you discuss ideas and issues with the examiner. Which one of the questions in activity 1 could be a Part 3 question?
3. The topic you speak about in Part 2 of the test is related to the questions in Part 3. Connect each of the Part 2 tasks with a Part 3 question. The first one has been done for you.

Part 2 tasks	Part 3 questions
1. A teacher whose lessons you liked	A. Some people think schools should teach practical skills like cooking. Do you agree or disagree with this?
2. A skill you learned as a child	B. How is studying in a small town different from studying in a big city?
3. A time you had a problem at school	C. How can teachers make lessons more exciting?
4. A time when you needed a break	D. Will we need classrooms in the future?
5. A place you like studying in	E. Would pupils learn more if they could study when they liked?
6. A school with many students	F. Why do some people find school stressful?

4. Ask and answer the Part 3 questions in activity 3.



IELTS SKILLS

5. Part 3 questions often ask you to do one of the following. Find an example of each question type in activity 3.
 1. Say why people do something (explain).
 2. Say what you think will happen in the future (predict).
 3. Discuss an imaginary situation (imagine).
 4. Give a solution to a problem (suggest).
 5. Say how two things are similar or different (compare).
 6. Say which side of a debate you agree with (give an opinion).
6.  Identifying the question type while the examiner is speaking can help you respond appropriately. Listen to six questions and write P (predict), C (compare) or I (imagine) next to the numbers below.
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____
7.  Listen to six more questions. Write E (explain), S (suggest), or O (give an opinion) next to the numbers below.
1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

8. Which of the grammar structures below is most useful when we predict, compare and imagine? Write P (predict), C (compare) and I (imagine) next to them.

1. Second conditional, e.g. *If people started school when they were older, they'd study harder.* _____
2. Will + verb, e.g. *The economy will improve if we train people better.* _____
3. Comparative adjective, e.g. *Secondary school is more difficult than primary school.* _____

9. Look at the recording script from activity 6. Write answers to the questions.

1. How are schools today different from schools in the past?
2. Will online learning replace schools one day?
3. If more students study abroad in the future, what will happen to universities in your country?
4. How is studying in a large class different from studying in a small one?
5. Would children remember more if they had shorter holidays?
6. Would it be good if you learned everything in English?

10. ⚡ Listen to the recording from activity 7 again. Match the questions in the recording to the responses (A–F) below. The first one has been done for you.

- A. **It's probably because** they help children feel they belong and are part of a community. 1
- B. **What about** using educational apps and presenting information on screen? _____
- C. Yes, **I would say so**, on balance. You have to keep the bright students motivated. _____
- D. **You could** take students on study trips or show them real objects. _____
- E. **One reason is that** they want to get other people's attention. _____
- F. Yes, **I tend to agree**. They should be playing, not studying. _____

11. Put the phrases in bold from activity 10 into the table below.

Explain	Suggest	Give an opinion



IELTS PRACTICE

12. Work in groups of three. Take it in turns to:

1. Ask the Part 3 questions below (each person should ask two sets of questions).
2. Answer the questions (each person should answer two sets of questions).
3. Note down key phrases that your classmates use.

Let's talk about learning.

Why do some people find learning difficult?

Do children and adults learn differently?

How can students improve their memory?

Let's talk about learning choices.

Do you think people would choose to study foreign languages if they didn't have to?

Should people continue learning after they leave school or university?

How will school subjects change in the future?

Let's talk about exams.

Do you think students should have to sit exams?

Is it better to have small, regular tests or one big exam each year?

How could schools make exams less stressful?

Let's talk about after-school activities.

Should students stay at school after lessons to do sports or artistic activities?

Why do some schools offer more after-school activities than others?

Would students learn more if they could attend homework clubs?



SELF-STUDY

Watch the video of a candidate responding to Part 3 questions. Follow the instructions in the video.

<http://tinyurl.com/hmhctmx>

Leisure time: displaying grammatical knowledge

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

- understand the Grammatical Range and Accuracy assessment criteria.
- display grammatical knowledge more effectively.
- use vocabulary for talking about leisure-time activities.
- approach Part 1 and Part 2 of the Speaking test more confidently.



INTRODUCTION

1. In groups, write down three leisure-time activities that ...
 - A. need a screen.
 - B. involve wheels.
 - C. are usually done indoors (excluding activities that need a screen).
 - D. take place in the countryside.
2. Which type of leisure-time activity do you like the most?



GET TO KNOW IELTS

3. The information below describes the grammar of candidates with IELTS level 5 and IELTS level 6 in the Speaking test. What should you use more often to improve your grammar score?

IELTS level 5

Uses a limited range of more complex structures ...

IELTS level 6

Uses a mix of simple and complex structures ...

4. Complex structures are sentences that use special grammar words to link ideas together. Use the words in the box to complete the sentences below.

that	why	if/when	than	which	even if	though	because
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1. Shopping is more enjoyable _____ watching movies.
2. I don't know _____ I like working out, but I do!
3. _____ I go online, I watch videos.
4. I don't like places _____ are crowded.
5. _____ I don't like roller-skating, I enjoy skateboarding.
6. I go running every weekend _____ it's raining.
7. I love horse-riding, _____ is popular in my country.
8. I like sport _____ I'm competitive.



IELTS SKILLS

5.  Listen to a candidate answering these Part 1 questions. Which of the grammar words from activity 4 are used?

1. What do you do in your free time?
2. Do you do the same leisure-time activities on weekdays and at the weekend?
3. What leisure-time activities are popular in your country?
4. How did you spend your free time as a child?
5. Do you prefer to spend your free time alone or with other people?

6. In the first row of the table, write five of the grammar words from activity 4 that you can use confidently. Ask your partner for five words that they can use confidently and write them in the second row.

Your words:	
Your partner's words:	

7. Ask your partner the questions from activity 5. Tick the words they chose in activity 6 when they use them in their answers.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

8. Match each leisure activity with a piece of equipment.

Activity	Equipment
playing golf	tent
playing tennis	club
camping	tablet
working out	racket
skateboarding	helmet
streaming music	weights
browsing the web	console
playing computer games	headphones

9. Describe three pieces of equipment that you use for a leisure-time activity but do not say what the activity is. Include at least two words that are not in the table in activity 8. Can your classmates guess the activity?



IELTS PRACTICE

10. In pairs, ask and answer the following questions.

Questions for Student A to ask

Let's talk about possessions.

What possessions do you use the most?

Did you have a favourite toy when you were younger?

Do you like receiving gifts or do you prefer to buy your own things?

Do you have any things you'd like to replace?

Questions for Student B to ask

Let's talk about physical activities.

What physical activities are popular in your country?

What physical activities do you like to do?

Are there any sports that you find difficult?

Do you think you'll do more physical activity in the future?

11. Spend one minute reading one of the cards below. Then spend two minutes talking to your partner about the topic on the card.

Student A

Describe a leisure activity you like doing alone.

You should say:

- when you began this activity
- the equipment you use to do this activity
- how you benefit from this activity

and why you prefer to do it alone.

Student B

Describe a leisure activity you would like to try.

You should say:

- how you learned about the activity
- what kind of people do the activity
- what you need to do the activity

and why you would like to try it.



SELF-STUDY

Watch this video about the Grammatical Range and Accuracy assessment criteria. What specific advice is given about Part 2 of the Speaking test?

<http://tinyurl.com/hu8372k>

Study and work: producing extended responses

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

- understand the requirements of the IELTS Speaking test.
- identify and respond to common Part 1 topics.
- produce extended responses by giving reasons or additional information.
- use vocabulary to talk about work and study.



GET TO KNOW IELTS

1. **What do you know about the IELTS Speaking test? Discuss these questions with a partner.**
 1. How long is the Speaking test?
 2. How many parts are there in the test?
 3. How many people will be in the test room?
 4. What will the examiner ask you before the test starts?
2. **Answer the quiz about the IELTS Speaking test.**
 1. Which topics are you likely to be asked about in Part 1 of the test?
 - A. Work and family
 - B. Politics and religion
 - C. Physics and chemistry
 2. In Part 2 you are given a topic to speak about. How long are you given to prepare before you speak?
 - A. No time
 - B. One minute
 - C. Two to three minutes
 3. Which two parts of the test have a similar topic?
 - A. Parts 1 and 2
 - B. Parts 1 and 3
 - C. Parts 2 and 3

3. Complete the information about the marking criteria for the IELTS Speaking test with words from the box.

A. Pronunciation

B. Lexical Resource

C. Grammatical Range and Accuracy

D. Fluency and Coherence

1. _____ assesses how well ideas are connected and sequenced, and the speed of speech.
2. _____ assesses the range of vocabulary and whether words are used accurately and appropriately.
3. _____ assesses the range and accuracy of things such as sentence structures.
4. _____ assesses how easy the speaker is to understand.

4. Identify whether these are Part 1 or Part 3 questions. Write '1' or '3' next to each question.

1. What are you studying? _____
2. What would happen if everyone's jobs were replaced with machines? _____
3. Some people think people's salaries should be limited. Do you agree or disagree? _____
4. Do you prefer studying alone or with others? _____
5. Where do you prefer to study? _____
6. Have recent changes in the way people work been positive or negative? _____

5. Look at the questions in activity 4 again. Are the sentences below true for Part 1 or Part 3 questions? Write '1' or '3' next to each sentence.

1. They are related to your own personal experience. _____
2. Can ask you to react to someone else's opinion. _____
3. Can ask you to imagine a possible situation. _____
4. They usually use simple grammatical structures. _____
5. Can ask you to evaluate a situation. _____
6. They ask you to speak about common experiences or situations. _____



IELTS SKILLS

6. Listen to candidates responding to the three Part 1 questions from activity 4. Match the responses to the questions.

Candidate A. _____

Candidate B. _____

Candidate C. _____

7. Listen again and answer the questions.

1. Which candidate gave the shortest answer?
2. What information could they add to extend their answer?

8. Look at these questions and match them to the short answers below.

1. Do you enjoy your job?
2. What's the best thing about your job?
3. Do you prefer working alone or with others?

- A. I much prefer working on my own.
- B. Yes I do. I like it a lot.
- C. We get a lot of holidays.

9. Work with a partner. Add two pieces of information to each short answer in activity 8.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

10. Match the words to the definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. apprentice (noun) | A. Things you get from a job such as a pension or holiday pay |
| 2. part-time (adjective) | B. Done for all the working or study time in a week |
| 3. full-time (adjective) | C. Done for just a few hours per week |
| 4. salary (noun) | D. Someone who learns to do a skilled job while working for low wages |
| 5. benefits (plural noun) | E. A course that students take at university |
| 6. degree (noun) | F. A series of lessons in a subject |
| 7. qualification (noun) | G. An official record showing you have completed a course |
| 8. course (noun) | H. The money you get each month for doing a job |

11. Complete the answers to the questions using the words from activity 10.

1. When I finish school I want to be an _____ in a company. At the same time I can study _____ in the evenings to become an electrician.
2. I think I'm lucky. I get paid a good _____. Also the _____ such as health insurance and gym membership are really good.
3. At the moment I am focusing on getting good _____. I want to do another _____ at university and get a master's _____.
4. I have a _____ job working as an accountant. Although I work long hours it's very interesting work.

12. What vocabulary from activity 10 can you use to answer these Part 1 questions?

1. Do you prefer to study in silence or listen to music while you study?
2. What would you like to study in the future?
3. Can you describe your job to me?
4. What's the best thing about your job?

13. In pairs, ask and answer the questions from activity 12.



IELTS PRACTICE

14. In pairs, ask and answer the following questions. Try to extend your answers and speak for 15 seconds when answering each question.

Questions for Student A to ask

1. What subject did you enjoy most when you were a child?
2. How often do you take a break when you study?
3. Would you prefer to spend your time studying or working?
4. What would your perfect job be?

Questions for Student B to ask

1. What do you study?
2. Why did you choose that course?
3. Do you use any websites to help you study?
4. Do you plan to work in the same area as your subject?



SELF-STUDY

Watch this video for tips on doing well in the Speaking test. Make a note of any you find useful.

<https://tinyurl.com/y8kclrhe>

The media: giving more detailed responses

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

- use appropriate vocabulary to talk about adverts and the media.
- give detailed answers in response to prompts.



GET TO KNOW IELTS

1. Work with a partner. Decide whether these sentences about Part 2 of the Speaking test are true (T) or false (F).

1. The topic is closely connected to Part 1. T/F
2. You need to answer several questions. T/F
3. It is the shortest section of the Speaking test. T/F
4. You speak for one to two minutes on a topic. T/F

2. In Part 2 of the Speaking test you have one minute to read a task card and plan your answer. Look at the task below and tell a partner which of the suggestions (1–5) you would choose to follow during the preparation time.

Describe an advertisement you like.

You should say:

- what type of advertisement it is
- what product it advertises
- where you first saw it

and explain why you think this advertisement is effective.

1. Write detailed notes.
2. Write a few key words.
3. Think of pictures to associate with your ideas.
4. Think about the different things that you will say, but write nothing.
5. Do something else.

3. The notes below were written by a candidate responding to the task card in activity 2. Which strategy has the candidate used?

TV advert

Promote new trainers

On TV during football match

Entertaining, uses footballers to recommend trainers

4. In pairs, take turns to respond to the task in activity 2. Try to keep talking for one to two minutes. Your partner will time you.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

5. Complete the definitions with the words from the box.

reasons	understand	true	sell
amused	tell	like	quickly

1. describe (verb) To say what someone or something is _____
2. disbelieve (verb) To think that something isn't _____
3. entertain (verb) To keep someone interested or _____
4. explain (verb) To give details and reasons that make something clear or easy to _____
5. inform (verb) To _____ someone about the facts
6. mention (verb) To speak about something _____ without giving much detail
7. persuade (verb) To make someone believe something by giving _____
8. promote (verb) To try to _____ something

6. The sentences all contain words from activity 5 that are used incorrectly. Underline the incorrect words and write the correct words after the sentences. The first one has been done for you.

1. People remember adverts that mention them. If you enjoy the advert you'll remember the product. entertain
2. Adverts don't describe me to buy products. I only buy the things I need. _____
3. I promote most adverts – they are just trying to make money from us! _____
4. I prefer adverts that explain you. I want to know the details about how things work. _____
5. I enjoy reading non-fiction books that persuade a place or time in history in detail. _____
6. Many people buy things that celebrities disbelieve, but this doesn't make me buy things. _____
7. Newspapers often inform celebrities because it helps them sell more copies. _____
8. I don't think newspapers successfully entertain why world events happen. They just try to interest the reader. _____

7. Decide which of the statements from activity 6 you agree with and compare your opinions with a partner.



IELTS SKILLS

8.  Read the task card. Then listen to two candidates doing the task. Which candidate completes the task more successfully, Candidate 1 or Candidate 2?

Describe a newspaper or magazine you enjoy reading.

You should say:

- what kind of newspaper or magazine it is
- how often you buy it
- what articles and information it contains

and explain why you think it is good.

9. Match the different methods of extending answers to the examples.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Give examples | A. I don't buy a physical copy. I have an account so I can read it online. |
| 2. Give reasons | B. It informs readers about things such as financial markets, companies, shares and other economic news. |
| 3. Give further details | C. There is a lot of company news. A lot of these articles are about how well companies are doing. |

10. Write down some ideas for extending these responses.

1. The magazine I like to read is a fashion magazine.
2. I buy it every month.
3. It often has interviews with famous people as well.
4. I like reading it to see the latest trends.



IELTS PRACTICE

11. Work in pairs. Respond to the task in activity 8 following the steps below.

1. Spend one minute reading the task card and planning what you will say.
2. Take it in turns to do the task. Try to speak for one to two minutes.
3. The person who is not speaking should time the speaker's response.

12. Discuss your responses to the task in activity 11. What can you do to extend your responses?



SELF-STUDY

Watch this video. Which of the tips do you find most useful?

<http://tinyurl.com/ztp5zvp>