

Elaborating your answer

By the end of the blog, 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.



What is 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. No time
B. One minute
C. Two to three minutes

4. 🔊 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.

5. 🔊 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? _____

6. 🔊 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. _____

7. 🔊 Listen to candidates responding to the three Parts 1 questions from activity 4. Match the responses

Candidate A. _____

Candidate B. _____

Candidate C. _____

8. 🔊 Listen again and answer the questions.

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

9. 🔊 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.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

10. 🔊 Match the words to the definitions

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|---------------------------|---|
| 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?

12. 🔊 Stand in front of the mirror or ask a friend to ask the following questions to you. Try to extend your answers and speak for 15 seconds when answering each question.

Questions for Student A to ask

- a. What subject did you enjoy most when you were a child?
- b. How often do you take a break when you study?
- c. Would you prefer to spend your time studying or working?
- d. What would your perfect job

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?

Watch this video for tips on doing well in the Speaking test.

Make a note of any you find useful. <https://tinyurl.com/y8kclrhe>