

SPEAKING PART 1

1 Read about Part 1 of the Speaking paper.

In Part 1 of the Speaking paper, an examiner asks you personal questions about familiar topics. In Part 1:

- you are with another candidate, but you only speak to the examiner, not the other candidate
- an examiner asks you questions about yourself, and you answer
- the questions are about everyday topics such as your family, your home town, likes and dislikes, your work or studies, free time, travel, celebrations and your future plans.

2 Read the tips.

To get a good mark in Part 1 of the Speaking paper:

- you should listen to the questions carefully and make sure you answer the exact questions the examiner asks you
- you should use full sentences to answer the questions
- you should add reasons, examples or extra information to support your answers
- you should express your own opinions
- if you don't understand a question, you should ask the examiner to repeat it
- you should try to relax and answer the questions in a natural way.

3 Read some typical Part 1 questions. Match each question with a topic (a–e).

- 1 What do you like about your home town?
- 2 What kind of job would you like to do in the future?
- 3 How do people usually celebrate New Year in your country?
- 4 When do you usually spend time with your family?
- 5 What do you normally do at the weekend?
- 6 Tell us about an enjoyable trip that you went on.
- 7 Which country would you most like to visit?
- 8 Which subject did you most enjoy when you were at school?
- 9 What's the most important festival in your country?
- 10 What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

- a Personal and family life
- b Hobbies and free time
- c Work and studies
- d Travel
- e Celebrations

4 Read and listen to Sofia's answers to four of the questions in Exercise 3. Does she add more information in every answer?

Examiner: What do you like about your home town?

Sofia: ¹ Well, I'm from Milan, in the north of Italy. It's a big city, and I enjoy living there because there's always lots to do, like going to the cinema or music concerts. There are also a lot of young people there, ² so I like that as well.

Examiner: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Sofia: Well, I'm quite a sporty person, so I do a lot of exercise. ³ For example, I go to the gym two or three times a week, and I play tennis. I also enjoy spending time with my friends.

Examiner: Which country would you most like to visit?

Sofia: I would love to go to Australia. ⁴ The reason for this is that I like hot weather and I love going to the beach. The beaches in Australia look amazing. I also think the way of life in Australia is quite relaxed, having barbecues and things like that, so I think I'd enjoy that.

Examiner: Which subject did you most enjoy when you were at school?

Sofia: ⁵ Could you repeat that, please?

Examiner: Yes. Which subject did you most enjoy when you were at school?

Sofia: That was definitely geography, because I'm really interested in different countries, and I love learning about how people live in other parts of the world. ⁶ I had a very good geography teacher at school too, and I think he made the subject very interesting.

¹ Use full sentences in your answer.

² Give your own opinions.

³ Add examples to support your answers.

⁴ Add reasons to support your answers.

⁵ Ask the examiner to repeat a question if necessary.

⁶ Add extra information to make your answer longer.

5 Look at Sofia's answers again. Does she use full verb forms, e.g. *I am*, *I will*, or contracted forms, e.g. *I'm*, *I'll*?

6 Read the tip.

- You will sound more fluent and relaxed if you use contracted verb forms like *I'm*, *I'll*, *I've*, *it's*.

7 The questions the examiner asks may be about the past, present or future, and it is important to listen carefully and answer correctly. Read six more questions. What do they ask about? Write *past*, *present* or *future*.

- 1 Tell us about your last holiday or trip.
- 2 How often do you watch TV?
- 3 Which sport would you like to try?
- 4 What things do you usually buy online?
- 5 Which famous person would you most like to meet?
- 6 What kinds of food did you dislike when you were younger?

8 Choose the most suitable verb form to complete the answers to the questions in Exercise 7.

- 1 I to Spain last month with some friends.
A 've been B would love to go C went
- 2 I TV very often.
A don't watch B didn't watch
C 'm not going to watch
- 3 I skiing because I think it's really good fun.
A once tried B 'd like to try C love
- 4 I usually clothes online.
A bought some B buy my
C didn't buy many
- 5 I Ariana Grande because I think she's an amazing singer.
A 've never met B meet
C 'd love to meet
- 6 I ice cream!
A hated B hate C 'd hate

9 Write the words and expressions in the box next to the correct function.

also as well because for example
for instance like plus such as
the reason for this is that too

- 1 adding extra information
- 2 giving a reason
- 3 giving an example

10 Choose the correct options in *italics* to complete Bruno's answers to three more questions. Listen and check.

Examiner: In what ways do you think you will use English in the future?

Bruno: I think I'll use English for my job in the future. **(1)** *The reason for this is that / Such as* I want to work for an international company, so probably everyone will speak English to each other. I'll probably use it for travelling **(2)** *too / also*, because I'd like to travel and visit lots of different countries.

Examiner: What do you usually do on your birthday?

Bruno: I usually see my family on my birthday **(3)** *also / because* they like to wish me a happy birthday and they might have presents for me. Then in the evening I usually get together with some friends and do something, **(4)** *as well / like* go for a meal together.

Examiner: What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

Bruno: I really enjoy R&B music. **(5)** *For instance / Too* I like American singers like Rihanna. I'm **(6)** *as well / also* keen on classical music because I find it very relaxing.

11 Practise answering some of the Part 1 questions in this section. Try to relax and talk about yourself in a natural way.

SPEAKING PART 2

1 Read about Part 2 of the Speaking paper.

In Part 2 of the Speaking paper, you are given a one-minute 'long turn'. In Part 2:

- the examiner will give you two photographs on a similar topic and ask you to compare them and answer a question
- the question you have to answer is written above the photographs
- you speak on your own for around one minute, and no one will interrupt you
- your partner will talk about a different set of photographs
- when your partner has finished speaking, the examiner will ask you a question about your partner's photographs. You will have around 30 seconds to answer this question.

2 Read the tips.


To get a good mark in Part 2 of the Speaking paper:

- you should compare the two photographs and say what is similar and different about them, rather than just describing them
- you should always make it clear which photograph you are talking about
- you should focus equally on both photographs, rather than just talking about one of them
- you should speculate about what is happening in the photographs and how the people are feeling
- you should make sure you allow enough time to answer the question after you have finished comparing the photographs
- you should listen carefully while your partner is answering, so you can answer the question the examiner will ask you.

3 Read the exam task and look at the photographs. What topic connects the two photographs? What question do you have to answer?

Examiner: In this part of the test I'm going to give each of you two photographs. I'd like you to talk about your photographs on your own for about a minute, and also to answer a question about your partner's photographs. Tania, it's your turn first. Here are your photographs. They show people on holiday. I'd like you to compare the photographs and say why you think the people chose these holidays.




 **4** Read and listen to the model answer. Does the student say why the people have chosen the holidays?

MODEL ANSWER


¹Both pictures show people on holiday, but they're different kinds of holidays. ²The people in the first photo are in the countryside, ³whereas the second photo shows a big city. ⁴It looks as if the people in the first photo are on a walking holiday, because they've got backpacks and a map. ⁵On the other hand, the other people are probably doing some sightseeing. They seem to be up in a tower, and they're taking a selfie. Another difference is that the people in the city ⁶look happy and relaxed, whereas the people in the countryside look worried. I think they might be lost. They don't look as happy as the people on the city break. I think the people in the first photo must enjoy walking. ⁷Maybe they chose this holiday because they enjoy being in the countryside. I think the people in the second photo enjoy city life, so ⁸I guess they probably chose to visit this city because there are lots of interesting things to see.

- ¹ Say what is similar about two photos.
- ² Make it clear which photo you are talking about.
- ³ Use linking words to compare the photos and say what is different about them.
- ⁴ Speculate about what the people are doing.
- ⁵ Say how you think the people are feeling.
- ⁶ Answer the question when you have finished comparing the photos.

 **5** Complete the sentences for comparing and contrasting photographs with a word from the box. Listen and check.

as both difference different other whereas

- 1** pictures show people on holiday.
- 2** They're kinds of holidays.
- 3** The people in the first photo are in the countryside, the second photo shows a big city.
- 4** On the hand, the other people are probably doing some sightseeing.
- 5** Another is that the people in the city look happy and relaxed.
- 6** They don't look happy as the people on the city break.

 **6** Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences for speculating about photos. Listen and check.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 It looks as | a be up in a tower. |
| 2 They're probably doing | b think they might be lost. |
| 3 They seem to | c if they're on a walking holiday. |
| 4 They look | d walking. |
| 5 I | e some sightseeing. |
| 6 They must enjoy | f happy and relaxed. |
| 7 Maybe they | g they probably chose to visit this city because there are lots of interesting things to see. |
| 8 I guess | h chose this holiday because they enjoy being in the countryside. |

7 ⁰⁶ Read the task and look at the photographs. Then listen to three students making mistakes when they complete the task. Match each speaker (1–3) with the mistake that they make (A–D). There is one answer you don't need.

- A** describes what they can see in both photos, but doesn't compare and contrast them
- B** focuses too much on one photo
- C** doesn't give any personal opinions about the photos
- D** compares and contrasts the photos but doesn't answer the question

Examiner: Here are your photographs. They show people preparing food. I'd like you to compare the photographs and say how the people might be feeling about the food they are preparing.

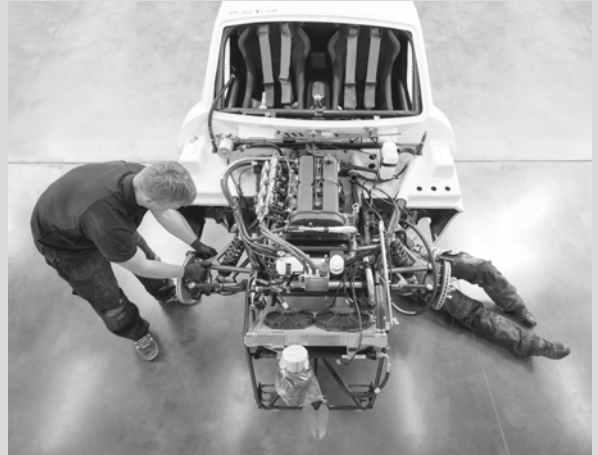
How might the people be feeling about the food they are preparing?



8 ⁰⁷ Read the task and look at the photographs. Complete the task, then listen to the model answer and compare your answers.

Examiner: Here are your photographs. They show people working. I'd like you to compare the photographs and say what you think might be difficult about the people's jobs.

What might be difficult about the people's jobs?



SPEAKING PART 3

1 Read about Part 3 of the Speaking paper.

Part 3 of the Speaking paper lasts for about three minutes, and you work with a partner. In Part 3:

- the examiner will explain an imaginary situation to you, then give you a piece of paper with written prompts that show different ideas or possibilities
- you must talk with your partner and discuss the prompts, giving your opinions about the different prompts
- you do not have to discuss all the prompts, but you should discuss most of them
- there is no right or wrong answer to the task
- the examiner will then ask you to try to reach agreement about something, and you do this with your partner
- you do not *have* to reach agreement with your partner, but you should try.

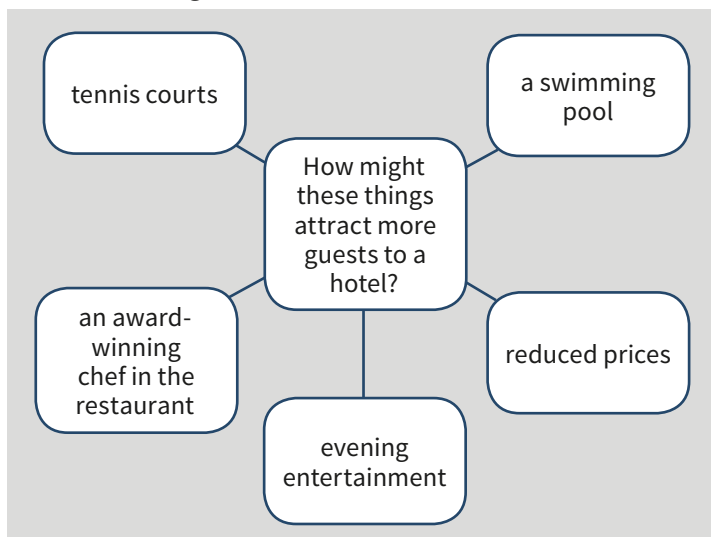
2 Read the tips.

To get a good mark in Part 3 of the Speaking paper:

- you should talk to your partner and listen to your partner – it is important to have a conversation with your partner, rather than just expressing your own ideas
- you should make suggestions and respond to suggestions that your partner makes
- you should express your own opinions on the different prompts and respond to your partner's opinions
- you should give reasons for your opinions
- you should try to reach agreement with your partner when the examiner asks you to.

3 Read the exam task and read how the examiner will introduce it. What question do you have to discuss? How many prompts are there for you to discuss?

Examiner: I'd like you to imagine that a hotel wants to attract more guests. Here are some ideas they're thinking about. Talk to each other about why these ideas would attract more guests to the hotel.



4 Read and listen to Pablo and Marina completing the task. How many of the prompts do they discuss? Do they both express their opinions?

Pablo: ¹Shall we start with tennis courts? This sounds like a good idea. A lot of people like playing tennis.

Marina: ²I can see what you mean, but not everyone likes tennis, and a lot of people go on holiday to relax, so they perhaps don't want to do sport. ³I think a swimming pool might be a better idea, because people of all ages can use a swimming pool. Do you agree?

Pablo: Yes, you're right. I hadn't thought about that. I agree that a swimming pool's a good idea because people like to sit by it even if they don't swim. ⁴What do you think about the idea of reduced prices? I think that would make a difference.

Marina: ⁵Yes, that's true. There are so many hotels to choose from, and people usually look at the price and try to find a bargain. But I'm not sure that price is enough on its own because people are often happy to pay a bit more money for a hotel with better facilities.

Pablo: ⁵Yes, I agree. I think evening entertainment might be a good idea, though. That's a bit different, too, because not many hotels offer it.

Marina: Yes, and it would be good if they offered entertainment for children too, not just adults.

Pablo: Yes, I completely agree with you. ⁴Do you think that having an award-winning chef would attract customers?

Marina: Yes, I do. Everyone loves good food, but a lot of hotels don't have very good restaurants. They could also open the restaurant to everyone, but offer cheaper prices for guests.

Pablo: That's a good idea. I think that would definitely encourage more people to stay at the hotel.

¹ Make suggestions to move the discussion to the different prompts.

² Use polite expressions if you disagree with your partner.

³ Give your own opinion, and give reasons to support it.

⁴ Ask for your partner's opinion.

⁵ Use a range of different expressions to agree with your partner.

5 Read the second task that the examiner gives the students, then read and listen to the students completing the task. Do they reach agreement?

Examiner: Now you have about a minute to decide which idea would be best for the hotel.

Marina: So, what do you think would be best for the hotel?

Pablo: I'd suggest either the swimming pool or the evening entertainment. Both those things are easy for people to see when they look on the website, and I think they would both be popular with guests.

Marina: Well, I think everyone enjoys a swimming pool, especially children and young people. But on the other hand, most people only use a swimming pool in the summer, whereas evening entertainment can continue all year, and, like we said, they could offer different entertainment for different ages.

Pablo: That's true, so shall we choose the evening entertainment?

Marina: Yes, let's go for that.

6 Listen to extracts from three more pairs of students completing the task in Exercise 3. What mistakes do the students make? Match each pair (1-3) with a common mistake (A-D). There is one mistake you don't need.

- A The students talk about one prompt for too long, so don't have enough time to talk about the other prompts.
- B The students talk for too long individually, don't listen to each other, and don't ask for each other's opinions.
- C The students interrupt each other.
- D The students talk about things that are not relevant to the task.

- Using expressions to make suggestions and asking for your partner's opinion is a good way of engaging your partner, and making sure that you have a conversation, rather than talking on your own for too long.

7 Match the beginnings and endings of the sentences to make suggestions. Listen and check.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 It might be a good | a like a good idea. |
| 2 Perhaps they | b idea to offer reduced prices. |
| 3 Tennis courts sound | c offer entertainment for children, too. |
| 4 They could | d an award-winning chef would be a good idea. |
| 5 I would say that | e should have a swimming pool. |

8 Choose the correct words to complete the questions you can use to ask your partner's opinion. Listen and check.

- 1 Do / Are you agree?
- 2 What are / do you think about the idea of a swimming pool?
- 3 Will / Would you agree with that?
- 4 Do / May you think that's true?

9 Complete the expressions for agreeing and disagreeing with a word from the box. Listen and check.

agree	better	but	mean
right	sure	that's	think

- 1 I so too.
- 2 Yes, true.
- 3 Yes, you're
- 4 I with you.
- 5 I can see what you but I think a swimming pool might be a idea.
- 6 I'm not about that.
- 7 Yes, that's true, on the other hand, entertainment would also be popular.

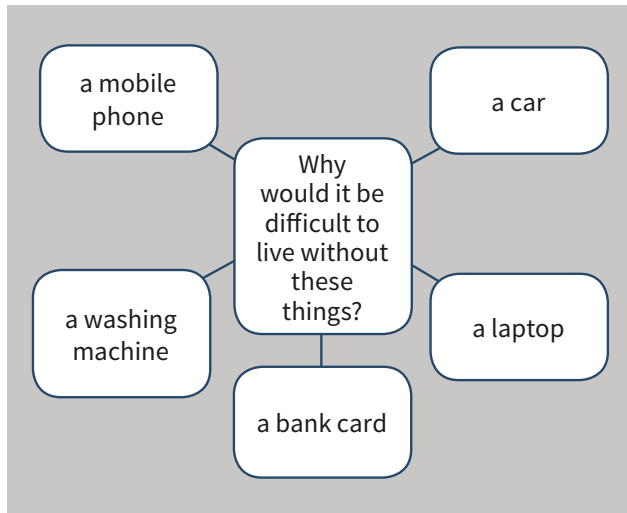
- It is important to use a polite expression like the ones in Exercise 9 when you disagree with your partner. It can seem rude to just say *No* or *I don't agree*.

10 Read and listen to the expressions for reaching agreement. (a) Which two expressions can you use to encourage your partner to reach agreement with you? (b) Which expression shows that you have reached an agreement?

- 1 I'd suggest either the swimming pool or the evening entertainment.
- 2 Are you OK with that?
- 3 My choice would be the reduced prices.
- 4 So, shall we choose the evening entertainment?
- 5 Yes, let's go for that.

11 Read an exam task and practise answering it with a partner. Listen and compare your ideas.

Examiner: I'd like you to imagine that some people are discussing modern technology. Here are things that some people say it would be difficult to live without. Talk to each other about why it would be difficult to live without these things.



12 Read the second part of the exam task and practise answering it with a partner. Listen and compare your ideas.

Now you have about a minute to decide which thing people would find the most difficult to live without.

SPEAKING PART 4

1 Read about Part 4 of the Speaking paper.

Part 4 of the Speaking paper lasts for about four minutes, and you work with a partner. In Part 4:

- the examiner will ask you questions on the general topic that you have talked about in Part 3
- the questions ask you to express your opinion rather than give information
- the examiner will ask you questions individually, but they may also bring your partner into the discussion after you have answered a question
- the examiner may also ask you to reply to your partner's opinions.

2 Read the tips.

To get a good mark in Part 4 of the Speaking paper:

- you should express your opinions and give reasons and examples to support your opinions
- you should avoid giving short answers and should always give more information to expand your answers
- you should listen carefully when your partner is speaking, so that you can give your opinion on what they have said if you are asked.

3 Read some typical Part 4 questions on the topic of travel and holidays. Do all the questions ask about opinions?

- 1 What is the advantage of going on holiday with friends, rather than with family?
- 2 Some people say that tourism is bad for an area. What do you think?
- 3 What places are popular for holidays in your country?
- 4 Some people say travel is bad for the environment. Do you agree?
- 5 What do you think young people can learn by going travelling?

4 Read and listen to Alex and Nicola discussing two of the questions in Exercise 3. Choose the sentence which describes how they answer.

- A** They each give their own opinions, but don't listen to each other.
- B** They listen to each other and respond to what the other says.

Examiner: Alex, some people say that travel is bad for the environment. Do you agree?

Alex: Yes, I do, because ¹I think that when people travel they use fuel, for example in a plane or a car, and that's very bad for the environment. ²They also create a lot of rubbish, for example if they have a picnic on the beach, and that's bad for the environment too.

Examiner: What do you think, Nicola?

Nicola: Well, I agree with Alex that travel can be bad for the environment, but on the other hand, I'd say that you can be a responsible tourist.
³For example, I prefer to travel by train because it's better for the environment, and I never leave rubbish. So I think it's possible to travel in a way that isn't bad for the environment.

Examiner: OK. Alex, what do you think young people can learn by going travelling?

Alex: Oh, I think they can learn a lot. For example, they can learn about other cultures and ways of life, and they can also see some of the problems that exist in other parts of the world. I think that travelling is very good for young people.

Examiner: What do you think about this, Nicola?

Nicola: ⁴I completely agree with Alex, and I also think that young people can benefit personally by becoming more independent when they go travelling. For example, when you're travelling you might have to deal with some difficult situations, and if you do this successfully, it can give you a lot of confidence.

¹Express your own opinions.


²Give reasons and examples to support your opinions.

³Talk about your own likes, dislikes and preferences.


⁴Agree and disagree with your partner, and respond to what they say.

Remember:

- to listen carefully when your partner is answering their questions because you might be asked to give your opinion on the same question
- to use polite expressions if you want to disagree with your partner
- there are no right and wrong answers to the questions in Part 4. You will be marked on how well you express your opinions, not on the opinions themselves.

 **5** Listen to three more pairs of students answering Part 4 questions. What mistakes do the students make? Match each pair (1–3) with a common mistake (A–D). There is one mistake you don't need.

- A** The students' answers are too short, and they don't add more information.
- B** The students don't listen to each other, so they can't respond to what the other says.
- C** The students talk about things that are not relevant to the task.
- D** The students interrupt each other.

 **6** Read the tip. Then listen to three students answering Part 4 questions on the topic of food. What extra question does each student have in their mind?

- Sometimes it can be difficult to think of things to say in answer to a Part 4 question. To help, it can be useful to keep question words in your mind: *Why? How? When? Where?* Asking these questions to yourself can help you think of extra things to say.

7 Sometimes the examiner might ask you a question that you haven't thought about before. Look at the model answers and notice the strategies that the students use.

MODEL ANSWERS

Examiner: Do you think online shopping will ever replace going to shops?

Student: ¹Hmm, let me think. That's an interesting question. I'm not sure that online shopping will ever replace going to the shops because there are some things that people like to see or try before they buy them.

Examiner: Do you think that some people spend too much time shopping?

Student: ²Well, it's true that some people spend quite a lot of time shopping. I guess for some people shopping is almost like a hobby. But I think that if they've got plenty of money to spend, then it isn't a problem for them to spend a lot of time in the shops. But I think it's a problem for people who don't have much money, because they might spend too much if they spend a lot of time shopping.


Examiner: Is it better to go shopping alone or with friends?


Student: ³I think that there are some advantages to shopping alone, for example you can find things more quickly and you probably don't spend as much money. ³On the other hand, shopping with friends is more fun because you can chat about things and go for a coffee together. So I think I would probably say that shopping with friends is better for this reason.

¹Use expressions to give yourself time to think about your ideas, then give your opinion.

²Start with a general statement about the topic of the question, then develop the idea and give your opinion.

³Give one point of view and then the opposite point of view, then give your own opinion.

 **8** Listen to three students answering Part 4 questions about health and fitness. Match each student with the strategy (1–3) from Exercise 7 that they use.

 **9** Practise answering these Part 4 questions. Listen and compare your answers.

- 1 Some people say that there will be no shops in 20 years because people will buy everything online. Do you agree?
- 2 Are there advantages to living in the countryside rather than a big city?
- 3 Why do you think that so many people dream of becoming a celebrity?
- 4 How do you think people benefit from going on holiday?