

SPEAKING

PART 1

The examiner asks the candidate about him/herself, his/her home, work or studies and other familiar topics.

EXAMPLE

Keeping in contact with people

- How do you usually contact your friends? [Why?]
- Do you prefer to contact different people in different ways? [Why?]
- Do you find it easy to keep in contact with friends and family? [Why/Why not?]
- In your country, did people in the past keep in contact in the same ways as they do today? [Why/Why not?]

PART 2

Describe a party that you enjoyed.

You should say:

**whose party it was and what it was celebrating
where the party was held and who went to it
what people did during the party
and explain what you enjoyed about this party.**

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:

Family parties

Example questions:

What are the main reasons why people organise family parties in your country?

In some places people spend a lot of money on parties that celebrate special family events. Is this ever true in your country? Do you think this is a good trend or a bad trend?

Are there many differences between family parties and parties given by friends? Why do you think this is?

National celebrations

Example questions:

What kinds of national celebration do you have in your country?

Who tends to enjoy national celebrations more: young people or old people? Why?

Why do you think some people think that national celebrations are a waste of government money? Would you agree or disagree with this view? Why?

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EXAMPLE

Laughing

- What kinds of thing make you laugh?
- Do you like making other people laugh? [Why/Why not?]
- Do you think it's important for people to laugh? [Why/Why not?]
- Is laughing the same as feeling happy, do you think? [Why/Why not?]

PART 2

Describe an idea you had for improving something at work or college.

You should say:

when and where you had your idea

what your idea was

who you told about your idea

and explain why you thought your idea would make an improvement.

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:

Ideas and education

Example questions:

Some people think that education should be about memorising the important ideas of the past. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Should education encourage students to have their own new ideas? Why?

How do you think teachers could help students to develop and share their own ideas?

Ideas in the workplace

Example questions:

Should employers encourage their workers to have new ideas about improving the company? Why?

Do you think people sometimes dislike ideas just because they are new? Why?

What is more difficult: having new ideas or putting them into practice? Which is more important for a successful company?

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EXAMPLE

Cold weather

- Have you ever been in very cold weather? [When?]
- How often is the weather cold where you come from?
- Are some parts of your country colder than others? [Why?]
- Would you prefer to live in a hot place or a cold place? [Why?]

PART 2

Describe a competition (e.g. TV, college/work or sports competition) that you took part in.

You should say:

**what kind of competition it was and how you found out about it
what you had to do
what the prizes were
and explain why you chose to take part in this competition.**

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:

Competitions in school

Example questions:

Why do you think some school teachers use competitions as class activities?

Do you think it is a good thing to give prizes to children who do well at school? Why?

Would you say that schools for young children have become more or less competitive since you were that age? Why?

Sporting competitions

Example questions:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of intensive training for young sportspeople?

Some people think that competition leads to a better performance from sports stars. Others think it just makes players feel insecure. What is your opinion?

Do you think that it is possible to become too competitive in sport? In what way?

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EXAMPLE

Travelling to work or college

- How do you usually travel to work or college? [Why?]
- Have you always travelled to work/college in the same way? [Why/Why not?]
- What do you like about travelling to work/college this way?
- What changes would improve the way you travel to work/college? [Why?]

PART 2

Describe a piece of electronic equipment that you find useful.

You should say:

what it is

how you learned to use it

how long you have had it

and explain why you find this piece of electronic equipment useful.

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:**Technology and housework***Example questions:*

What kinds of machine are used for housework in modern homes in your country?

How have these machines benefited people? Are there any negative effects of using them?

Do you think all new homes will be equipped with household machines in the future? Why?

Technology in the workplace*Example questions:*

What kinds of equipment do most workers need to use in offices today?

How have developments in technology affected employment in your country?

Some people think that technology has brought more stress than benefits to employed people nowadays. Would you agree or disagree? Why?