

IELTS SPEAKING

Format and Strategies



THE IELTS SPEAKING TEST

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| Part 1 | 4-5 minutes | Introduction and questions on familiar topic areas such as work, study, hobbies, holidays |
| Part 2 | 3-4 minutes | 2 minute talk on a familiar topic |
| Part 3 | 4-5 minutes | Two-way discussion on issues related to the topic in part 2 |

Part 1 (4-5 min.)

- Common topics are on your home, family, job, studies, interests, and a range of similar familiar topic areas.
- The examiner will choose three topic areas and you'll have about four questions on each. So you'll have around 10-14 questions, depending on how long you speak for on each.

Part 1 (4-5 min.)

I'd just like to ask you some questions about your work.

1. *What job do you do?*
2. *Why did you choose that particular job?*
3. *What do you do every day?*
4. *What other work would you consider doing?*

I'd like to move on and ask you some questions about relaxing.

1. *What type of activities help you relax?*
2. *Do you like to do these activities alone or with other people?*
3. *Why do you think it is important for people to relax?*
4. *Do you think people have enough time for relaxing?*

Let's change the topic and talk about your family.

1. *Do you have a big or a small family?*
2. *Do you live together or nearby?*
3. *What activities do you like to do together?*
4. *Who is your favourite family member?*

Part 2 (3-4 min.)

In the IELTS speaking part 2 you will have to talk on a topic that the examiner gives you for two minutes. It is designed to test your ability to speak for an extended period without hesitation or repetition.

You will be given a card that asks you to 'describe' something. They are topics that you should have some experience of or know something about.

You may, for example, be asked to describe a person you know, a place you've been to, or a possession you have, but there are many different topics so you have to be prepared for any topic. On the card there will also be three sub-points that you should cover when you are speaking.

You will have one minute to prepare what you are going to say, and you'll be given a paper and a pencil to make notes if you want to.

Part 2 (3-4 min.)

Describe an item of clothing you bought.

You should say:

- what was it
- when did you buy it
- where did you buy it

Explain what did you like about this thing.

Part 2 (3-4 min.)

- You may then be asked one or two short follow up questions:
- **Do your friends like to wear this type of clothes?**
- **Do you wear other styles of clothes as well?**

Part 3 (4-5 min.)

- In the final part of the IELTS speaking test the examiner will have a discussion with you about some issues that will be related to the topic that you talked about in part 2.
- The questions in this part are of a more abstract nature and so are more difficult.
- It's a two-way discussion but you will still be expected to do most of the speaking.

Part 3 (4-5 min.)

- 1. *Is buying clothes a popular activity for teenagers in your country?***
- 2. *How much money should parents spend on their children's clothes?***
- 3. *What types of fashion do teenagers like to wear in your country?***
- 4. *What influence has the fashion industry had in your country?***
- 5. *Are the fashions of today different from those when your parents were young?***
- 6. *What do you think will be the effects of the fashion industry in the next ten years?***

What to pay attention on?

Fluency (length of your speech, no pauses and hesitations, intonation)

Vocabulary: range (paraphrasing, idioms, sophisticated words) and mistakes (collocations, word formation, meaning)

Grammar: range and mistakes

Pronunciation (spelling, individual sounds, intonation)

Topics and Ideas

How to develop?

How to develop?

The main idea is:

It's dark and rainy most of the time in Saint-Petersburg.

How to develop?

- Give the reason for that
- Give the consequences/outcomes
- Give the examples or details
- Explain (that means...)
- Give an opinion or feeling

Structure of the Question (45 sec.)

- Sentence 1: restate the question and answer the question.
- Sentence 2: Supporting Idea 1
- Sentence 3-5: Supporting Idea 1 Detail & Example
- Sentence 6: Supporting Idea 2
- Sentence 7-9: Supporting Idea 2, Detail & Example
- Sentence 10: Rephrase & Summarize.

How to practice?

- choose the topic
- think about vocabulary
- choose 6 questions from it
- speak on these questions and record your speech
- listen and check up (use our materials)
- improve (vocabulary, grammar, fluency etc.)
- record again



**PRACTICE
MAKES
PERFECT**