

**ESOL International  
English Speaking Examination**

**Level B2 Independent User**

**Instructions to interlocutor**

Tick the learner's name on the attendance register.

Check the learner has an entry form and take it from them.

Start the recording – do not stop the recording until the end of the examination.

Complete the examination sheet as the learner responds to the prompts.

**The learner must not see this paper**

***Interlocutor:***

**My name is..... and this is the NOCN Speaking Examination at Independent User Level B2.  
Today is ..... (date)**

**The learner's name is ..... Please state your name for the recording ..... (learner's name).**

**This is Part 1 of the Speaking Examination: Personal information. (Approximately 1.5 minutes)**

**I am now going to ask you some questions.**

- 1. Can you tell me where you live?**
- 2. Please tell me three of your favourite films.**
- 3. Can you tell me your favourite place to visit and why?**
- 4. Tell me about what you plan to do next weekend.**
- 5. Tell me about three of your friends or relatives.**

*Additional prompts allowed:*

*In Part 1, the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe e.g. to extend the learner's answer if they have just given very short answers. The questions may be rephrased slightly to ensure that in questions where there are two parts (i.e. and why...), the learner responds fully. The interlocutor may also give an example if it is clear that the learner is struggling to think of ideas. For example, in question 5, the interlocutor may prompt the learner by drawing on things they have in common with their friends or relatives. The interlocutor should use the relevant tense based on the age of the learner. Interlocutors should be aiming to guide the learner towards language structures expected at this level.*

**Thank the learner.**

**This is Part 2 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 3.5 minutes)**

*The interlocutor chooses two of the scenarios per learner, making sure that a mix of scenarios are used across the learners being examined. For each of the scenarios being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet. Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.*

**Please listen carefully and tell me what you would say in these situations.**

**Situation 1: You want to book two nights away in Athens for a group of four friends. You decide to contact hotels in Athens to ask about prices and special offers. Explain to the hotel receptionist what you are looking for. What would you say?**

*(Interlocutor may repeat or rephrase the question, if necessary)*

**Situation 2: You have discovered water dripping down the wall of the kitchen and it is making everything very damp. You need to contact your landlord. You must explain what is wrong and what must be done. What do you say?**

*(Interlocutor may repeat or rephrase the question, if necessary)*

**Situation 3: You want to see a film at the cinema near you but it is a very popular film and you need to book tickets. You need to find out the cost of the tickets, which seats are available and the time of the event. You call the cinema. What do you say?**

*(Interlocutor may repeat or rephrase the question, if necessary)*

**Situation 4: You are concerned about the number of streetlights which do not work in your area. Say what the issues are and what you think should be done to improve the situation. What do you say?**

*(Interlocutor may repeat or rephrase the question, if necessary)*

*Additional prompts allowed:*

*It is expected that the learner gives a minimum of four sentences to respond to each situation, including at least one complex sentence. The interlocutor may have to ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response. If the vocabulary used, e.g. Online, Issues, is not understood by the learner, the interlocutor may explain the concept.*

*In Part 2 the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe the learner's answers.*

*Situation 1: The learners may be prompted about the price and type of the accommodation, e.g.: distance from the city centre, what the price includes.*

*Situation 2: The learners may be prompted for example about what they want their landlord to do, e.g.: mend the leak, repair the water damage.*

*Situation 3: If the learner gives a very simple response, such as "can I have a ticket?" the interlocutor may ask the learner to say what event they want the ticket for, the time of the event and how many tickets they want.*

*Situation 4: If the learner gives a very simple response, such as "the lights do not work". The interlocutor may ask them "which lights don't work?" "What problem is this causing?"*

**Thank the learner.**

**This is Part 3 of the Speaking Examination. (Maximum 5 minutes)**

*The interlocutor chooses one of the scenarios per learner, making sure that both scenarios are used across the learners being examined. For the scenario being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet. Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.*

**Scenario 1: You will now take part in a conversation. One of your friends is thinking of moving house to a cheaper place out of town. It will be more expensive for him/her to travel to town. Convince your friend to stay where they are.**

**You will have two minutes to prepare your argument. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

**Scenario 2: You will now take part in a conversation. You would like to be able to cook cheap and healthy meals so you want to join the monthly cookery club held at the college. Convince your friend it is a good idea for you both to join.**

**You have two minutes to prepare for the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

**Scenario 3: You will now take part in a conversation. You want to go to the sales next week as there are some clothes and sports equipment you need. Convince your friend that it is a good idea that he/she go with you.**

**You have two minutes to prepare for the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

*Additional information:*

*There should be a minimum of six exchanges to ensure that the learner has considered a number of options and put across sufficient arguments.*

*Ideas that the interlocutor may use include:*

*Scenario 1:*

- *You want to move out of town.*
- *You will not be travelling into town.*
- *It will be cheaper to live in the country.*
- *Work will be nearer for you in the country.*

*Scenario 2:*

- *How will it save you money?*
- *You can already cook cheap and healthy meals*
- *How much will it cost to join?*
- *You, too, would prefer to go with a friend.*

*Scenario 3:*

- *You do have the day free, so could go with them.*
- *You do not play sports.*
- *You have a great many clothes anyway.*
- *You do not enjoy crowds of people in shops.*

**Thank the learner.**

**End of Examination**

**ESOL International  
English Speaking Examination**

**Level B2 Independent User**

**Instructions to interlocutor**

Please give the learner the correct sheets for the scenarios being used in the examination for Part Two and Part Three.

The learner must complete two scenarios for Part Two and one scenario for Part Three.

Do not allow the learner to take the prompt sheet from the room.

Do not allow the learner to see the additional prompt sheets for the scenarios not being used.



**Part Two**

**Situation 1: You want to book two nights away in Athens for a group of four friends. You decide to contact hotels in Athens to ask about prices and special offers. Explain to the hotel receptionist what you are looking for. What would you say?**

**Part Two**

**Situation 2: You have discovered water dripping down the wall of the kitchen and it is making everything very damp. You need to contact your landlord. You must explain what is wrong and what must be done. What do you say?**

**Part Two**

**Situation 3: You want to see a film at the cinema near you but it is a very popular film and you need to book tickets. You need to find out the cost of the tickets, which seats are available and the time of the event. You call the cinema. What would you say?**

**Part Two**

**Situation 4: You are concerned about the number of streetlights which do not work in your area. Say what the issues are and what you think should be done to improve the situation. What do you say?**

**Part Three**

**Scenario 1: You will now take part in a conversation. One of your friends is thinking of moving house to a cheaper place out of town. It will be more expensive for him/her to travel to town. Convince your friend to stay where they are.**

**You will have 2 minutes to prepare your argument. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

**Part Three**

**Scenario 2: You will now take part in a conversation. You would like to be able to cook cheap and healthy meals so you want to join the monthly cookery club held at the college. Convince your friend it is a good idea for you both to join.**

**You have two minutes to prepare for the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

**Part Three**

**Scenario 3: You will now take part in a conversation. You want to go to the sales next week as there are some clothes and sports equipment you need. Convince your friend that it is a good idea that they go with you.**

**You have two minutes to prepare for the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.**

NOCN  
The Quadrant  
Parkway Business Centre  
99 Parkway Avenue  
Sheffield  
S9 4WG  
UK

E-mail: [nocn@nocn.org.uk](mailto:nocn@nocn.org.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 114 2270500  
Fax: +44 (0) 114 2270501