

**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 name).

This is Part 1 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 1.5 minutes)

(Additional questions may be asked to prompt deeper responses)

I am now going to ask you some questions:

1. Where have you been on holiday that you would like to go back to? Why?
2. Can you tell me three reasons why you would want to go travelling?
3. Which city would you most like to visit and why?
4. What three qualities do you want in a friend?
5. What is your favourite style of book and why?

Additional prompts allowed:

In Part 1, the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe or clarify e.g. to extend the learner's answer if they have just given very short answers or to check that they have understood what the learner has said. The questions may be rephrased slightly to ensure that in questions where there are two parts, 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 4, the interlocutor may prompt the learner by asking: is it their personality; are they helpful; are they fun to be with; how long have you been friends with them; do they like the same things as you? 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 situations** per learner, making sure that a mix of situations are used across the learners being examined. For each of the situations 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.

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

Situation 1: You return your book late to the library. Explain to the librarian the reasons why you have returned it late and apologise for the delay. What would you say?

Situation 2: You are at the bus station. You are booking two seats for a three day trip to the nearest city. Explain to the assistant the type of tickets you want and for when. What would you say?

Situation 3: You are at the hairdresser's salon. You would like a new hairstyle. Explain to the hairdresser the style you want or who you want to look like. What would you say?

Situation 4: You want a new bag. You go to the local store to look for one. Tell the shop assistant the style, colour, size and what you want it for. What would you say?

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 ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response. If the vocabulary used is not understood by the learner, the interlocutor may explain the concept.*

Situation 1: *The learner may be prompted about the reasons for lateness, such as: thought it was the next month; was not able to travel to the library or could not find it to return it on time.*

Situation 2: *The learner may be prompted by types of return tickets to buy, days and months, vocabulary for bus travel.*

Situation 3: *The learner may be prompted about vocabulary for length of hair, style of hair and for similarity/comparison.*

Situation 4: *The learner may be prompted about types of adjectives to use in order to describe the bag and reasons for choice e.g. everyday use, work, or going out.*

Thank the learner.

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

*The interlocutor chooses **one scenario** per learner, making sure that all 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.*

Interlocutor: You will now take part in a conversation.

You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes.

Scenario 1: You want to do something to raise money for a charity. You discuss ideas with a friend. You suggest sports, something fun or a challenge. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Scenario 2: You are being interviewed about a photographic competition you won. You discuss the photograph, what inspired you, where you took it and how you feel about winning. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of the interviewer.

Scenario 3: You need to buy a new sofa for your flat. You visit the furniture store and discuss with the sales assistant what type of sofa, size and colour you want. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of the sales assistant.

Scenario 4: You have started a new job in a coffee shop. The owner is showing you around before you start. Ask questions as you are shown around. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of the coffee shop owner.

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. If the learner does not understand a word or phrase, the interlocutor may explain the concept. Other ideas that the interlocutor may use for each scenario include:*

Scenario 1:

*Could you run a half marathon for charity?
What about sitting in a bath of ice or beans?
How much do you want to raise?*

Scenario 2:

*What inspired you to take the photograph?
How did you prepare for the shot?
What emotions did you feel about winning the competition?*

Scenario 3:

*Do you like a modern or traditional style sofa?
Are you looking for a two or three seater sofa?
We have some very comfortable corner sofas.*

Scenario 4:

*This is our new Italian coffee machine.
We have different sized cups for the coffee.
There is seating for 40 people, inside and out.
You will work with three other members of staff.*

Thank the learner.

End of Examination



This page is intentionally blank.

ESOL International
English Speaking Examination
Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to interlocutor

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

The learner must complete two situations 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 situations or scenarios not being used.



Part Two – Situation 1

You return your book late to the library. Explain to the librarian the reasons why you have returned it late and apologise for the delay.

What would you say?



Part Two - Situation 2

You are at the bus station. You are booking two seats for a 3 day trip to the nearest city. Explain to the assistant the type of tickets you want and for when.

What would you say?



Part Two - Situation 3

You are at the hairdresser's salon. You would like a new hairstyle. Explain to the hairdresser the style you want or who you want to look like.

What would you say?



Part Two - Situation 4

You want a new bag. You go to the local store to look for one. Tell the shop assistant the style, colour, size and what you want it for.

What would you say?



Part Three - Scenario 1

You want to do something to raise money for a charity. You discuss ideas with a friend. You suggest sports, something fun or a challenge.

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



Part Three - Scenario 2

You are being interviewed about a photographic competition you won. You discuss the photograph, what inspired you, where you took it and how you feel about winning.

You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of the interviewer.



Part Three - Scenario 3

You need to buy a new sofa for your flat. You visit the furniture store and discuss with the sales assistant what type of sofa, size and colour you want.

You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will take the place of the sales assistant.



Part Three - Scenario 4

You have started a new job in a coffee shop. The owner is showing you around before you start. Ask questions as you are shown around.

You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You make take notes. I will take the place of the coffee shop owner.



PART OF **nocn** GROUP

NOCN Group
Acero Building
1 Concourse Way
Sheaf Street
Sheffield
S1 2BJ
UK

E-mail: nocn@nocn.org.uk