

ESOL International

English Speaking Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

Instructions to interlocutor

Add the learner's name to 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 Intermediate Level B1. Today is (date)

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

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

I am now going to ask you some questions. Please reply in full sentences.

- 1. Tell me about a place you like to visit.**
- 2. Tell me three things you like to do in the summer.**
- 3. What kind of sports are popular in your country?**
- 4. Tell me three things you like to order at a café.**
- 5. Tell me what job you would like to do. 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 2, the interlocutor may prompt the learner by asking about places they like to go in the summer i.e. the beach, the park or another city. 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 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 were going to help your friend with their homework, but you have to cancel. Call your friend and tell them why you can't help them. What would you say?

Situation 2: You buy a coat but you change your mind and want to return it. You go back to the shop. Tell them you want a refund. What would you say?

Situation 3: You are not feeling well and need help with some work around the house. Speak with your friend and tell them what you need help with. What would you say?

Situation 4: A new neighbour asks you about the facilities in your local area. Tell them about the different facilities and where they are. What would you say?

Additional prompts allowed:

The learner is expected to respond in a minimum of three sentences to each situation, including at least one compound sentence. The interlocutor may ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response.

Situation 1:

The learner could be prompted to explain the reason why they cannot help their friend because they have no transport or have another appointment.

Situation 2:

If the learner is struggling to think of ideas, they may be prompted by asking them why they want to return the coat and why it is not suitable.

Situation 3:

The learner may be prompted to say what jobs around the house they need help with, such as cleaning or the washing up.

Situation 4:

The learner could be prompted to talk about one or two places in the area (shops, parks, doctor's surgery) and what they can do there.

Thank the learner.

This is Part 3 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 4.5 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 are preparing for your English exams and want to practise with your friend. Your friend prefers working by themselves. Persuade your friend that practising together is better. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of your friend.

Scenario 2: You are shopping with a parent and see a discount on a smoothie maker. You want to buy it but your parent says no. Persuade your parent why you should buy it. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of the parent.

Scenario 3: You want to spend some time with your friend. Your friend wants to go cycling, but you want to go swimming. Persuade your friend to go swimming. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of your friend.

Scenario 4: You want to learn to drive, as this would help in your role at work. You ask your manager if they will help to pay for the driving lessons. Persuade them that it would be a good idea for them to help as it will benefit the company. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of the manager.

Additional prompts allowed:

There should be a minimum of five 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:

*I can work better by myself.
We will end up talking about other things.
How will you help me practice?*

Scenario 2:

*We don't need it.
We can buy smoothies from the shop.
How often would you use it?*

Scenario 3:

*Cycling is more fun.
There's some great cycling paths we could use.
I do not have a swimming costume.*

Scenario 4:

*Why should I pay for your driving lessons?
How will it benefit the company?
Ok, how about if the company pays 50% of the fees?*

Thank the learner.

End of Examination.

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English Speaking Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

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 were going to help your friend with their homework, but you have to cancel. Call your friend and tell them why you can't help them.

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 2

**You buy a coat but you change your mind and want to return it. You go back to the shop.
Tell them you want a refund.**

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 3

You are not feeling well and need help with some work around the house. Speak with your friend and tell them what you need help with.

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 4

A new neighbour asks you about the facilities in your local area. Tell them about the different facilities and where they are.

What would you say?

Part Three - Scenario 1

You are preparing for your English exams and want to practise with your friend. Your friend prefers working by themselves. Persuade your friend that practising together is better.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of your friend.

Part Three - Scenario 2

You are shopping with a parent and see a discount on a smoothie maker. You want to buy it but your parent says no. Persuade your parent why you should buy it.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of the parent.

Part Three - Scenario 3

You want to spend some time with your friend. Your friend wants to go cycling, but you want to go swimming. Persuade your friend to go swimming.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of your friend.

Part Three - Scenario 4

You want to learn to drive, as this would help in your role at work. You ask your manager if they will help to pay for the driving lessons. Persuade them that it would be a good idea for them to help as it will benefit the company.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will play the role of the manager.

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