

ESOL International

English Speaking Examination

Level C1 Advanced

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 Advanced Level C1.
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 3.5 minutes)

I am now going to ask you some questions.

1. Can you tell me what you do to relax after a busy day?
2. Can you tell me three things that you do to keep healthy and why you believe it is important to look after yourself?
3. What do you think of public transport?
4. Where do you prefer to live; the city or countryside and give me three reasons why you prefer living there?
5. Can you tell me about someone you really admire and why you admire them?

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 3, the interlocutor may prompt by asking What kind of public transport do you use most? How often do you travel on public transport? Can you explain how much it costs to travel on public transport? Have you ever had any bad experiences travelling on public transport? 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 4 minutes)

*The interlocutor chooses **two of the 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.

Situation 1: An insurance company keeps phoning you asking if you have had a car accident. You don't own a car and don't know where they got your phone number from. You wish they would stop phoning you. They phone you again. What would you say?

Situation 2: Your new neighbour likes to listen to music, you like the music that your neighbour likes. However, at night the music is loud and often keeps you awake. This is a problem for you as it is making you tired. Explain to your neighbour why it is causing you a problem and ask them to take some action. What would you say?

Situation 3: Your friend is going on holiday and leaving their house empty. They are worried about keeping their house safe while they are away. You think you can help them by house sitting. What would you say?

Situation 4: You are going for a job interview but the traffic is bad and you are going to be late. You don't want to miss your interview and are worried they may think you are unreliable. You phone them. 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 have to ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response.*

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

Situation 1: *The learners may be prompted to explain what experience they have had with these calls, how they feel about receiving them, how do they find out people's phone numbers.*

Situation 3: *The learners may be prompted to express that they would be able to help by staying at their house, or checking on their house whilst they are away to give them piece of mind.*

Situation 2: *The learners may be prompted to explain how trees cause problems for people and property. How the music keeps them awake, how tired they are because of a lack of sleep. Offer a solution such as ear phones that your neighbour can use at night to listen to their music.*

Situation 4: *The learners may be prompted to give an apology and explanation for their lateness and make a request asking to rearrange the interview or make it at a later time. They could explain how they would reassure the manager that they are usually reliable and prompt.*

Thank the learner.

This is Part 3 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 6 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.

Scenario 1:

You and your friend have decided to get fit. Your friend wants to change what you eat as well as exercising. You think that this is a good idea, but think that healthier food is more expensive, and you may not be able to afford to change your diet. Your friend disagrees. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Scenario 2: You are studying history at university and your teacher has asked you to read a book about the Roman Empire. However, your friend decides to watch DVD's instead. Persuade your friend not to watch the DVD's. Explain your reasons why reading the book is better than watching DVD's. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your classmate.

Scenario 3: You want a pet and think a dog is the best pet to have. Your friend thinks a cat is the best pet to have. Compare the two pets and explain why a dog is the best pet in your opinion. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Scenario 4: You are going on holiday to France with a group of friends but one of them hates flying and wants to travel by boat. If you travel by boat, it will take twice as long to arrive in France. The airport is nearer your destination and is also more convenient for transport to your hotel. Convince your friend about the advantages of travelling by plane and reassure your friend it is a safe way to travel. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Additional information:

*There should be a minimum of **eight 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:

I know some health food shops that are not too expensive. We could buy frozen foods as they will be cheaper. We can get fruit and vegetables from the market.

Scenario 3:

A cat doesn't need walking. They are independent and cleaner than dogs. They are quieter and don't chew furniture. They are good company and don't need washing because they can look after themselves.

Scenario 2:

A DVD brings a book alive and images are easier to remember than words. Watching a DVD is quicker than reading a book. You can watch free films online but you have to buy a book.

Scenario 4:

Flying is scary. If anything bad happens, people can't fly but they can swim, so going by boat is better. Travelling by boat is cheaper and more relaxing. You can walk around on a boat. There are shops and cafes on a boat and you can walk on the deck in the fresh air.

Thank the learner.

End of Examination

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Prompt Sheet
Instructions to interlocutor

Please give the learner the correct sheets for the situations and scenarios being used in the examinations 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 and scenarios.

Part 2

Situation 1: An insurance company keeps phoning you asking if you have had a car accident. You don't own a car and don't know where they got your phone number from. You wish they would stop phoning you. They phone you again. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 2: Your new neighbour likes to listen to music, you like the music that your neighbour likes. However, at night the music is loud and often keeps you awake. This is a problem for you as it is making you tired. Explain to your neighbour why it is causing you a problem and ask them to take some action. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 3: Your friend is going on holiday and leaving their house empty. They are worried about keeping their house safe while they are away. You think you can help them by house sitting. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 4: You are going for a job interview but the traffic is bad and you are going to be late. You don't want to miss your interview and are worried they may think you are unreliable. You phone them. What would you say?

Part 3

Scenario 1:

You and your friend have decided to get fit. Your friend wants to change what you eat as well as exercising. You think that this is a good idea, but think that healthier food is more expensive, and you may not be able to afford to change your diet. Your friend disagrees.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes.

I will take the place of your friend.

Part 3

Scenario 2: You are studying history at university and your teacher has asked you to read a book about the Roman Empire. However, your friend decides to watch DVD's instead. Persuade your friend not to watch the DVD's. Explain your reasons why reading the book is better than watching DVD's.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes.

I will take the place of your classmate.

Part 3

Scenario 3: You want a pet and think a dog is the best pet to have. Your friend thinks a cat is the best pet to have. Compare the two pets and explain why a dog is the best pet in your opinion.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes.

I will take the place of your friend.

Part 3

Scenario 4: You are going on holiday to France with a group of friends but one of them hates flying and wants to travel by boat. If you travel by boat, it will take twice as long to arrive in France. The airport is nearer your destination and is also more convenient for transport to your hotel. Convince your friend about the advantages of travelling by plane and reassure your friend it is a safe way to travel. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

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I will take the place of your friend.

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