

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.

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 something you did yesterday.
2. Tell me three ways you could spend your time on a Sunday.
3. What is the weather like in your country?
4. Tell me about three things you would do if you could visit England. Why?
5. How often do you exercise or play sport?

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 things they like to do on a Sunday i.e. play football, go shopping, swimming. 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 would like to help a family member to prepare a meal. Tell them what sort of things you can do in the kitchen to help them to prepare or cook the food. What would you say?

Situation 2: You lost your bag in the park. You go to the police station. Tell them where and when you lost the bag and describe what was in the bag. What would you say?

Situation 3: You arranged to meet your friend at the cinema. You can't go because you have too much homework to do. You phone your friend to apologise and explain the situation. What would you say?

Situation 4: A tourist asks you where they can buy gifts to take home. Tell them about different places they could go to buy some gifts. 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 asked about simple tasks they can do in the kitchen such as cutting vegetables.*

Situation 2: *If the learner is struggling to think of ideas, they may be prompted by asking them simple questions about the colour of the bag and the contents.*

Situation 3: *The learner may be prompted to explain the reason why they cannot meet their friend because they have a maths test soon.*

Situation 4: *The learner could be prompted to talk about one or two interesting places in the area and what they can buy in the shops 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 shopping with a family member who has offered to buy you a t-shirt. You choose a t-shirt but they think it is too expensive. Convince them that the t-shirt is perfect for you and offer to help them to pay for it. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the family member.

Scenario 2: You are having a party at your house and playing your favourite music quite loudly. Your neighbour calls to complain because they are trying to sleep. Explain about the party and apologise. Persuade the neighbour to join the party. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your neighbour.

Scenario 3: You are planning to go to a restaurant with your friend. You prefer to eat Italian style food but they suggest trying a new restaurant serving Chinese food. Persuade them to eat at an Italian style restaurant explaining why you prefer this. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Scenario 4: A family member does not have a smartphone and does not think they need one. Persuade them that it would be a good idea for them to get one and explain why it would be useful for them to have a smartphone. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the family member.

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:

*That t-shirt is really very expensive.
I don't want to pay so much for a t-shirt.
How much do you want to pay towards it?*

Scenario 2:

*Why are you making so much noise?
I am trying to sleep.
Thank you, but I am working tomorrow.*

Scenario 3:

*I don't want to eat pizza.
Why don't we try the new restaurant serving Chinese food?
Why do you like Italian style food so much?*

Scenario 4:

*I don't need a smartphone.
Smartphones are very expensive.
Why would a smartphone be useful for me?*

Thank the learner.

End of Examination.



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ESOL International

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 would like to help a family member to prepare a meal. Tell them what sort of things you can do in the kitchen to help them to prepare or cook the food.

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 2

Situation 2: You lost your bag in the park. You go to the police station. Tell them where and when you lost the bag and describe what was in the bag.

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 3

You arranged to meet your friend at the cinema. You can't go because you have too much homework to do. You phone your friend to apologise and explain the situation.

What would you say?

Part Two - Situation 4

A tourist asks you where they can buy gifts to take home. Tell them about different places they could go to buy some gifts.

What would you say?

Part Three - Scenario 1

You are shopping with a family member who has offered to buy you a t-shirt. You choose a t-shirt but they think it is too expensive. Convince them that the t-shirt is perfect for you and offer to help them to pay for it.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the family member.

Part Three - Scenario 2

You are having a party at your house and playing your favourite music quite loudly. Your neighbour calls to complain because they are trying to sleep. Explain about the party and apologise. Persuade the neighbour to join the party.

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

Part Three - Scenario 3

You are planning to go to a restaurant with your friend. You prefer to eat Italian style food but they suggest trying a new restaurant serving Chinese food. Persuade them to eat at an Italian style restaurant explaining why you prefer this.

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

Part Three - Scenario 4

A family member does not have a smartphone and does not think they need one. Persuade them that it would be a good idea for them to get one and explain why it would be useful for them to have a smartphone.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the family member.

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