



**Test Format | Part 2 (Long Turn)**

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- 3 to 4 minutes (including 1-minute preparation time)
- you will be given a task card: you will have 1 minute to write notes down and get ready, then you will have 2 minutes to speak about the subject without interruption
- the examiner will ask a follow up question or two after your talk

**Criteria**

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Each of the four criteria counts equally. Around the beginning of Part 1, the examiner will write down a band score for each of the four criteria (*it means that the examiner already has an idea of what your band score more or less is*).

Then those numbers will be marked up or down during the test.

All the criteria count EQUALLY and are judged throughout all 3 parts of the speaking test.

The examiner then uses well defined criteria to assess your ability in the following areas:

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Fluency and Coherence</b>          | <b>Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)</b> |
| <b>Grammatical Range and Accuracy</b> | <b>Pronunciation</b>                 |

At the end of the test, the interviewer calculates the average of the four scores and that number will represent your final speaking band score.

*example:*

Grammatical Range and Accuracy	7	
Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)	7	
Pronunciation	6	= 24, which divided by 4 equals 6
Fluency and Coherence	4	<b>Band Score 6</b>

## Improving Band Score

### Fluency and Coherence

Mark Up for...	Mark Down for...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ speaking naturally <i>(try copying the speed of your examiner)</i> but <b>ONLY</b> if the pronunciation is good</li> <li>+ expanding answers with relevant information/details and using correct tenses and connectors</li> <li>+ answering the questions directly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- long, awkward pauses</li> <li>- not answering the question completely/correctly</li> </ul>

### Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)

Mark Up for...	Mark Down for...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ using a wide range of vocabulary</li> <li>+ using appropriate words</li> <li>+ correct usage of collocations and phrasal verbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- using unfamiliar vocabulary words or using words incorrectly</li> <li>- always using common and simple vocabulary</li> </ul>

### Grammar

Mark Up for...	Mark Down for...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ knowing how to use the basic verb tenses well</li> <li>+ making complex sentences, using <u>conjunctions</u> and <u>connectors</u></li> <li>+ making complex structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inconsistent tenses</li> <li>- always using simple sentences</li> <li>- constructing complex sentences incorrectly</li> </ul>

**Pronunciation**

**Mark Up for...**

- + easy to understand pronunciation
- + speaking CLEARLY so that every word can be understood
- + proper intonation to emphasize a certain meaning or idea
- + basic word pronunciation
- + linked sounds and connected speech  
*(not pronounced sound for sound)*

**Mark Down for...**

- repeatedly mispronounced words
- very fast or very long answers  
*(poor pronunciation or no coherence)*

**NO NEED FOR "American" OR "British" ACCENT**

## REMINDERS

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- There are no 'right' answers to the questions asked, concentrate on how you deliver your answer.
- Practice answering the questions, but do not learn or memorize the answers. Examiners can tell if you have memorized your answers.
- Use the 1 minute of preparation time wisely. Write down all the important keywords and phrases. Organize your thoughts, make sure you have prepared your signposting so that you can move from one topic to another easily.
- Follow the flow of the questions. It will show how well you can change from one topic to another.
- You are given two uninterrupted minutes to talk about the topic. Try to consume the whole two minutes. It's better to go over the two minutes than below.
- If you are not sure how to do it:
  - ▶ once you have spoken about one topic, check the next topic to discuss
  - ▶ take a short pause, relax and think about what to say next
  - ▶ look up at the examiner, make eye contact
  - ▶ signpost so that the examiner knows you will be talking about a new topic
- Make sure you elaborate and give the necessary details.  
for example:  
*"One of my many hobbies is taking pictures. (Don't stop here! Add more details/information!)  
I find taking pictures fun and challenging. It is also a great way of keeping precious memories."*
- ALWAYS offer examples to help you explain a statement.  
for example:  
*"I need it for my studies. (Don't stop here! Add more details/information!) I've been offered  
a place at a university in New York to continue my studies on Business Management, but I need to prove my level  
of English is good enough."*

## Questions

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1.) Talk about means of communication.

You should say:

- what the different means of communication are
- what your favorite means of communication is
- what the advantages and disadvantages of using it are

2.) Talk about a skill you have learned to do very well (e.g. cooking or driving).

You should say:

- what skill you acquired
- how you acquired that skill
- how important it is for you
- if you want to learn more about this skill.

3.) Talk about a visit to the carnival.

You should say:

- when you visited it
- what the good things about the carnival were
- how the carnival could have been organized better

4.) Describe an outdoor activity that you did for the first time.

You should say:

- what you did
- where and when you did it
- how you felt later
- if you would recommend this activity to your friends.

## Answers

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1.) Talk about means of communication.

You should say:

- what the different means of communication are
  - what your favorite means of communication is
  - what the advantages and disadvantages of using it are
- 

Words and Phrases:

*facilitate*

*“Communication is very important to impart information from one person to another. In medieval times, people used to communicate via various kinds of signs. Now, the means of communication have changed, but the purpose of is the same. Languages were invented to facilitate communication.*

*mentioned earlier*

*personally feel*

*There are lots of means of communication in the world. I would like to tell you about the means of communication which I use. I use the phone, the Internet, and letter. I personally feel that the phone is the best means of communication. I remember that once I was involved in a traffic accident while I was travelling alone in a rainy night. I did not know what to do, but I had my phone on me and I could call for help straight away.*

*save time*

*languages*

*straight away*

*waste*

*There are many advantages of using a phone. As I mentioned earlier, it can help you in case of emergency. In addition, phones are operating as mini-computers, as they have all the features which are available in a computer. Phones tend to save time when conveying a message, so I consider them to be one of the greatest inventions of all time.*

*via*

*impart*

*There are also some disadvantages to using the phone. The most obvious one is that people waste a lot of time and money by talking on the phone for hours and hours.”*

2.) Talk about a skill you have learned to do very well (e.g. cooking or driving).

You should say:

- what skill you acquired
- how you acquired that skill
- how important it is for you
- if you want to learn more about this skill.

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Words and Phrases:

*train in*

*"When I was a little girl, I used to love dancing, so my mother took me to dance classes. I loved them and learned lots of different styles of dancing. I started when I was about 7 or 8 years old and practiced all through the time I attended school. I even entered some competitions, but I never won any trophies.*

*grateful*

*comfort*

*compete*

*Competing wasn't really important for me though. I just loved dancing and the rhythm, the movements and stretching helped me keep fit. I didn't really appreciate it when I was younger, but I think I learned a lot of self-discipline from my dance classes. I also learned the value of perseverance as well.*

*all through the time*

*appreciate*

*different types/styles*

*self-discipline*

*My teacher was an ex-ballet dancer trained in classical dance in France, but she also taught us modern dance, so I grew up appreciating many different types of dancing. I still love to dance and I find it very comforting. I will always be very grateful to my mother for giving me the chance to learn this art form which I can enjoy for the rest of my life."*

*perseverance*

*chance to learn*

3.) Talk about a visit to the carnival.

You should say:

- when you visited it
- what the good things about the carnival were
- how the carnival could have been organized better

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Words and Phrases:

*dressed up*

*"I was recently asked to make all the arrangements for the school carnival. As you might know, the carnival is held every year and most of the schools celebrate it as a very important event.*

*held every...*

*tricks*

*First of all, I had to seek help from some volunteers, so I asked my cousins to help me out. It is a childrens' carnival, so I had to get the things which would be of interest to the children. I*

*arrangement*

*contacted a magician and asked him to perform some tricks at the event. This was a very interesting moment for the students. Another highlight would be that the theme of the*

*sell*

*carnival was "the jungle" and all the children dressed up as their favorite wild animals.*

*theme*

*I regret one decision which I made during the organization of the carnival. The carnival would have also acted as a fund raiser if I could have sold some tickets, but the students weren't very eager to pay money in order to be able to attend."*

*volunteer*

*magician*

*animals*

*ticket*

4.) Describe an outdoor activity that you did for the first time.

You should say:

- what you did
- where and when you did it
- how you felt later
- if you would recommend this activity to your friends.

Words and Phrases:

*risk*

*"Last week, I was invited by a friend to go rock climbing. Well, to be honest, it was rock climbing but indoors, not on an actual mountain. He's been doing it for about six months. He tried to explain to me about the 'rock wall' that they use to practice and it all sounded very interesting.*

*gain confidence*

*good reason*

*basic techniques*

*accompany*

*apprehensive*

*demanding*

*at the beginning*

*safety aspects*

*get started*

*So, on a Friday evening, he asked me what my plans were for the next day. I told him that I hadn't planned anything special. That's when he told me that he was going to take me to a rock climbing center in the city and show me what it was all about. I'd forgotten all about our conversation until he invited me to go with him.*

*It was great fun, although I was a little apprehensive at first. The instructor was very helpful; I started practicing on the ground and on a very low wall to gain confidence, so there was very little risk. After training with the instructor for a few hours and learning all about the safety aspects and the basic techniques used in climbing, I thought that was the end of the activity. Little did I know that my friend had arranged for us to visit a place just outside of town where we could actually climb on real rocks!*

*It was a beautiful day and after practicing on the indoor wall, I really wanted to try climbing on some real rocks, so off we went. When we arrived, there were quite a few people climbing already. My friend helped me get started and accompanied me all the time. He was very patient.*

*I have to admit that it was a great day. I did something new and exciting that I'd never done before. I really liked it and I'll try it again soon. I'll probably have to try and improve my fitness level, because it seems to be quite demanding physically, but hey, that's a good reason to get toned and fit."*