



Test Format | Part 2 (Long Turn)

- 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

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:

Fluency and Coherence	Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	Pronunciation

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	Band Score 6

Improving Band Score

Fluency and Coherence

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

Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)

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

Grammar

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

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

- 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

1.) Describe a major event in your country.

You should say:

- who takes part in the event
- what is important about the event
- why you like/dislike this event

2.) Describe your favorite perfume.

You should say:

- what the name of the perfume is
- how the smell is
- if people should wear perfume

3.) Talk about a musical instrument you like.

You should say:

- which musical instrument you can play
- if you got training for it
- how you feel after playing it

4.) Talk about yourself having a healthy lifestyle.

You should say:

- what stops you from having a healthy lifestyle
- what the disadvantages of not having a healthy lifestyle are
- what you can do in order to have a healthier lifestyle

Answers

1.) Describe a major event in your country.

You should say:

- who takes part in the event
 - what is important about the event
 - why you like/dislike this event
-

Words and Phrases:

<i>involve</i>	<i>"Every year in October or November we celebrate the festival of Chhath; it is an ancient Hindu festival which is <u>dedicated</u> to the sun god Surya. It lasts for four days and there are <u>various activities</u> that people do or are <u>involved in</u> during that period.</i>
<i>traditional food</i>	
<i>activity</i>	<i>People believe that Surya is responsible for maintaining life on Earth so they pray, <u>offer thanks</u> and also make wishes for things they would like to happen in their lives. It's <u>thought</u> that worshipping the sun brings good fortune to the whole family. The first day of Chhath <u>involves</u> people bathing. Many people go to a holy river, and they sometimes take the holy water home with them to use in the preparation of the offerings.</i>
<i>come together</i>	
<i>dedicated</i>	
<i>nowadays</i>	<i>People cook <u>traditional vegetarian food</u>, using a special stove made from dirt. The ancient <u>belief</u> is that that the utensils used for cooking should be wooden, but <u>nowadays</u> many people use metal ones.</i>
<i>belief</i>	
<i>various</i>	<i>On the second day, people have to fast and are allowed to eat again only after the sun has gone down. The <u>traditional food</u> includes rice and puffed-wheat as well as bananas.</i>
<i>seem like</i>	<i>On the third day of this event, people spend most of the time preparing food and praying. There is also chanting or traditional singing. It can <u>seem like</u> a carnival at times, when friends and family all <u>come together</u> to celebrate it. "</i>
<i>offer thanks</i>	

2.) Describe your favorite perfume.

You should say:

- what the name of the perfume is
- how the smell is
- if people should wear perfume

Words and Phrases:

<i>lame excuse</i>	<i>"The name of my favorite perfume is Sultry. This perfume is only <u>available</u> in my city and it is growing in popularity each day. I had gone to the mall and I saw an advertisement over there. First I was unsure about whether to buy it or not, but then I decided to buy it. The smell was just <u>incredible</u>. I was so <u>crazy about the perfume</u> that I bought 10 bottles and <u>whenever</u> I go to a restaurant or to a friend's house I wear the perfume.</i>
<i>at least</i>	
<i>complain</i>	
<i>available</i>	<i>It is impossible to describe the smell of a perfume, but I will try to describe how I feel after I wear it on. The smell is very strong and it <u>remains</u> on you for <u>at least 24 hours</u>. The smell of the perfume makes me feel very powerful. My friends told me that the perfume <u>smells like</u> chocolate. Some people even say that the perfume <u>smells like a flower</u>, but I think that Sultry <u>smells like a thunderstorm</u>.</i>
<i>smell like</i>	
<i>associate</i>	
<i>remain</i>	<i>People have often <u>associated</u> perfume with women, but I feel both women and men should use it. Also, perfume shouldn't be worn only on special occasions: it is a <u>good idea to wear</u> perfume every day, to make a lasting impression on the people you meet. Some people <u>complain</u> that they do not have the money to spend on perfumes, but I think it is just a <u>lame excuse</u>, because if people can spend so much money on clothes in order to look good, how can they not spend money on smelling good?"</i>
<i>whenever</i>	
<i>good idea to</i>	
<i>incredible</i>	
<i>crazy about</i>	

3.) Talk about a musical instrument you like.

You should say:

- which musical instrument you can play
- if you got training for it
- how you feel after playing it

Words and Phrases:

<i>learn</i>	<i>"I am very good at playing the piano and I regard it as a very special musical instrument. When I was a child, I was really inspired by the guitar because my favorite artists were</i>
<i>spend ... hours</i>	<i>playing it, but when I played it myself, I did not like it. My fingers used to hurt a lot whenever I used to play the guitar, so I thought about trying something else. I bought the</i>
<i>inspired by</i>	<i>piano with money I had received for one of my birthdays. It was not a very expensive piano, but it still has all the good features which one would expect in a good piano.</i>
<i>train</i>	<i>I did not get any training for the piano. I used to spend 3 to 4 hours on the piano and I used</i>
<i>amateur</i>	<i>to try to play some tunes. During the first 2 weeks I was not successful, but as time progressed, I started learning. It would not be wrong to say that I did not get any help from</i>
<i>expect</i>	<i>anywhere because I only used to watch some free online piano tutorials on Youtube.</i>
<i>regard it as</i>	<i>There are also other websites which have a lot of articles that can help the amateur piano learners.</i>
<i>tutorial</i>	<i>I feel so good after playing the piano that I cannot even describe it in words. I mostly like to</i>
<i>progress</i>	<i>play the tune of my favorite song and I also sing while I am playing the song."</i>
<i>wrong to say</i>	

4.) Talk about yourself having a healthy lifestyle.

You should say:

- what stops you from having a healthy lifestyle
- what the disadvantages of not having a healthy lifestyle are
- what you can do in order to have a healthier lifestyle

Words and Phrases:

life involves

"I want to enjoy a healthier lifestyle although there are many factors that make this difficult. Like many people, my working life involves many hours sitting down at a desk.

prone

This leads to a lack of exercise and is bad for eyes and body posture. Travelling to work by car does not help either. Outside of work there is not always time to exercise or to prepare healthy meals.

lack of exercise

slow down

I know this kind of lifestyle affects my health and fitness and makes me more prone to suffer from illness. It also makes me gain weight. In order to have a healthier lifestyle, I

leads to

need to change the routine of my daily life, for example by cycling or walking to work instead of driving. I need to ensure I exercise regularly. I also need to be careful about

many factors

what I eat and focus especially on fruits and vegetables.

instead of

While at work, I should take regular breaks to step away from the computer in order to relax my eyes and stretch my body. I plan to slow down and take time to enjoy the simple

routine

pleasures like a well-cooked healthy meal or some sport in the sunshine."

simple pleasure

ensure

gain weight