**IELTS – Sample Speaking Test Questions**

**OVERVIEW:**

To help universities and colleges select students with sufficient English skills to succeed in their courses, The **IELTS** test was introduced in 1989 to assess “whether candidates are ready to train in the medium of English”. It is now used for this purpose around the globe.

There are four sub-tests, taken in the following order:

* **Listening**

IELTS listening test lasts for about 30 minutes. It consists of four sections, played on cassette tape, in order of increasing difficulty. Each section might be a dialogue or a monologue. The test is played once only, and the questions for each section must be answered while listening, although time is given for students to check their answers.

* **Reading,**

Answer multiple choice questions

* **Writing,**

**IELTS** tests your ability to produce two quite different pieces of writing in a fairly short period of time. The test is divided into two parts and you are allowed one hour to complete both parts.  
  
**IELTS Writing Task 1**  
In the first part, you are given a task based on some graphic or pictorial information. You are expected to write a descriptive report of at least 150 words on the information provided.  
  
**IELTS Writing Task 2**  
The second task is more demanding. You are expected to produce a written argument on a given topic and to organise your answer clearly, given some examples to support your points. You will have to write at least 250 words and, as Task 2 is longer than Task 1, you are advised to spend approximately 40 minutes on this task and 20 minutes on the first task.

* **Speaking**

IELTS Speaking is a one-to-one interaction between the candidate and an examiner. The three parts give the candidate the opportunity to use a range of different speaking skills. IELTS Speaking is recorded.  
**Timing**11 – 14 minutes

Students must sit all four sub-tests. While all students take the same Listening and Speaking tests, they sit different Reading and Writing tests, depending on whether they have selected the Academic IELTS test or the General Training IELTS test.

From: <http://www.ielts-exam.net/>

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**Sample IELTS Speaking Test Questions**

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**AUGUST, 2010 (From British Council)**

**Card 1. What is an advertisement?**

- What are the advantages & disadvantages?

- What is your favorite ad?

- Do you think ad is required for a product to sell?

**Card 2. Talk about an international personality?**

- What is her/his name?

-Why is she/he famous?

From: <http://www.teconline.in/forum/post/2010/08/31/Recently-Asked-Difficult-Questions-In-IELTS-Speaking-Exams-August-2010.aspx>

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Three IELTS Speaking tests were shared by our friends from the UK, France and Australia. Here they are:

**Speaking test 1**

**Interview**  
- What is your full name?  
- Do you study or work?  
- Where are you from?  
- Questions about hometown.

**Cue Card**  
Talk about a person that you have lived with, please say  
- who that person was,  
- how long you stayed together for,  
- what activities you shared.

**Discussion**  
- Questions regarding the changing concept of family, why is this happening.  
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of staying alone?  
- What qualities are required to live with and to adjust to other people with whom we are residing?  
- What changes does it bring to one’s personality?  
- What influences our choice of career?

**Speaking test 2**

**Interview**  
- What is your name?  
- Do you work or study?  
- Did you have other jobs prior to your current job?  
- Which job did you enjoy the most? Why?  
- What is your opinion about libraries?  
- Do you like or dislike libraries?  
- Should libraries be free of charge?  
- Are they free in your country?  
- What newspapers do you read? Why?

**Cue Card**  
Talk about a book that you love, please say  
- what this book is about,  
- why you love it,  
- who gave it to you.

Follow-up question: Do you still have a copy of that book?

**Speaking test 3**

**Interview**  
- What country are you from?  
- Do you work or study?  
- Do you have a mobile phone?  
- When did you get your first mobile phone?

**Cue Card**  
Talk about the most popular music in your country, please say  
- what type of music that is,  
- why this type of music is so popular in your country, and  
- how do people like to listen to this music.

**Discussion**  
- Why do people dream of becoming popular rock stars?  
- Why does advertising use music?  
- Why do people listen to different kinds of music?  
- How does internet impact on music?

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**Academic IELTS Speaking Module 1**

* **Part 1 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. What's your name?
  2. What do you do?
  3. Where do you come from?
  4. Do you like your country?
  5. What do you like about your country?
  6. What street do you live in?
  7. What is the street called?
  8. Why is your street called this way?
  9. Do you like your street?
  10. What do you like in your street?
  11. Do you like living in Kharkov city? Why?
  12. Are you a city dweller? Why?
  13. What do you like doing with your friends?
  14. What is your favourite meal?
  15. Who cooks in your family?
  16. What is their best meal (house special)?
* **Part 2 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. Tell me about an important event in your life.
  2. **Follow-up question**. Do you prefer celebrating family occasions at home or in a cafe? Why?
* **Part 3 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. Is it important to celebrate different events in our lives?
  2. Are you a goal-settler? Why?

**General IELTS Speaking Module I**

* **Part 1 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. What's your name?
  2. Are you working or studying?
  3. How long have you been working for this company?
  4. What are you main duties?
  5. What do you like about work you do?
  6. What do you want to change or improve in it?
  7. Do you like shopping?
  8. What do you usually shop for? What food?
  9. What items do you buy? Why?
  10. What time do you do the shopping? Why?
* **Part 2 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. Describe a child you know.
  2. How old is he or she?
  3. What does he look like?
  4. How are you related?
* **Part 3 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. What kind of children activities are there available in your city?
  2. What do you need to do to interest a child in such activities?
  3. What activities do you think there will be in the future?
  4. What kind of pressure do children have at school?
  5. What is your view of the school of the future?

**General IELTS Speaking Module II**

* **Part 1 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. What is your full name?
  2. Where do you live?
  3. Tell me about the city you live in.
* **Part 2 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. How do people spend holidays in your country?
  2. Do you think the travelling industry is developing successfully in your country?
* **Part 3 of the IELTS Speaking Module**
  1. What kind of travelling do you prefer in your country?
  2. What is your favourite food?
  3. What is your favourite restaurant?

From: <http://www.eclecticenglish.com/worksheets/IELTS1A.html>