

Cambridge ESOL Certificates in Skills for Life

Speaking and Listening Mode

Level 2 Past Paper 5

Please note: With the exception of the task cards in Phases 1b and 2b, this sample test frame will be used only by the interlocutor. It will not be shown to the candidates.

🕒 3 mins overall

Phase 1a

Hello. My name is _____ (*Interlocutor*), and this is my colleague _____ (*Assessor*).
And what are your names? [*Look at both candidates in turn.*]

Thank you. Could I have your mark sheets? [*Collect mark sheets and hand to assessor.*] Thank you.

The first part of the test will be about people and relationships, and you will each give a **formal** presentation, but first I'd like you to talk together and share your ideas on the subject.

Find out from each other about whether you like to spend time alone or with other people. You have about two minutes to ask each other about this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

[Withdraw eye contact to signal that candidates should start. If necessary, prompt candidates with questions from the box below (e.g. if candidates are experiencing difficulty in continuing the interaction, if they stray from the topic or if the language produced is clearly below L2 level). Adapt if necessary. Encourage candidate-candidate interaction by eliciting agreement or alternative opinions from candidates by saying things such as "What do you think?", "Tell us what you think.", "And you?"]

People and relationships – prompts

Talk about:

- when you prefer to spend time alone.
- the things you enjoy doing with your friends.
- the things you enjoy doing with your family.
- whether you prefer to study alone or with other people.

Thank you.

🕒 10 mins overall

Phase 1b

Now you are each going to give a **formal** presentation for about two minutes on the topic of group relationships. While you are talking, we will listen to you. Your partner and the assessor [*Indicate assessor.*] will then comment or ask you questions about what you have said.

_____ (*Candidate A*), [*Hand Candidate A a candidate booklet – open at correct page – and point at task.*] you are going to talk about whether you think it's a good thing for young people to feel part of a group.

"It isn't necessarily a good thing for young people to feel part of a group."

What do you think?

For example, think about:

- why people feel the need to be part of a group.
- how young people influence each other.
- the advantages of acting independently.

_____ (*Candidate B*), [*Hand Candidate B a candidate booklet – open at correct page – and point at task.*] you are going to talk about whether you think people can work well together without a leader.

"People can work well together without a leader."

What do you think?

For example, think about:

- the workplace.
- sports and leisure activities.
- families.

🕒 1 min

You both have one minute to think about what you want to say. You can make notes if you want to. [*Indicate paper and pencil.*] If there's anything you don't understand, please ask me.

[*Withdraw eye contact to signal start of preparation.*]

🕒 2 mins

_____ (Candidate A), are you ready? [Allow up to 15 seconds.] Please tell us all [Indicate using hand gesture.] whether you think it's a good thing for young people to feel part of a group. _____ (Candidate B), please listen, and then comment or ask questions at the end. All right?

[If the candidate stops before 2 minutes, allow a 5-second pause. If the candidate shows no sign of continuing, move on.]

Thank you.

🕒 2 mins

_____ (Candidate B), please comment or ask _____ (Candidate A) any questions that you have.

Thank you. _____ (Assessor), do you have any comments or questions? [Wait for end of interaction.]

Assessor: Thank you.

[Retrieve Candidate A's booklet.]

🕒 2 mins

_____ (Candidate B), are you ready, or would you like to look at your notes again? [Allow up to 15 seconds.] All right? Please tell us all [Indicate using hand gesture.] whether you think people can work well together without a leader. _____ (Candidate A), please listen, and then comment or ask questions at the end. All right?

[If the candidate stops before 2 minutes, allow a 5-second pause. If the candidate shows no sign of continuing, move on.]

Thank you.

🕒 2 mins

_____ (Candidate A), please comment or ask _____ (Candidate B) any questions that you have.

Thank you. _____ (Assessor), do you have any comments or questions? [Wait for end of interaction.]

Assessor: Thank you.

[Retrieve Candidate B's booklet.]

In this part of the test, you are going to listen to two recordings [*Indicate CD player.*] and answer some questions. All right?

You are listening to a talk about things to consider when setting up a business.

Listen to the first part of the talk, giving some general advice, and answer these questions. You can make notes [*Indicate paper.*] if you want to.

_____ (*Candidate A*), why are many people afraid to start their own business? [*short pause*] And what sort of person do you need to be in order to succeed in business?

_____ (*Candidate B*), what does the speaker say you must do **first**? [*short pause*] And why does he recommend having your own website?

[*Pause for up to 10 seconds to allow time for notes.*]

All right? Listen to the first part of the talk. [*Indicate CD player and play CD.*]

Recording A

Man: 'Good morning everyone. I'm Tony Langham from Business Startup and I'm very pleased to have been invited here to talk to you all today about how to set up your own business. I'd like to begin by saying that a lot of people are worried that it would be too expensive to start a small business. It's just not true. Usually it only takes a very modest initial financial investment to get your plan up and running. Doing some research is always helpful. You know, testing your ideas out on your friends and so on. But it is essential that before you do anything else you make a business plan. Otherwise you could waste a lot of time and effort. As far as your character is concerned, I'd say you need to be determined to make your business work, even if you can't see any immediate reward. Keep at it, don't give up.

And I also strongly recommend that you have your own website – even for a very local business. If you don't actually sell things online it's still the cheapest way to advertise and these days more and more people are ...'

_____ (*Candidate A*), why are many people afraid to start their own business? [*Wait for response.*] And what sort of person do you need to be in order to succeed in business?

_____ (*Candidate B*), what does the speaker say you must do **first**? [*Wait for response.*] And why does he recommend having your own website?

Thank you.

Now listen to the second part of the talk, about the financial issues involved, and answer these questions. Again, you can make notes [*Indicate paper.*] if you want to.

_____ (*Candidate B*), why does the speaker say you need an accountant? [*short pause*] And who does he say you should talk to before opening a bank account?

_____ (*Candidate A*), who does the speaker say you **shouldn't** have a partnership with? [*short pause*] And what does he say you are personally responsible for?

[*Pause for up to 10 seconds to allow time for notes.*]

All right? Listen to the second part of the talk. [Indicate CD player and play CD.]

Recording B

Man: ' ... and now moving onto more specific financial advice. When it comes to accounts, you can do the administration accounting yourself – that'll tell you if you're making more money than you are spending. But you will definitely have to find a qualified accountant as well. Filling in tax forms is incredibly time consuming but that's not really the issue – you really need one because tax is so complicated these days. So put all the paperwork into an envelope and give it to an expert to deal with. Also, although I'm not against business partnerships generally – family run companies are, after all, found everywhere – I do not recommend going into business with friends. If, however, you do decide to go down that road, put all the financial aspects down in black and white, and have it legally witnessed. As for opening a bank account, go for an account which doesn't involve you having to pay business rates. And to get the best deal, always consult the bank's business advisor prior to making your final decision as to which one is best. Finally, remember it's your business and checking your costs is your responsibility. These include electricity, fuel, insurance and so on. And that's an ongoing day-to-day thing.'

_____ (Candidate B), why does the speaker say you need an accountant? [Wait for response.] And who does he say you should talk to before opening a bank account?

_____ (Candidate A), who does the speaker say you *shouldn't* have a partnership with? [Wait for response.] And what does he say you are personally responsible for?

Thank you.

Key to Phase 2a

Recording A:

Candidate A:

Why are many people afraid to start their own business?
***(they think it is) too expensive**

What sort of person do you need to be in order to succeed in business?
***(you need to be) determined**

Candidate B:

What does the speaker say you must do *first*?
***make a business plan**

Why does he recommend having your own website?
***(it's the cheapest way) to advertise**

Recording B:

Candidate B:

Why does the speaker say you need an accountant?
***(because) tax is (so) complicated (these days)**

Who does he say you should talk to before opening a bank account?
(the bank's) business advisor

Candidate A:

Who does the speaker say you *shouldn't* have a partnership with?
friends

What does he say you are personally responsible for?
***checking your costs**

***accept paraphrasing**

🕒 approx. 4 mins

Now you're going to talk together about working for yourself or for a large organisation. Look at these statements [*Hand out candidate booklets open at correct page.*] **and discuss whether you agree with them or not.** [*Read out statements whilst pointing at task in candidate booklets.*]

"Working with other people is more satisfying than being self-employed."
"You can never be a real individual when you work for a large organisation."

You have three minutes to talk to each other about this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

*[Withdraw eye contact to signal that candidates should start. If candidates do not start within 10 seconds, ask: **Would you like to start now?**]*

[If necessary, prompt candidates with questions from the box below (e.g. if candidates are experiencing difficulty in continuing the interaction, if they stray from the topic or if the language produced is clearly below L2 level). Adapt if necessary. Encourage candidate-candidate interaction by eliciting agreement or alternative opinions from candidates by saying things such as "What do you think?", "Tell us what you think.", "And you?"]

Working for yourself or for a large organisation – prompts

Talk about:

- the advantages and disadvantages of being self-employed.
- the advantages and disadvantages of working for a large company.
- which of these ways of working you would prefer.

Thank you.

[Retrieve candidate booklets.]

🕒 approx. 4 mins

Finally we're going to talk together about job satisfaction, and _____ (Assessor) is going to join the discussion and ask some questions. All right?

_____ (Assessor)?

[Using the prompts below, and adapting where necessary to respond naturally to contributions, engage in four-way discussion, alternating questions with the assessor.]

Job satisfaction – extension questions

- Is it important to really like the job you do?
- How important is it to have prospects for promotion?
- Is it better to stay in one job or try lots of different jobs?

[Ask further questions as necessary.]

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

Level 2, Phase 1b

Candidate A

"It isn't necessarily a good thing for young people to feel part of a group."

What do you think?

For example, think about:

- why people feel the need to be part of a group.
- how young people influence each other.
- the advantages of acting independently.

Level 2, Phase 1b

Candidate B

"People can work well together without a leader."

What do you think?

For example, think about:

- the workplace.
- sports and leisure activities.
- families.

Level 2, Phase 2b

"Working with other people is more satisfying than being self-employed."

"You can never be a real individual when you work for a large organisation."