

What is IELTS Speaking Part 1?

Worksheet

Part 1 is a brief, personal Q&A session where the examiner asks questions about your interests, family, hobbies, hometown, work, or studies — using simple, conversational English.

Questions

1. How long is IELTS Speaking Part 1?
A) 2–3 minutes
B) 4–5 minutes
C) 6–8 minutes
D) 10 minutes or more
2. What should you do if you don't understand a Part 1 question?
A) Stay silent to think
B) Say 'I don't know'
C) Politely ask the examiner to repeat or explain
D) Give a generic answer to any question
3. In Part 1, should you try to use advanced vocabulary?
A) Yes, always use complex words to impress
B) Use natural vocabulary appropriate to familiar topics; don't force complexity
C) Use only simple words to avoid mistakes
D) Memorize complex answers and repeat them exactly
4. Which answer is better for Part 1?
A) 'Yes.' (very brief)
B) 'I like reading books.' (very short)
C) 'I really enjoy reading fantasy novels. They transport me to different worlds. I read about 2–3 books a month.' (natural length)
D) 'I perambulate through multitudinous bibliographic endeavors.' (overly complex)
5. Examiner: 'Tell me, what do you like to do in your free time?'
6. Examiner: 'Can you describe your hometown?'
7. Examiner: 'Do you prefer working or studying? Why?'
8. Define: What is Part 1 of IELTS Speaking?
9. Define: How is Part 1 scored?
10. Define: What are common Part 1 topics?

Answer Key

1. B) 4-5 minutes — Part 1 is the introduction phase lasting 4-5 minutes. Part 2 is 2 minutes, Part 3 is 4-5 minutes.
2. C) Politely ask the examiner to repeat or explain — Asking for clarification is normal and shows communication skills. Never stay silent or give unrelated answers.
3. B) Use natural vocabulary appropriate to familiar topics; don't force complexity — Natural, appropriate vocabulary on familiar topics is ideal. Forcing complexity or memorizing sounds artificial and hurts fluency.
4. C) 'I really enjoy reading fantasy novels. They transport me to different worlds. I read about 2-3 books a month.' (natural length) — Option C is conversational, demonstrates fluency, and provides enough detail without being too long or artificial.
5. Answer structure: state what you do + why you enjoy it + how often Example: 'I really enjoy hiking. It helps me stay fit and connect with nature. I usually go on weekends if the weather is good.' Technique: use 'because', 'that's why', link ideas naturally
6. Structure: location + size/character + what makes it special + personal connection Example: 'I'm from Istanbul, a large coastal city in Turkey. It's known for its rich history, spanning two continents. I love the vibrant culture and the food.' Technique: add specific details to sound natural and fluent
7. Give a clear opinion + reason(s) + example if possible Example: 'I prefer studying at the moment because I want to build a strong foundation in my field. It keeps me motivated and opens more career doors.' Technique: explain 'why', not just 'what'
8. A 4-5 minute introduction where the examiner asks personal questions about familiar topics (hobbies, family, hometown, work, studies).
9. It contributes equally to all four criteria: Fluency & Coherence, Lexical Range, Grammatical Accuracy, and Pronunciation.
10. Hobbies and interests, family, hometown/city, work or studies, daily routine, friends, food, travel, technology, childhood.

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