

## Guide to PAPER 5 Speaking

PAPER 5 consists of four parts. There are two students and two examiners. One examiner communicates with the students and the other concentrates on assessment. During the test students talk with the examiner, with each other and individually. Pictures and other visual prompts are used to stimulate discussion.

This paper tests your ability to describe and comment on visuals, to negotiate and collaborate with your partner, and to summarise and develop conclusions.

### Part 1: Social Interaction (page 33)

The examiners will introduce themselves then ask whether you and your partner know each other. They will invite you to ask each other general questions on topics such as your interests, current studies or job, or future plans.

In this part you should:

- ask and answer general information questions.
- talk about your current job, studies, interests, living conditions or plans for the future.
- express opinions about any of these topics.

### Part 2: Individual Long Turn (page 33)

You talk for one minute without interruption, in response to photographs, diagrams or cartoons. You then make a brief (20 second) comment on the other candidate's photographs after he / she has spoken for one minute.

In this part you should:

- compare and contrast what you can see in the pictures, and the ideas suggested by them.
- give reasons for, and explanations of, the situations shown in the photos and related situations and topics.
- talk about possibilities, what might have happened and what could happen in the future.
- comment briefly on the pictures that the other candidate speaks about for one minute.
- not interrupt the other candidate.

### Part 3: Collaborative Task (page 33)

You and your partner discuss a decision-making / problem-solving task, illustrated by visual material, without interruption by the examiner. The task may involve speculating or prioritising.

In this part you should:

- give your own opinions and listen to those of the other candidate.
- explain and justify your opinions.
- make suggestions and discuss possibilities.

- agree or disagree, giving reasons.
- reach an agreed decision or agree to disagree.

### Part 4: Discussion (page 33)

Part 4 is an extension of Part 3. The same task is discussed but now the examiner joins in the discussion.

In this part you should do everything you did in Part 3, and also:

- summarise your discussion.
- develop points further in response to the examiner's comments.

### Exam tips

- Listen carefully to questions asked by the examiners and your partner.
- Show interest in what your partner is saying.
- Do not say that you 'don't know' about a particular topic. Try to find something relevant to say.
- Do not try to rehearse what you will say because this will be obvious to the examiners. They may interrupt you with questions that require unrehearsed answers.
- Do not worry if you think your partner is much better or worse than you. The examiners are not comparing you with your partner. They are giving you each a separate mark according to the assessment criteria.
- If you do not understand something, ask for clarification. Carrying out the task depends on your understanding what the examiner has asked you to do.

### How is the Speaking Paper marked?

You are given marks for:

**Grammar and Vocabulary:** This refers to the accurate and appropriate use of grammar and vocabulary. The range of vocabulary used is also assessed.

**Discourse Management:** This includes student's ability to express ideas and opinions in coherent, connected speech. Students are expected to express or justify opinions using a range of linguistic structures.

**Pronunciation:** This refers to student's ability to produce comprehensible English, as well as the natural linking of words, and the use of stress and intonation to convey meaning.

**Interactive Communication:** This applies to Parts 1 and 3 and focuses on student's ability to take turns and participate actively in discussions.

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## Tip Strip

**Part 1:** Remember that in Part 1 the examiner speaks to both candidates and the candidates speak to each other.

**Part 2:** You don't have to describe the photos in great detail. The important thing is to discuss the topic that the photo illustrates.

**Part 3:** Remember to look at the other candidate, not at the examiner. Don't speak too quietly – the examiner needs to hear what you are saying.

**Part 4:** In this part you will be looking at the examiner and also at the other candidate. Always look at the person you are speaking to.

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## Tip Strip

- Don't panic if you are given a picture and you do not know the words to describe what is in it. Use paraphrase and expressions such as 'the thing in the corner', 'the stuff he's carrying' and 'the thing used for ... +ing'.

## Part 3

- Co-operate with your partner. Take turns and provide opportunities for your partner to continue speaking on the same topic. Ask questions or make statements that invite a response.