

## Exploring Skills for English Tests

# Speaking Part 2: A1 and A2

### Format of the task

There are three parts to the Speaking tests. **Part 1** of the Speaking test is NOT assessed but allows the candidates to familiarise themselves with the test and the system.

In Part 2, candidates hear questions on two topics related to personal and everyday life.

There are five questions per topic, 10 questions in total in Part 2.

In Part 3, candidates are presented with a scenario and respond to 5 prompts. The task allows them to engage with the scenario and reflects the kinds of conversations which would take place in a given context.

Candidates hear each prompt and are given 35 seconds to give their answer. The topics and the language of the prompts are accessible and appropriate to A1 and A2 candidates.

Scenarios include inviting a friend to party, talking about jobs and study, describing an event you have attended with a friend, shopping and basic everyday occurrences.

### Skills/functions being elicited

In Part 3 of the Speaking tests, candidates are assessed on their ability to provide language in relation to a given scenario or context using simple, basic English. Prompts will focus on aspects such as:

- Giving time, date and location of an event
- Inviting someone to an event
- Describing what happened or will happen at an event
- Describing likes and dislikes
- Naming/listening activities
- Asking for goods and prices at a shop

Note that these are adapted to suit each scenario and to A1 or A2 level.

### Tips for teachers

Provide students with opportunities to:

- practice using formulaic language such as inviting people to an event
- become familiar with the vocabulary and phrases needed to talk about their everyday life events such as giving dates and times
- practice in talking about their likes and dislikes
- practice dialogues in different situations
- expand on their responses where appropriate and relevant

## Tips for learners

- Learn words and phrases needed to use in everyday situations such as ordering food in a café or shopping
- Practise talking about things you do everyday
- Practise describing things and saying what you like and dislike
- Remember, you can just answer the question or say more things if you like

## Sample Speaking Part 3 Task

In this part of the test, you are going to talk about food you want to buy.

1. Say what kind of fruit you like.
2. Ask for the price of your fruit.
3. Say how many kilos of fruit you want to buy.
4. Say why you want to buy the fruit.
5. Say when you will visit the shop again.

The scenario is always given at the beginning of Part 3.

Candidates will have to provide some of the information themselves, such as naming the fruit here.

## Sample Speaking Part 3 Response

1. I would like some apples please.
2. How much is a kilo of apples?
3. Can I have 2 kilos of apples please, and 1 kilo of grapes.
4. I want to make a cake with the apples for my mother.
5. I'll see you next Friday/See you next week. Goodbye.

It's good to respond in full sentences where possible.

Candidates can add to their response.

Some formulaic language is expected at A1 and A2 levels.

**Note:** this sample task is for guidance purposes only. For examples of level-specific listening tasks, please refer to the Skills for English Practice Tests available through the Skills for English website: <https://skillsforenglish.com/language-learning/>