

IELTS Speaking Current Topics 2026

Part 1 questions, Part 2 cue cards and linked Part 3 discussion prompts - 7.15-8.07
Predicted

FREE PRINTABLE RESOURCE

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How to use this topic pack

This is an independent preparation collection for the active predicted question-bank cycle. It is not an official IELTS paper, no question is guaranteed, and the questions in your test can be different. Use the range to practise transferable skills rather than memorising complete answers.

Suggested routine

- Part 1: answer directly, then add one reason or personal detail.
- Part 2: plan for one minute using keywords, then speak for one to two minutes.
- Part 3: state a position, explain it and support it with an example or comparison.
- Record before reading a model answer; review one criterion at a time.

Official format reminder

The official Speaking test lasts 11-14 minutes. Part 1 takes 4-5 minutes, Part 2 takes 3-4 minutes including one minute of preparation, and Part 3 takes 4-5 minutes. Academic and General Training candidates take the same Speaking test.

Source: <https://ielts.org/take-a-test/test-types/ielts-academic-test/ielts-academic-format-speaking>

Part 1 topics - 7.15-8.07 Predicted

Answer each question aloud in two to four natural sentences. The sentence count is a practice guide, not an official rule.

Clothing

- What kind of clothes do you like to wear?
- Do you prefer to wear comfortable and casual clothes or smart clothes?
- Do you like wearing T-shirts?
- Do you spend a lot of time choosing clothes?
- Do you wear different styles of clothes on weekdays and weekends?
- What colour clothes do you like?

Jokes & Comedies

- Are you good at telling jokes?
- Do your friends like to tell jokes?
- Do you like to watch comedies?
- Have you ever watched a live show?
- Are comedy shows popular in your country?

Headphones

- Do you use headphones?
- What type of headphones do you use?
- When would you use headphones?
- In what conditions would you not use headphones?
- Is wearing headphones comfortable?

Music

- Do you prefer sad or happy music?
- Does happy music make you feel more excited?
- Have you taken any music classes?
- Do you listen to music while doing other things?

Teachers

- Do you have a favorite teacher?
- Do you want to be a teacher in the future?
- Do you have a teacher from your past that you still remember?
- Are you still in touch with your primary school teachers?
- In what way has your favourite teacher helped you?
- Do you like your primary school teachers more than your high school teachers?

Sports team

- Have you ever been part of a sports team?
- Are team sports popular in your culture?
- Do you like watching team games? Why?
- What are the differences between team sports and individual sports?

Typing

- Do you prefer typing or handwriting?
- Do you type on a desktop or laptop keyboard every day?
- When did you learn how to type on a keyboard?
- How do you improve your typing?

Travelling

- Do you look out the window at the scenery when travelling by bus or car?
- Do you take photos of the scenery outside the car window?
- Do you prefer the mountains or the sea?

Food

- What is your favourite food?
- What kind of food did you like when you were young?
- Do you eat different foods at different times of the year?
- Has your favourite food changed since you were a child?

Pets and Animals

- What's your favourite animal? Why?
- Where do you prefer to keep your pet, indoors or outdoors?
- Have you ever had a pet before?
- What is the most popular animal in China?

Walking

- Do you walk a lot?
- Did you often go outside to have a walk when you were a child?
- Why do people like to walk in parks?
- Where would you like to take a long walk if you had the chance?
- Where did you go for a walk lately?

Crowded place

- Is the city where you live crowded?
- Is there a crowded place near where you live?
- Do you like crowded places?
- Do most people like crowded places?
- When was the last time you were in a crowded place?

Outer space and stars

- Have you ever learnt about outer space and stars?
- Do you like science fiction movies? Why?
- Do you want to know more about outer space?
- Do you want to go into outer space in the future?

Singing

- Do you like singing? Why?
- Have you ever learnt how to sing?
- Who do you want to sing for?
- Do you think singing can bring happiness to people?
- Do you like listening to others singing?
- Have you ever taken a singing class?

Memory

- Are you good at memorising things?
- Have you ever forgotten something important?
- What do you need to remember in your daily life?
- How do you remember important things?

Shopping

- Do you like shopping?
- Do you compare prices when you shop? Why?
- Is it difficult for you to make choices when you shop?
- Do you think expensive products are always better than cheaper ones?

Public gardens and parks

- Did you like going to parks as a child?
- Do you still like going to parks now?
- Would you like to see more parks in your city?
- Are there any parks you want to go to in the future?
- Would you prefer to play in a personal garden or public garden?
- How are the parks today different from those you visited as a kid?
- What do you like to do when visiting a park?
- Would you like to play in a public garden or park?

Gifts

- Are you good at giving gifts?
- When do you usually give gifts to others?
- What do you consider when choosing a gift?
- Have you ever given others a handmade gift?
- Do expensive gifts better express your feelings?

Websites

- What kinds of websites do you often visit?
- What is your favourite website?
- Are there any changes to the websites you often visit?
- What kinds of websites are popular in your country?
- Do you prefer getting information from websites or books?
- Would you like to have your own website?
- What have you learned from websites that help with your life or studies?

Cars

- Did you enjoy traveling by car when you were a kid?
- What types of cars do you like?
- Do you prefer to be a driver or a passenger?
- What do you usually do when there is a traffic jam?
- Do you think car colours are important?
- Will you buy an expensive car in the future?

Taking photos

- Do you like taking photos?
- Where do you like to go to take photos?
- What types of photos do you enjoy taking the most?
- How often do you take photos in your daily life?

Science

- Do you like science?
- When did you start to learn about science?
- Which science subject is interesting to you?
- What kinds of interesting things have you done with science?
- Do you like watching science TV programs?
- Do Chinese people often visit science museums?

Part 2 cue cards and Part 3 questions - 7.15-8.07 Predicted

1. Describe an environmental law you would like your country to introduce

You should say:

- What law it should be
- Why people should follow the law
- Whether the law will be popular
- How you feel about this law

Linked Part 3 discussion

- How does technology affect the law?
- What kinds of rules do schools in China have?
- Will there be a law that is universally accepted?
- What environmental laws does your country already have?

2. Describe an advertisement with a famous person in it

You should say:

- Who the person is
- Where you can see it
- What the advertisement is about
- How you feel about the advertisement

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of advertisements?
- Why are many advertisements endorsed by celebrities? How useful are they?
- What is the most important factor in an advertisement?
- Why are some advertisements boring?
- Is advertising important for a company? Why?
- Which is more effective, online advertising or offline advertising?

3. Describe a place you have travelled to that you would like to recommend to others

You should say:

- What it is
- Where it is
- What you saw and did there
- And explain why you would like to recommend it to others

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Where do people in your country often go for holidays?
- What is the ideal length for a holiday?
- How do people usually plan holidays?
- Is it important to plan a holiday ahead?
- Why do many countries try to attract people to visit?
- How do people decide when to travel?

4. Describe a story/book with animals in it**You should say:**

- What animals are in it
- What the story/book is about
- Why you read the story/book
- And explain what you think of this story/book

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Should schools teach children about animals?
- Some people think pets should not be kept in cities. What do you think?
- Many people regard pets as members of their family. What do you think?
- Do many people keep pets in your country?
- What are the advantages of keeping a pet?
- Why do people always tell children stories with animals?

5. Describe a food that people eat on special occasions/events**You should say:**

- What it is
- What the special event/occasion is
- How it is cooked/made
- And explain why people eat it on that special occasion/event

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Why are there special foods on special occasions or events?
- What are the differences between everyday food and festival food?
- Are there any differences between the food people eat today and the food people ate in the past?
- Do people today prefer eating at home or in a restaurant?

6. Describe a person who is good at learning and speaking new languages**You should say:**

- How you got to know him/her
- How he/she learns a new language
- What languages he/she can speak
- How you feel about him/her

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Are there many people who can speak foreign languages in your country?
- Does speaking other languages help at work?
- Do people learn any languages other than English?
- Why is it easier for children to learn new things than for adults?
- How do people learn new things?
- What is the most important thing for learning a language well?

7. Describe a tall building you like or dislike

You should say:

- What it is used for
- Where it is
- What it looks like
- And explain why you like or dislike it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Are there many tall buildings in your country?
- What are the differences between those tall buildings in your country?
- Why are different places laid out and designed differently?
- What are the advantages of living in tall buildings?
- Why do some people like to remodel and decorate their homes themselves?
- What kind of interior design style do most people like?

8. Describe an interesting video

You should say:

- When and where you watched it
- What it is about
- Why you watched it
- And explain how you feel about it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What kind of videos do people in your country like to watch?
- Which is more helpful, watching videos or reading books?
- What skills can people learn from watching videos?
- Are there any differences between the videos that young people and old people like to watch?

- Are there any differences between the videos that young men and young women like to watch?
- What makes a video go viral online?

9. Describe a boring place

You should say:

- Where it is
- Who you went there with
- What you did there
- Why you think it is a boring place

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Why do most children think education is boring?
- Why aren't young people willing to listen to the experiences of older people?
- What can people do when they feel bored?
- Why are some teachers' classes boring? Are there any solutions?
- Why do some young people feel bored when talking with old people?
- Do most people think news about celebrities is boring?

10. Describe your favorite city that you have visited

You should say:

- Where it is
- How you knew it
- When you visited it
- And explain why it is your favourite city

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Which is more suitable for young people, urban life or rural life, and which is more suitable for old people?
- How do people choose a city to travel to?
- Do you think a tourist city is also a good place to live? Why?
- Do most people prefer to travel in a modern city or a historical city?

11. Describe a person who loves to grow plants (e.g. vegetables, flowers) at home or in the garden

You should say:

- Who this person is
- What plants he/she grows
- How he/she grows the plants
- And why he/she loves growing plants

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What are the advantages of growing vegetables or flowers at home?
- Do many people grow vegetables or flowers at home in your country?
- Is it easy to grow plants at home?
- Why do some people like to grow plants?
- Why do some people prefer to grow their own fruits and vegetables instead of buying them from the market?
- Do you think students should learn to grow plants?

12. Describe a person you know who has a successful business

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How you got to know him/her
- Why and how he/she started the business
- What business he/she does
- And explain why you think the business is successful

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Why do some people start their own business?
- Should governments provide financial support to start-ups?
- Do most people prefer shopping at big stores or small stores?
- What makes a business successful?
- What makes a business fail?
- Is it easy to set up a new business in your country?

13. Describe a time when you worked in a group

You should say:

- What you did
- Who you worked with
- What problems you faced
- And explain why you worked in the group

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Why do some people prefer to work by themselves?
- What should a leader do to make team members want to follow him or her?
- Should students learn to do group work?
- What group tasks are there in schools?
- What advantages are there for students experiencing teamwork at school?
- How can you tell if a person is a good leader?

14. Describe a place where you enjoy shopping

You should say:

- What its name is
- Where it is
- How often you visit it
- What you usually buy there

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Why do people buy things they don't need?
- Do you think it's a waste of time to go shopping?
- Why are some people keen on shopping?
- What kind of people like shopping?
- Where do people like to shop in your country?
- Do you think women like shopping more than men?

15. Describe a person who often helps others

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How often he or she helps others
- How or why he or she helps others
- How you feel about this person

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What can children do to help their parents?
- Should children help their parents with household chores?
- What kind of help do people need when looking for a new job?
- Who should people ask for help, colleagues or family members?
- Do you think schools should teach children to do household chores?
- Why are employees reluctant to ask their managers for help?

16. Describe a person who solved a problem in a smart way

You should say:

- Who this person is
- What the problem was
- How he or she solved it
- And explain why you think he or she did it in a smart way

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Do you think children are born smart or they learn to become smart?
- How do children become smart at school?
- Why are some people well-rounded and others only good at one thing?

- Why does modern society need talents of all kinds?

17. Describe a music event that you didn't enjoy

You should say:

- What it was
- Who you went with
- Why you decided to go there
- And explain why you didn't enjoy it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What kind of music events do people like today?
- Do you think children should receive some musical education?
- What are the differences between old and young people's music preferences?
- What kind of music events are there in your country?
- Why do many people like listening to music while doing sports?
- What are the differences between listening to music at home and at a live concert?

18. Describe a time when you felt proud of a family member

You should say:

- When it happened
- Who the person is
- What the person did
- And explain why you felt proud of him/her

Linked Part 3 discussion

- When would parents feel proud of their children?
- Should parents reward children? Why and how?
- Is it good to reward children too often? Why?
- On what occasions would adults be proud of themselves?
- Do rewards help a child become better?
- What do you think about children working hard just for grades?

19. Describe your perfect job

You should say:

- What it is
- Where you heard about it from
- What you need to learn to get the job
- And explain why you think it is your perfect job

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What kind of job can be called a 'dream job'?
- What jobs do children want to do when they grow up?
- Do people's ideal jobs change as they grow up?
- What should people consider when choosing jobs?
- Is salary the main reason why people choose a certain job?
- What kind of jobs are the most popular in your country?

20. Describe an occasion when you were not allowed to use your mobile phone

You should say:

- When it was
- Where it was
- Why you were not allowed to use your mobile phone
- And how you felt about it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- How do young and old people use mobile phones differently?
- What positive and negative impact do mobile phones have on friendship?
- Is it a waste of time to take pictures with mobile phones?
- Do you think it is necessary to have laws on the use of mobile phones?
- What are examples of good and poor phone manners?
- How does the internet benefit people?

21. Describe a piece of technology (not a phone) that you would like to own

You should say:

- What it is
- How much it costs
- What you will use it for
- And explain why you would like to own it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What are the differences between the technology of the past and that of today?
- What technology do young people like to use?
- What are the differences between online and face-to-face communication?
- Do you think technology has changed the way people communicate?
- What negative effects does technology have on people's relationships?
- What are the differences between making friends in real life and online?

22. Describe a program you like to watch

You should say:

- What it is
- What it is about
- Who you watch it with
- And explain why you like to watch it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What programs do people like to watch in your country?
- Do people in your country like to watch foreign TV programs?
- What's the benefit of letting kids watch animal videos than visiting zoos?
- Do teachers play videos in class in your country?
- Do you think watching talk shows is a waste of time?
- Do you think we can acquire knowledge from watching TV programs?

23. Describe a sports competition you watched

You should say:

- What it was
- When/where you watched it
- Who you watched it with
- And explain whether you enjoyed it

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What kind of competitions do people in your country like to watch? Why?

24. Describe a famous person you would like to meet

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- How you knew him/her
- How/where you would like to meet him/her
- And explain why you would like to meet him/her

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a famous child?
- What can today's children do to become famous?
- What can children do with their fame?
- Do people become famous because of their talent?
- Is it easy to become famous in your country?
- Do you want to be a famous person?

25. Describe a plan that you had to change recently

You should say:

- When this happened
- What made you change the plan
- What the new plan was
- And how you felt about the change

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Do people often change their plans?
- Would you tell others if you change your plan?
- Why do you think parents still make plans for their children nowadays?
- How does technology help people make plans?
- What kind of plans do people often make?
- Do you think people like the process of making plans more, or the moment of carrying them out?

26. Describe a quiet place you like to go

You should say:

- Where it is
- How you knew it
- How often you go there
- What you do there
- And explain how you feel about the place

Linked Part 3 discussion

- Is it easy to find quiet places in your country? Why?
- How do people spend their leisure time in your country?
- How does technology affect the way people spend their leisure time?
- Do you think only old people have time for leisure?
- Why do old people prefer to live in quiet places?
- Why are there more noises made at home now than in the past?

27. Describe a movie you watched recently

You should say:

- When and where you watched it
- Who you watched it with
- What it was about
- And explain why you chose to watch this movie

Linked Part 3 discussion

- What kinds of movies do you think are successful in your country?

- Do Chinese people prefer to watch domestic movies or foreign movies?
- Do you think only well-known directors can create the best movies?
- What are the factors that make a successful movie?
- Do you think successful movies should have well-known actors or actresses in leading roles?
- Why do people prefer to watch movies in the cinema?

Next steps

Choose one topic from each part and record a continuous practice test. Then use the printable score sheet to identify the weakest criterion and the 7-day plan to organise the next week.

- Interactive topic pages and model answers: <https://ieltspeaking.com/topics.html>
- Complete test guide: <https://ieltspeaking.com/ielts-speaking-test.html>
- Full practice mock: <https://ieltspeaking.com/mock-test/>