

PET Practice Test

PAPER 3 • Speaking

Teacher's notes

In the PET speaking paper, candidates are examined in pairs by two examiners. The test lasts approximately 10–12 minutes and consists of 4 parts:

Part 1

A **general conversation** between the examiner and each of the candidates (personal information, how to spell the candidates' names, a description of a typical day, candidates' interests, etc.).

Part 2

A **simulated situation** between the two candidates. The candidates must be able to make and respond to suggestions appropriately, and discuss alternatives.

Part 3

A **description of a photograph**: each candidate is given a colour photograph to describe. It will show an everyday situation (both candidates' photographs will be on a similar subject matter). The candidates should be able to describe the people, the context and the activities shown in the photograph using simple language.

Part 4

A **general conversation** between the two candidates. The subject matter or topic of the photograph in Part 3 is the starting point for a conversation about the candidates' own likes and dislikes, their past experiences, their interests, etc. The candidates should be able to interact and give reasons for their views and preferences.

How to administer the Speaking Test

Part 1 (2–3 minutes)

The examiner asks each of the candidates in turn for some personal information, to describe a typical day, to talk about their hobbies, etc. Candidates also need to be able to spell their own name.

Examiner:

(Possible questions)

Good morning/afternoon/evening. I'm ...

What's your name?

What's your surname?

How do you spell it?

Where do you live/come from?

Do you work or are you a student?

What job do you do?/What subject(s) do you study?

Do you enjoy studying English? (Why? Why not?)

Do you think English will be useful to you in the future?

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

What did you do yesterday evening/last weekend/last summer?

Part 2 (2–3 minutes)

The examiner describes a situation to the candidates and gives them a card (page 2) with ideas for how the candidates should complete the task together.

The candidates must be able to complete the task without the help of the examiner, who will only intervene if necessary.

Examiner:

In the next part, you are going to talk to each other. I am going to describe a situation to you.

You and your friend want to take up a new hobby. Talk together about the different things you could do and decide which would be the most fun. Here is a picture with some ideas to help you.

I'll say that again.

You and your friend want to take up a new hobby. Talk together about the different things you could do and decide which would be the most fun. Here is a picture with some ideas to help you.

All right? Now talk together.

Part 3 (3 minutes)

The examiner gives each candidate a photograph on a similar subject matter (see page 3). The candidates have to show the photograph to their partner and describe it for approximately one minute.

Examiner:

Now, I'd like each of you to talk on your own about something. I'm going to give each of you a photograph of people travelling.

Candidate A: Here's your photograph. Please show it to Candidate B, but I'd like you to talk about it.

Candidate B, you just listen.

Thank you.

(Repeat the same procedure with Candidate B.)

Part 4 (3 minutes)

The theme of the photographs in Part 3 forms the basis of the subject or topics to be discussed by the two candidates.

The candidates must be able to complete the task without the help of the examiner, who will only intervene if necessary.

Examiner:

Now, I'd like you to talk together about how you usually travel and what other ways of travelling you'd like to do.

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Sample Material • Part 2

