ESOL International
English Speaking Examination

Level A1 Beginner

Instructions to interlocutor

Tick the learner's name on the attendance register.

Check the learner has an entry form and take it from them.

Start the recording – do not stop the recording until the end of the examination.

Complete the examination sheet as the learner responds to the prompts.

The learner must not see this paper.

Interlocutor:

My name is…… and this is the NOCN Speaking Examination at Beginner Level A1. Today is …….. (date).

The learner's name is …….. Please state your name for the recording ……(learner speaks name).

This is Part 1 of the Speaking Examination: Personal information.

(Additional questions may be asked to prompt deeper responses)

I am now going to ask you some questions. Please reply in full sentences:

1. **What do you do at the weekend?**

2. **Can you tell me about three things you like to do?**

3. **What is your favourite place to visit?**

4. **Can you tell me about three things you do at work/college?**

5. **Tell me something about how you travel to work/college?**

Additional prompts allowed:

In Part 1, the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe or clarify e.g. to extend the learner's answer if they have just given very short answers or to check that they have understood what the learner has said. The questions may be rephrased slightly to ensure that in questions where there are two parts, the learner responds fully.

The interlocutor may also give an example if it is clear that the learner is struggling to think of ideas. For example, in question 3, places could be a park, another village or a family home. Interlocutors should be aiming to guide the learner towards language structures expected at this level.

Thank the learner.

This is Part 2 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 2 minutes)

The interlocutor chooses two of the situations per learner, making sure that a mix of situations are used across the learners being examined. For each of the situations being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet. Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.

Please listen carefully and tell me what you would say in these situations.

(Interlocutor may repeat or rephrase the question, if necessary).

Situation 1: You tell your family about your English class. What would you say?

Situation 2: **You tell a friend about your favourite film. What would you say?**

Situation 3. You go to a shop for a new mobile phone. What would you say?

Situation 4. You want the garage to fix your bike. What would you say?

Additional prompts allowed:

*It is expected that the learner gives a minimum of **three sentences*** to respond *to each situation; these will probably all be very short, simple sentences. The interlocutor may have to ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response. If the vocabulary used is not understood by the learner, the interlocutor may explain the concept or rephrase.*

In Part Two the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe the learner's answers.

Scenario 1:
The learners may be prompted by saying where the class is, how many are in the class or when the class is.

Scenario 2:
The learners may be prompted by saying what the name of the film is, what it's about or why they like it.

Scenario 3:
Encourage the learner to expand their answer by saying why they want a new phone, what type of phone or how much they can pay for a new phone.

Scenario 4:
The learners may be prompted by saying what is wrong with their bike, when they need it fixing by.

Thank the learner.

This is Part 3 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 2-3 minutes)

*The interlocutor chooses **one scenario** per learner, making sure that all scenarios are used across the learners being examined. For the scenario being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet. Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.*

Interlocutor: **You will now take part in a conversation. You will have two minutes to prepare for the conversation. You may make notes.**

Scenario 1: You want to join a new club. Speak with the club manager. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will play the role of the club manager.

Scenario 2: You want to book a day off at work. Call your manager. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will play the role of your manager.

Scenario 3: You want to borrow some tools from your friend. Speak with them. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will play the role of the friend.

Scenario 4: You are shopping for new shoes. Speak with the shop assistant. You will have two minutes to prepare the conversation. You may make notes. I will play the role of the shop assistant.

Additional information:
*There should be a minimum of **four exchanges** to ensure that the learner has considered a number of options and put across sufficient information. If the learner does not understand a word or phrase, the interlocutor may explain the concept.*

Scenario 1:
Why would you like to join the club?
Which days can you come?
How would you like to pay?

Scenario 2:
How can I help?
Why do you want a day off?
Which day do you want?

Scenario 3:
What tools do you need?
How long do you want them for?
Do you need any other help?

Scenario 4:
How can I help?
What colour shoes would you like?
What size do you need?

Thank the learner.

End of Examination

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