

Cambridge IELTS 8

*Examination papers from
University of Cambridge
ESOL Examinations*

PART 1

The examiner asks the candidate about him/herself, his/her home, work or studies and other familiar topics.

EXAMPLE

Neighbours

- How well do you know the people who live next door to you?
- How often do you see them? [Why/Why not?]
- What kinds of problem do people sometimes have with their neighbours?
- How do you think neighbours can help each other?

PART 2

Describe a time when you were asked to give your opinion in a questionnaire or survey

You should say:

- what the questionnaire/survey was about**
- why you were asked to give your opinions**
- what opinions you gave**
- and explain how you felt about giving your opinions in this questionnaire/survey.**

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes. You have one minute to think about what you are going to say. You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:

Asking questions

Example questions:

- What kinds of organisation want to find out about people's opinions?
- Do you think that questionnaires or surveys are good ways of finding out people's opinions?
- What reasons might people have for not wanting to give their opinions?

Questionnaires in school

Example questions:

- Do you think it would be a good idea for schools to ask students their opinions about lessons?
- What would the advantages for schools be if they asked students their opinions?
- Would there be any disadvantages in asking students' opinions?

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SPEAKING

Test-2

PART 1

The examiner asks the candidate about him/herself, his/her home, work or studies and other familiar topics.

EXAMPLE**Newspapers and Magazines**

- Which magazines and newspapers do you read? [Why?]
- What kinds of article are you most interested in? [Why?]
- Have you ever read a newspaper or magazine in a foreign language? [When/Why?]
- Do you think reading a newspaper or magazine in a foreign language is a good way to learn the language? [Why/Why not?]

PART 2

Describe a restaurant that you enjoyed going to.

You should say:

where the restaurant was

why you chose this restaurant

what type of food you ate in this restaurant and explain why you enjoyed eating in this restaurant.

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3**Discussion topics:****Restaurants**

Example questions:

Why do you think people go to restaurants when they want to celebrate something?

Which are more popular in your country: fast food restaurants or traditional restaurants?

Why do you think that is?

Some people say that food in an expensive restaurant is always better than food in a cheap restaurant – would you agree?

Producing food

Example questions:

Do you think there will be a greater choice of food available in shops in the future, or will there be less choice?

What effects has modern technology had on the way food is produced?

How important is it for a country to be able to grow all the food it needs, without importing any from other countries?

SPEAKING

PART 1

The examiner asks the candidate about him/herself, his/her home, work or studies and other familiar topics.

EXAMPLE

Flowers

- Do you like to have flowers in your home? [Why/Why not?]
- Where would you go to buy flowers? [Why?]
- On what occasions would you give someone flowers?
- Are flowers important in your culture? [Why/Why not?]

PART 2

Describe a meeting you remember going to at work, college or school.

You should say:

- when and where the meeting was held**
- who was at the meeting**
- what the people at the meeting talked about and explain why you remember going to this meeting.**

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes. You have one minute to think about what you are going to say. You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3

Discussion topics:**Going to meetings**

Example questions:

What are the different types of meeting that people often go to?

Some people say that no-one likes to go to meetings – what do you think?

Why can it sometimes be important to go to meetings?

International meetings

Example questions:

Why do you think world leaders often have meetings together?

What possible difficulties might be involved in organising meetings between world leaders?

Do you think that meetings between international leaders will become more frequent in the future? Or will there be less need for world leaders to meet?

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SPEAKING

Test - 4

PART 1

The examiner asks the candidate about him/herself, his/her home, work or studies and other familiar topics.

EXAMPLE**Television**

- How often do you watch television? [Why/Why not?]
- Which television channel do you usually watch? [Why?]
- Do you enjoy the advertisements on television? [Why/Why not?]
- Do you think most programmes on television are good? [Why/Why not?]

PART 2

Describe a friend of your family you remember from your childhood.

You should say:

- who the person was**
- how your family knew this person**
- how often this person visited your family**
- and explain why you remember this person.**

You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes. You have one minute to think about what you are going to say. You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

PART 3**Discussion topics:****Friendship**

Example questions:

- What do you think makes someone a good friend to a whole family?
- Do you think we meet different kinds of friend at different stages of our lives? In what ways are these types of friend different?
- How easy is it to make friends with people from a different age group?

Influence of friends

Example questions:

- Do you think it is possible to be friends with someone if you never meet them in person? Is this real friendship?
- What kind of influence can friends have on our lives?
- How important would you say it is to have friends from different cultures?