
IELTS

Speaking Test 1

(11-14 minutes)

Part 1

(4-5 minutes)

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General questions about yourself and a range of familiar topics, such as home, family, work, studies and interests.

Part 1

Examiner: Good morning. My name is John. Can you tell me your full name, please?

Candidate: My name is Elsa Borgman

Examiner: Thank you. And can you tell me where you're from?

Candidate: I'm from Sweden

Examiner: Can I see your identification, please?

Candidate: Yes, of course.

Examiner: Thank you, that's fine. In this first part I'd like to ask you some questions about yourself. Let's talk about what you do. Do you work or are you a student?

Candidate: I'm a student.

Examiner: And what subject are you studying?

Candidate: I'm studying Chemistry.

Part 1

Examiner: Why did you choose this subject?

Candidate: Well I'm interested in the natural world and the chemical processes that take place around us. It's also fascinating how versatile chemistry is and how it can be used these days to help create new things, from medicines to cosmetics or cleaning products as well as for solving crimes for example.

Examiner: What do you hope to do when you finish your studies?

Candidate: I'd like to work for a pharmaceutical company and perhaps be involved in creating medicines that can save lives.

Examiner: Let's talk about free time now. What do you usually do at the weekends?

Candidate: Oh I usually spend a lot of time with my friends and we normally go out, unless it's really cold in which case we stay at home watching telly or our favourite comedy box sets. I also like spending my time learning something new - I'm trying to learn Spanish at the moment and I think I'm doing quite well.

Part 1

Examiner: What do you think you'll do next weekend?

Candidate: I've already made plans to go and visit my friends in Manchester. They are living there at the moment and studying English, so it will be great to see them and it will give them an excuse to have a little break from studying and show me around. I've never been there and they say it's an interesting city, so I'm looking forward to it.

Examiner: How important is it for you to relax at the end of the week?

Candidate: Well, I think it's very important to relax, especially if I've had a busy week. It's necessary to have a rest, recharge your batteries and get ready for the week ahead. I've noticed that if I don't manage to do that, I'm always really tired on Monday and during the week.

Part 1

Examiner: Let's talk about music. What sort of music do you usually enjoy listening to?

Candidate: Oh, I enjoy all kinds of music, so it's difficult for me to choose just one type or one band. I suppose it's not very original what I'm going to say, but it really does depend on my mood. When I'm tired, I prefer listening to something calm and relaxing, but when I work out in a gym I prefer more energetic kind of music, something that will make me more inclined to move!

Examiner: Has the kind of music you like changed over the years?

Candidate: No, not really. I still listen to the same kinds of music I used to listen to when I was a child, but I suppose my taste in music has expanded and now includes new bands and new singers. I think this is inevitable: after all, new bands become famous all the time, so it would be difficult to stick to just your favourite band from your childhood. But I think your basic tastes tend to stay the same.

Part 1

Examiner: Do you prefer listening to live music or recorded music?

Candidate: I like both, but I think live music is much better as it's not rehearsed and has more emotion. Listening to an artist singing live is also a good way of checking if they really are a good singer. I think there are so many people nowadays who sound great in the studio, with the help of technology, and who just cannot sing live.

Examiner: Do you think listening to music helps you study?

Candidate: Yes, I think it does. My friends are always surprised that I can study when there's loud music playing, but it really helps me concentrate. Luckily I'm not one of those people who need complete silence to study - it really helps when you share a flat.

Examiner: Thank you.
