
IELTS

Speaking Test 1

(11-14 minutes)

Part 3

(4-5 minutes)

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You will be asked further questions connected to the topic in Part 2. These questions will give you the opportunity to discuss more abstract ideas and issues.

Part 3

Examiner: We've been talking about a special gift you gave to someone and I'd like to discuss with you one or two more general questions related to this. Let's consider first of all giving gifts in families. On what occasions do family members give gifts to each other in Sweden?

Candidate: In Sweden people normally give gifts to each other on birthdays, at weddings, at Christmas and Easter, which I think is pretty much the same in many countries.

Examiner: Do people spend a lot of money on gifts?

Candidate: I guess it depends, but a lot of people do because they think it's necessary or because they want to impress someone. In my family we sometimes decide that, for example, this year at Christmas we should give each other only handmade gifts or something inexpensive but unusual. Just so that no one goes crazy and spends all their money on gifts!

Part 3

Examiner: Let's talk about the types of gifts children give to adults. What sort of gifts do they give?

Candidate: I think children normally give gifts that they make themselves, like a nice card that they've drawn themselves, for example, or maybe a cardboard box for jewellery which they decorated themselves. I think such presents are the best because they need imagination and not just money.

Examiner: How important do you think giving gifts is within a family?

Candidate: I think it's very important, but I don't mean expensive gifts, especially when families can't afford them. I mean gifts that are given from the heart, handmade gifts that may not be very expensive but have a lot of sentimental value.

Examiner: Let's move on from personal gifts to international gifts and talk about international aid. What sort of aid do countries give to other countries?

Part 3

Candidate: Well, it's usually financial aid in extreme situations, such as floods, famines or other natural disasters. I believe a lot of countries try to get involved when disasters happen and I think this is brilliant because countries should help each other. But it's not only money that helps, but more practical things like sending medicines, food or qualified medical staff to help.

Examiner: What do you think motivates governments to give aid to other countries?

Candidate: It may sound cynical, but most countries want something in return, especially if the countries they are helping are rich in minerals and oil. However, I think some governments genuinely act for humanitarian reasons.

Examiner: And do you think aid is always helpful?

Candidate: In my country we say that if you give a man a fish he can feed his family for a day, but if you teach him how to fish, he can feed them forever. It is not always enough to just give people money because this doesn't always solve the problem.

Examiner: Thank you very much. That is the end of the speaking test.
