



Speaking: Overview of IELTS and national exam formats



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Speaking



Importance of speaking test



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and Fluency**

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Importance of speaking test



Evaluate Real-Life Communication Skills

Speaking is a core skill for effective communication in personal, academic, and professional contexts. The ability to express ideas clearly, participate in discussions, and respond to questions is crucial for success in daily interactions. Example: A university student needs to participate in group discussions or give presentations, which requires strong speaking skills.

Test Pronunciation and Intonation

Pronunciation, stress, and intonation are vital for clear communication. A speaking test helps evaluate how easily the speaker can be understood. Example: Mispronouncing key terms like "comfortable" or using incorrect intonation can cause confusion in a conversation.



Measure Spontaneity and Fluency

Speaking tests assess a candidate's ability to respond naturally and fluently in real-time, without the luxury of editing or rehearsing. This reflects a person's practical proficiency, which is different from written language ability. Example: In an interview, candidates are judged not just on their ideas but also on how effectively they present them.

Speaking exams also measure non-verbal elements of communication, like confidence and interaction skills. Example: In a professional setting, confidently presenting an idea can influence decision-making more than written proposals.

PART 02



IELTS Speaking test



IELTS Speaking test



Part 1: Introduction and Interview (4–5 minutes)

The examiner asks general questions about familiar topics such as home, work, studies, hobbies, or interests.

Example:

"Do you prefer working in the morning or the evening?"

"What kind of activities do you enjoy on weekends?"

Purpose: To evaluate the ability to answer simple, everyday questions fluently.

Part 3: Discussion (4–5 minutes)

The examiner asks follow-up questions related to the topic from Part 2. These questions are more abstract and require critical thinking.

Example:

"Do you think children today read fewer books than in the past? Why?"

"How has technology changed the way we consume information?"

Purpose: To evaluate analytical thinking, complex language use, and the ability to discuss abstract topics.

Part 2: Long Turn (3–4 minutes)

The candidate is given a cue card with a topic and has 1 minute to prepare. They must speak for 1–2 minutes without interruption.

Example Cue Card:

"Describe a book you recently read. You should say:

What it is about

Why you chose to read it

What you liked or disliked about it"



IELTS Speaking Assessment Criteria

1. Fluency and Coherence:

Smooth flow of ideas without unnatural pauses.

2. Lexical Resource:

Range and precision of vocabulary.

3. Grammatical Range and Accuracy:

Variety of sentence structures with correct grammar.

4. Pronunciation:

Clarity, intonation, stress, and rhythm.

Mispronunciation of key words or poor stress placement can affect scores.

PART 03



CEFR Speaking test



CEFR Speaking test



A1–A2 Levels (Basic Users):

Duration: 5–10 minutes.

Tasks:

Simple dialogues (e.g., ordering food or introducing yourself).

Describing familiar topics like hobbies or daily routines.

Example:

"Describe your daily routine."

"What is your favorite food?"

C1–C2 Levels (Proficient Users):

Duration: 15–30 minutes.

Tasks:

Engaging in abstract discussions, debates, and detailed presentations.

Example: "Discuss the role of social media in modern society and its impact on communication."

B1–B2 Levels (Independent Users):

Duration: 10–20 minutes.

Tasks:

Discussing opinions, solving problems, or role-playing scenarios.

Example: Discussing advantages and disadvantages of online education.



CEFR Speaking Assessment Criteria

1. Fluency and Coherence:

Smooth flow of ideas without unnatural pauses.

2. Lexical Resource:

Range and precision of vocabulary.

3. Grammatical Range and Accuracy:

Variety of sentence structures with correct grammar.

4. Pronunciation:

Clarity, intonation, stress, and rhythm.

Mispronunciation of key words or poor stress placement can affect scores.

PART 04



Differences



Differences



Key Differences: IELTS vs. CEFR Exams

Aspect	IELTS	CEFR-Aligned Exams
Purpose	Academic/professional or migration	General language proficiency
Assessment Scale	9 Bands (0–9)	A1–C2
Speaking Format	One-on-one interview with examiner	May include group or paired interactions
Time Duration	11–14 minutes	5–30 minutes (depending on the level)
Focus	Academic and practical fluency	General or specific language skills
Sample Topics	Work, studies, hobbies, social trends	Travel, daily life, abstract concepts



Thank you for listening