

IELTS Life Skills

A2 Speaking and Listening

Sample Test A

🕒 This test should not exceed 20 minutes.

Please note: With the exception of the Task Sheet in Phase 2a, this sample test frame will be used only by the Examiner. It will not be shown to the candidates.

🕒 4 – 5 minutes

Phase 1a

[The Examiner will select questions from those provided in the test pack, in a variety of areas such as name, nationality, work/study, where candidates live, and free time activities.]

🕒 6 minutes

Phase 1b

In this part of the test, you are each going to talk for about one minute. While you are talking, your partner will listen to you. Your partner will then ask you two questions about what you have said.

_____ (Candidate A), you're going to tell _____ (Candidate B) about the pictures or paintings you like to look at and why you like looking at them.

_____ (Candidate B), you're going to tell _____ (Candidate A) about animals you like and why you like them.

Now you both have one minute to think about what you want to say. You can make notes if you want to. [Indicate paper and pencil.] If there's anything you don't understand, please ask me.

[Withdraw eye contact to signal start of preparation. Allow one minute for preparation.]

_____ (Candidate A), are you ready? Please tell _____ (Candidate B) about the pictures or paintings you like to look at and why you like looking at them. _____ (Candidate B), listen, and ask two questions at the end. [Allow 1 minute.]

Thank you. _____ (Candidate A), please ask _____ (Candidate B) your questions now.

Thank you.

_____ (Candidate B), are you ready? Please tell _____ (Candidate A) about animals you like and why you like them. _____ (Candidate A), listen, and ask two questions at the end. [Allow 1 minute.]

Thank you. _____ (Candidate A), please ask _____ (Candidate B) your questions now.

Thank you.

🕒 4 minutes

Phase 2a

In this part of the test, you are going to listen to two recordings and answer some questions. You can make notes *[indicate paper]* if you want to.

You hear some students talking in different places. *[Hand each candidate the booklet open at the correct page.]* Where are they? A café, a study centre or a sports hall?

Where are they?



a café



a study centre



a sports hall

Listen to the information. *[Play CD.]*

Listening script 1

- F: Hi James, how are you?
M: I'm fine – but I'm hungry!
F: Me too, the sports class was really long today. Do you know when this place shuts?
M: At half past four but they stop serving food soon.
F: OK, well I'm just going out for a minute - I'll be straight back. I have to go to the bank and get some money though.
M: Well you'd better be quick or they'll be nothing left to eat!
F: Alright. I won't be long.

Listening script 2

- M: Hi Sarah, what are you doing in here?
F: I'm trying to do my homework - it's really difficult though.
M: Oh, I haven't started doing that yet. Do you want to work together?
F: Sure, but I don't think we can talk in here can we?
M: I think it's OK as long as we're quiet. Shall I help you look for the books we need?
F: OK thanks! That'd be great. But should we just go for a coffee before we start?
M: Good idea.

_____ (Candidate A), in the **first** recording, where are the students? A café, a study centre or a sports hall?

Thank you.

_____ (Candidate B), in the **second** recording, where are the students? A café, a study centre or a sports hall?

Thank you. *[Take back booklets.]*

Now listen again, and answer these questions.

_____ (Candidate B), in the **first** recording, what time does the café close? *[short pause]* And where must the woman go before she eats?

_____ (Candidate A), in the **second** recording, what is the woman doing? *[short pause]* And what will the man help the woman to find?

[Play CD again: scripts as above. At the end of the recording ask each candidate in turn their two questions again. After each question, wait for the candidate's response.]

Thank you.

🕒 4 – 5 minutes

Phase 2b

Now you're going to talk together about how you study. Talk to each other about where you like to study and what helps you to study.

[Repeat if necessary. Withdraw eye contact to signal start of activity.]

If necessary, prompt candidates with questions from the box below (e.g. if candidates are experiencing difficulty in continuing the interaction or if they stray from the topic). Adapt if necessary. Encourage candidate-candidate interaction by eliciting agreement or alternative opinions from candidates by asking questions such as "What do you think?", "Tell us what you think.", "And you?"]

Studying – prompt questions

Do you like studying at home or in a public place like a library or a café? (Why?)

Do you like studying with other people? (Why/Why not?)

How often do you use a computer when you study? (What do you use it for?)

Do you like to listen to music when you study? (Why/Why not?)

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

[Ensure candidates DO NOT leave the room with the Candidate's Booklet.]

Key to Phase 2a

Where are they?

Script 1: a café
Script 2: a study centre

Candidate B:

What time does the café close? half past four/ four thirty
Where must the woman go before she eats? (to) (the) bank

Candidate A:

What is the woman doing? (her) homework
What will the man help the woman to find? (the) books (they need)

A2, Phase 2, Sample Test A

Where are they?



a café



a study centre



a sports hall