

**ESB Entry Level 3 Certificate in ESOL  
International All Modes – (B1)  
500/3646/4**

## **B1 – Speaking Test**

### **EXAMINER PROMPTS**

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**Not to be distributed until immediately prior to the oral assessments.  
For the examiner's eyes only.**

**To be used in conjunction with documents from the standardisation event.**

## Part 1 – Introduction

### Interview to elicit personal information

The interview consists of a number of short turns with candidates being invited to respond alternately. Candidates respond to the interlocutor and not to each other.

**Part One** lasts for **three minutes** divided equally between both candidates. In the event of **three candidates**, allow **three minutes** divided equally between all candidates.

*Candidates are shown in by one or other of the examiners and invited to sit down.*

*(Interlocutor)* **Good morning / afternoon / hello.** *(Make a note of the time at this point as this is the official start of the test.)* **I am (Interlocutor's name) and this is my colleague (Assessor's name). S/He will just be listening.**

*Assessor greets the candidates:* **Good morning / afternoon / hello.**

*(Interlocutor)* **Can I have your mark sheets (and your ID) please?**

**What's your name? (To Candidate A) And what's your name? (To Candidate B) And what's your name? (To Candidate C) Thank you.**

**First, I'm going to ask you some general questions.**

*Interlocutor asks Candidates A and B (and C) a selection of questions from those on the page opposite.*

### **Food and Drink**

- What is your favourite food?
- Do you know how to cook?
- Do you like going out to eat?
- Are there any kinds of food you don't like?

### **Travel and Transport**

- What kind of transport do you like most?
- Do you want to learn to drive?
- Have you ever been on a motorbike?
- What is the longest journey you've ever been on?

### **Health**

- How do you like to keep fit?
- Do you eat a lot of junk food?
- Do you like healthy food, such as fruit and vegetables?
- Why is it important to do exercise or play sport?

### **Communication and Language**

- Is it a good idea to learn other languages?
- Who do you talk to the most every day?
- How do you keep in touch with your friends?
- Which other languages would you like to learn?

Thank you.

## Part 2 – Interactive Discussion

**Candidates A and B (and C)** discuss a topic based on two prompts provided by the interlocutor. They exchange ideas and opinions and sustain a discussion. The interlocutor does not take part in the discussion. If candidates start to address the interlocutor directly, non-verbal gestures should be used to indicate that the candidates should speak to each other.

**Part Two** of the test lasts about **four minutes** and in the event of there being three candidates, this section should be **six minutes** in length.

*(Interlocutor)* **Now in this part of the test, I would like you both (all) to talk together using the prompt to help you. You can add ideas of your own if you wish. I am just going to listen to you. You only have four (six) minutes, so don't worry if I stop you. Please speak up so that we can both hear you.**

*(To Candidates)* **Here is your topic.** *(Put the prompt on the table in front of the candidates, positioned so that they can both (all) see it clearly.)*

**The topic is '.....'. You may start when you are ready.**

*(After four (six) minutes)* **Thank you.** *(Retrieve prompt)*

**We will now move on to the last part of the test.**

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 1 – Animals (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about which animals you think make the best pets.

Cats	Dogs
Fish	Spiders
Horses	Snakes
Birds	Rabbits

- **And** tell each other about a pet you have or would like to have.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 2 – Leisure Time (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about what you enjoy doing most after a busy week.

Staying in bed	Using your computer
Spending time with friends	Studying
Listening to music	Reading
Going to the cinema	Doing sport

- **And** tell each other about TV programmes you like to watch.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 3 – Holidays and Tourism (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about what you most like doing on beach holidays.

Swimming	Playing beach games
Making new friends	Spending time with family
Eating in restaurants	Sunbathing
Water sports	Fishing

- **And** tell each other about your favourite beach.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 4 – Daily Life (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about which of these things you have with you every day.

Phone	Books
Hairbrush	Snacks
Money	Water
ID card	Headphones

- **And** tell each other about a time you lost or forgot something important.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 5 – Entertainment and Culture (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about what you would most like to do on your next birthday.

Have a pizza with friends	Go dancing
Go to the cinema	Have a party
Go bowling	Have a meal with your family
Go shopping	Go to a funfair

- **And** tell each other what you did on your last birthday.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 6 – Clothes and Fashion (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about which things are important to think about when buying new clothes.

Price	Famous labels
Fashion	Comfort
Colour	Looks good
Size	Friends' opinions

- **And** tell each other if you like shopping for clothes or not.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 7 – Friends and Family (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about some of the ways friends can help you.

Listening  
Helping with schoolwork  
Making you laugh  
Solving problems

Telling the truth  
Giving advice  
Sharing things  
Encouraging you

- **And** tell each other about a good friend you have.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 8 – Places (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about which of these places make you feel happiest.

Your room  
A park  
A beach  
School

The countryside  
The city centre  
A sports centre  
A café

- **And** tell each other about a place you want to visit in the future.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 9 – Dreams and Ambitions (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about which of these dream jobs you would like to have.

Film star	Racing car driver
Musician	YouTube star
Video game tester	Fashion model
Famous chef	Sports star

- **And** tell each other what you dream of doing in the future.

**Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 10 – Learning and Education (B1)**

**Part 2**

**Candidates A and B (and C):**

- Talk together about the subjects you most enjoy studying.

Maths	Geography
Art	Music
Science	History
Computing	Ancient languages

- **And** tell each other about something new you want to learn.



## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 1: Animals

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Animals'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Do you think animals are intelligent?**
- **Have you ever been to a zoo?**
- **What can you learn from having a pet?**
- **Have you ever looked after an animal?**
- **Would you like to go on a safari holiday?**
- **Can you see any animals near where you live?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 2: Leisure Time

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Leisure Time'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **When you have free time, do you sleep late or get up early?**
- **What things do you like to do when you have free time?**
- **Do you ever get bored in the school holidays?**
- **Which is the best school holiday: Summer, Christmas or Easter?**
- **Do you have a lot of free time?**
- **How much time do you spend on your computer?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 3: Holidays and Tourism

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Holidays and Tourism'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Everybody should have a holiday each year. Do you agree?**
- **Do you think it is important for young people to travel abroad?**
- **Where do people go for holidays in your country?**
- **Where would you like to go for a holiday?**
- **Which school holiday is the best: Summer, Christmas or Easter?**
- **Do a lot of tourists visit your area?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 4: Daily Life

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Daily Life'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Do you carry a lot of things around with you every day?**
- **Do you help with any jobs around the house?**
- **What time do you start and finish school every day?**
- **Can you describe your journey to school?**
- **What do you do after you finish school every day?**
- **What do you have for breakfast?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 5: Entertainment and Culture

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Entertainment and Culture'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Do you enjoy visiting museums?**
- **Which are the best places to go out with friends in your area?**
- **How can you have fun without spending any money?**
- **Describe a film you saw recently.**
- **Do you play any online or video games?**
- **What kind of music do you like?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 6: Clothes and Fashion

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Clothes and Fashion'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Would you like to work in a clothes shop?**
- **Do you buy fashion magazines?**
- **Are clothes important to you?**
- **Do you have a favourite pair of shoes?**
- **Do you enjoy shopping for clothes?**
- **What are the clothes shops like in your area?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 7: Friends and Family

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Friends and Family'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **How often does your family eat a meal together?**
- **Do you often see your aunts, uncles or grandparents?**
- **Does anyone in your family help you with your homework?**
- **How much time do you spend with your friends?**
- **Tell me about your best friend.**
- **Do you have any friends who live far away?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

## Part 3 – Responding to Questions

### TOPIC 8: Places

A three-way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (*e.g. What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes**.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner says. The topic we are discussing is 'Places'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Are there many shops in your area?**
- **Do you have a long journey to school?**
- **Have you ever got lost?**
- **What is the best thing about the place where you live?**
- **Do you like to go on holiday to the same place each year?**
- **Have you ever been abroad?**

*(After four minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*



### Part 3 – Responding to Questions

#### TOPIC 9: Dreams and Ambitions (Can be used with three candidates)

A three-(four-) way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (e.g. *What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes** and in the event of there being three candidates, this section should be **six minutes** in length.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four (six) minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner(s) say(s). The topic we are discussing is 'Dreams and Ambitions'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Is it good to have ambitions?**
- **What superhero power would you like to have?**
- **Would you like to live in another country?**
- **What do you think our planet will be like in the future?**
- **Have any of your dreams ever come true?**
- **What is your dream birthday present?**
- **Which famous person would you love to meet?**
- **What would your dream house be like?**

*(After four (six) minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

### Part 3 – Responding to Questions

#### TOPIC 10: Learning and Education (Can be used with three candidates)

A three-(four-) way discussion between interlocutor and candidates based on a **new topic**. The interlocutor leads the discussion by selecting from the questions below. It is not necessary to use all the questions. The interlocutor may ask for a specific response from one candidate or throw the discussion open to both candidates. The interlocutor should encourage candidates to elaborate on or react to their partner's response by verbal invitation (e.g. *What do you think? Do you agree?*) or non-verbal gesture. Candidates should be given equal opportunities to speak but the interlocutor may wish to give a candidate who has been rather reticent in earlier parts of the test a chance to redress the balance.

This part of the test lasts about **four minutes** and in the event of there being **three candidates**, this section should be **six minutes** in length.

*(Interlocutor to Candidates)* **We are now going to talk together for about four (six) minutes. I would like you to respond to my questions and to what your partner(s) say(s). The topic we are discussing is 'Learning and Education'.**

*(Make sure that the topic is different from the topic used in Part Two.)*

- **Do you want to go to college or university?**
- **Do you use the internet to help with your homework?**
- **What is the most important thing you learn at school?**
- **Do you get stressed at exam time?**
- **Do you think you have too many exams?**
- **What technology do you use in school?**
- **Do you ever teach people in your family how to use technology?**
- **What is the most boring thing about school?**

*(After four (six) minutes)*

**Thank you.**

**That is the end of the test.**

**Goodbye.** *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

SAMPLE

**END OF TEST**