

**ESB Level 2 Certificate in ESOL
International All Modes – (C1)
500/3648/8**

C1 – 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 **four 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.

Places

- What is the most relaxing place you know?
- What places would you recommend for visitors to your area?
- Where would be your ideal place to live?
- Is it important to live close to nature?

Sports and Hobbies

- Do you prefer watching or playing sport?
- Who is your favourite sports personality?
- Have you ever collected anything as a hobby?
- Tell me about a sport or hobby you enjoy.

Clothes and Fashion

- Are you interested in fashion?
- How would you describe your personal style?
- Do you enjoy shopping for clothes?
- Do you spend a long time deciding what to wear in the morning?

Entertainment and Culture

- Do you enjoy going to live concerts or music festivals?
- Tell me about any exhibitions or art galleries you have visited.
- What are your favourite kinds of TV programmes?
- Tell me about a celebrity you admire.

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 **five minutes** and in the event of there being three candidates, this section should be **seven 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 five (seven) 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 five (seven) minutes) **Thank you.** *(Retrieve prompt)*

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

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 1 – Food and Drink (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following factors are most important when choosing a restaurant for a family meal.

Cost	Location
Vegetarian options	Hygiene
Car parking	Atmosphere
Good food	Friendly service

- **And** tell each other about a good or bad restaurant experience you have had.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 2 – Leisure Time (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following activities would provide the best opportunities for young people to socialise.

Going to the cinema	After-school clubs
A beach party	Visiting museums
A volleyball tournament	A local talent show
Volunteering	Dance classes

- **And** tell each other about an unusual hobby or sport you would like to try.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 3 – Animals (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following would be the best ways to protect endangered animals.

Hunting restrictions	Wildlife parks
Fundraising campaigns	Breeding programmes in zoos
Cleaning up the oceans	Slowing down climate change
Education projects	Stronger environmental policies

- **And** tell each other why the protection of animals is important.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 4 – Special Occasions (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following would be the best way to celebrate an important family occasion.

A meal in a smart restaurant	A picnic
A trip to an island	A lunch at home
A weekend city break	A live music event
A trip to the cinema	A fancy dress party

- **And** tell each other about an important event that you have celebrated with your family.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 5 – Dreams and Ambitions (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following you would like to achieve.

Graduating from university	Winning an Oscar
Winning the lottery	Breaking a world record
Living to the age of 100	Finding a cure for a disease
Winning an Olympic medal	Travelling in space

- **And** tell each other about your own big dream or ambition.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 6 – Science and Technology (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following you consider to be the most important challenges that scientists face today.

Cleaning up the oceans	Fighting disease
The energy crisis	Overpopulation
Pollution	Cyber crime
Global warming	Food and water shortages

- **And** tell each other which social media sites you prefer to use.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 7 – Health (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following would be most likely to improve people's long-term health.

A vegetarian diet
Joining a gym
Walking to work
Avoiding fast food

Stopping smoking
Spending time with friends
Reducing work hours
Meditation or yoga

- **And** tell each other how healthy you consider your own lifestyle to be.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 8 – Daily Life (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following aspects of modern life you would find hardest to give up.

Television
The washing machine
Air conditioning
The car

Hot running water
Electricity
The fridge
Fast food

- **And** tell each other which invention or appliance you use most in your daily life.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 9 – Travel and Transport (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following means of transport you think will be popular in the cities of the future.

Taxi
Walking
Bicycle
Tram

Driverless car
Motorbike
Metro
Train

- **And** tell each other what kind of transport you like using the least.

Copy of Candidate Prompt – TOPIC 10 – Jobs and Professions (C1)

Part 2

Candidates A and B (and C):

- Talk together about which of the following professions you believe to be the most important.

Politician
Footballer
Doctor
Entertainer

Teacher
Scientist
Journalist
Computer expert

- **And** tell each other about the job you would least like to have.

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 1: Food and Drink

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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

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

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

- **Is a vegan diet a healthy diet?**
- **Tell me about a good place to eat in your area.**
- **Should we eat less sugar and less fat?**
- **What do you think about organic food?**
- **Are there any benefits to eating fast food?**
- **Too much food is wasted nowadays. Do you agree?**

(After five 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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

(Interlocutor to Candidates) **We are now going to talk together for about five 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.)

- **What are the benefits of having a hobby?**
- **Is it possible to have a hobby that doesn't cost a lot of money?**
- **How do young people spend their free time in your area?**
- **What free time activity would you most like to try?**
- **What do you do to stop yourself from feeling bored?**
- **What should we do to help the elderly keep active?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 3: 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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

(Interlocutor to Candidates) **We are now going to talk together for about five 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.)

- **What animal ability would you like to have?**
- **Do you think having a pet can teach children something?**
- **Is it cruel to keep animals in cages?**
- **Should sports that involve animals like horse-racing be banned?**
- **How should we protect endangered animals from extinction?**
- **What are the advantages and disadvantages of owning a dog?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 4: Special Occasions

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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

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

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

- **Do you think it is necessary to spend a lot of money celebrating special occasions?**
- **What is your best memory of a special occasion you have celebrated?**
- **How do you celebrate New Year in your country?**
- **Is it better to give or receive a gift?**
- **Which traditional festivals and holidays do you most enjoy?**
- **Is it important to continue to keep traditional festivals alive?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 5: Dreams and Ambitions

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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

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

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

- **Do you think having an ambition is important? Why?**
- **What is your greatest dream or ambition?**
- **Who do you consider to be a good role model?**
- **Should boys and girls be encouraged to have the same ambitions?**
- **Do you think older people stop having dreams or ambitions?**
- **Would you describe yourself as a dreamer or a realist?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 6: Science and Technology

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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

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

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

- **How important is it to study science in school?**
- **Can science provide answers to all of our questions?**
- **Do young people spend too much time using technology?**
- **Have new technologies made communication better or worse?**
- **How will mobile phones change in the future?**
- **Which form of technology would you find hardest to give up?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 7: Health

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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

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

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

- **You are what you eat. Do you agree?**
- **What are the dangers of using the internet to diagnose yourself?**
- **What are the best ways for people to get more exercise?**
- **Are young people generally healthier or unhealthier than older people?**
- **What could you do to be healthier?**
- **Which is more important for our health, diet or exercise?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 8: 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 (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes**.

(Interlocutor to Candidates) **We are now going to talk together for about five 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.)

- **How has life changed since your grandparents were young?**
- **What do you think is the best way to start the day?**
- **Is a job important only for the money it brings?**
- **Every day should be exciting. How easy is this to achieve?**
- **Is having a daily routine a good or a bad thing?**
- **What is your favourite part of the day?**

(After five minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 9: Travel and Transport (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(s') response by verbal invitation (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes** and in the event of there being three candidates, this section should be **seven minutes** in length.

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

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

- **Do you think that travel habits will change much over the next fifty years?**
- **How has the internet changed the way we travel?**
- **What challenges might you face if you moved to a new town or city?**
- **What is the best way for people to travel to work?**
- **Do you think space tourism will happen one day?**
- **Would you learn to fly if you had the opportunity?**
- **What is the longest journey you have ever been on?**
- **What means of transport causes the most pollution?**

(After five (seven) minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

Part 3 – Responding to Questions

TOPIC 10: Jobs and Professions (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(s') response by verbal invitation (*What do you think? Do you agree?*) or by 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 **five minutes** and in the event of there being three candidates, this section should be **seven minutes** in length.

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

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

- **At what age should people decide their future profession?**
- **What characteristics are necessary to be a good doctor?**
- **What job you would least enjoy doing?**
- **Is university the best preparation for the world of work?**
- **Do you think some professions are paid too much?**
- **Which professions most deserve a pay rise?**
- **Is it a good idea to do the same job your whole life?**
- **Should places of work offer free childcare for working parents?**

(After five (seven) minutes)

Thank you.

That is the end of the test.

Goodbye. *(Interlocutor and Assessor)*

SAMPLE

END OF TEST