Instructions for interlocutors

PTE General Level 2

The Interlocutor conducts the test in accordance with the test specifications, the general guidance for Interlocutors and the Interlocutor Script. Make sure you read these before you conduct the test.

The speaking test has 4 sections

Section 10: Personal Information: 1.5 minutes
Section 11: Discussion: 2 minutes
Section 12: Picture: 1.5 minutes
Section 13: Role Play: 2 minutes

Please note;
Please use the relevant enclosed picture card and test taker role card when administering Section 12 and Section 13 of the test.

Please ensure that you record the speaking test as instructed. Test takers must take all the relevant sections of the test.

When you record a test on cassette or CD, please state clearly at the beginning of the test:
- Centre number
- Level being tested
- Name and examiner of the Interlocutor
- Full names and numbers of each test taker

Start test with the following:

Good morning/afternoon. My name’s ____________________.

[1. Check test takers name against attendance sheet.
2. Start timer.
3. Begin test.]

Standard Question: Can you tell me your name please?
Now I'd like you to speak on your own for about one minute.

Main prompt 1:
- Tell me about your last holiday.

Follow-up prompts:
- Where do people usually go for holidays in your country?
- Do you prefer to have an active or relaxing holiday? Why?
- What do you think about camping holidays?
- Where would you like to go on holiday in the future?

Main prompt 2:
- How interested are you in clothes and fashion?

Follow-up prompts:
- Which clothes are in fashion in your country now?
- When should young people be allowed to buy their own clothes? Why?
- Which clothes shops are most popular with people of your age? Why?
- What do you think about shopping online for clothes?

Main prompt 3:
- How important is sport in your life?

Follow-up prompts:
- Do you prefer playing or watching sport? Why?
- Which sports are most popular in your country?
- Is there a new sport which you would like to learn?
- What do you think about winter sports?

Main prompt 4:
- What do you like about your town or city?

Follow-up prompts:
- How popular is your area with tourists? Why?
- What facilities are there for young people?
- How could your town / city be improved?
- Which town or city would you like to visit in the future? Why?
Now, we are going to discuss something together. The question is: "Is it good for young people to spend a lot of time on their computers?" What do you think?

(Use the following arguments as appropriate to take an opposing view to that of the test taker)

For spending time on computers

- They can communicate with their friends safely and easily.
- It’s very useful for learning and school studies.
- It’s an important part of life in the 21st century.
- It’s a cheaper form of entertainment than going out.

Against spending time on computers

- Computers are making young people lazy.
- It may affect their eyes in the future.
- Computers prevent people from meeting face to face.
- It is better to have real-life experiences.
Now, here is a picture of the inside of a theatre. Please tell me what you can see in the picture.

(Hand the picture to the test taker)

(Allow the test taker to speak for about one minute, and then ask this secondary prompt)

Please tell me how the people are feeling and what is going to happen next.

(Retrieve the picture)
Now we are going to take part in a role play. Here is a card with the situation on it.

(Hand the card to the test taker. Allow up to 15 seconds to study the card)

**Test taker’s card**

You are going to the theatre with a friend. You are meeting your friend there but you are late. Phone your friend. The examiner is your friend.

- Apologise and say why you are late.
- Say when you’ll get to the theatre.
- Ask your friend to collect the tickets.
- Thank your friend and ring off.

**Interlocutor’s script**

Your friend is waiting for you outside the theatre. You are late. I am your friend.

Ready? I’ll start.

**Suggested prompts:**

- Hi! You’re late. What’s happened?
- Don’t worry. What time will you be here?
- That’s plenty of time. I’ll wait in the coffee shop.
- Sure. I’ll do it now.
- See you soon. Bye.

(Retrieve the card)

Thank you. That is the end of the test.
You are going to the theatre with a friend. You are meeting your friend there but you are late. Phone your friend. The examiner is your friend.

- Apologise and say why you are late.
- Say when you’ll get to the theatre.
- Ask your friend to collect the tickets.
- Thank your friend and ring off.