



**TÀI LUYỆN ÔN THI
TIẾNG ANH B1 – VSTEP
PHẦN THI NÓI**

OVERVIEW OF VSTEP – SPEAKING

(TỔNG QUAN VỀ PHẦN THI NÓI)

PART	DURATION	FORMAT
Part 1: social interaction	2-3 minutes	Answer 3-6 questions about 2 different familiar topics (Hobbies, family, etc.)
Part 2: Solution discussion	3 minutes (1 minute to prepare and 2 minutes to speak)	Choose 1 of 3 given solutions for the problem
Part 3: topic development	4 minutes (1 minute to prepare and 3 minutes to speak)	Give own opinions on a given topic and answer extended questions.

USEFUL LANGUAGES FOR VSTEP SPEAKING

(NHỮNG CÂU NÊN DÙNG TRONG PHẦN THI NÓI)

1. Common connective words

Addition	Sequence	Consequence	Contrast
In addition and similarly likewise as well as besides furthermore also moreover and then too not only ... but also besides this/that	Firstly Initially secondly To begin with Then Next Earlier/ Later After this/ that Following this/ that Afterwards	As a result Thus So Therefore Consequently It follows that Thereby Eventually Then In that case Admittedly	However On the other hand Despite In spite of Though Although But On the contrary Otherwise yet
Certainly	Condition	Definition	Instead of
Obviously Certainly Plainly Of course Undoubtedly	If Unless Whether Provided that For So that Depending on	Is Refers to Means That is Consists of	Rather Whereas Nevertheless Compared with In contrast Alternatively
Example	Reason	Time	Summary
For Instance One example For example Just as In particular Such as	Since As So Because Due to Owing to	Before Since As Until Meanwhile At the moment	In conclusion In summary Lastly Finally To sum up To conclude

Namely	The reason why	When	To recapitulate
To illustrate	In other words	Whenever	In short
	Leads to	As soon as	
	Cause	Just as	

2. Stalling

Stalling is a way of giving an extra moment or two to think about the answer. You could ask for a question to be repeated, you can use hesitating linking words or phrases.

a. Asking question to be repeated:

- Could you say that again, please?
- Sorry, what was that?
- I'm afraid I don't understand
- I'm afraid I didn't catch that

b. Hesitating linking words or phrases

- Well, to be honest
- Actually
- Let me see
- You know
- That's an/a interesting/tough question. I suppose....
- I'm not really sure, but perhaps...
- Well, it's a bit difficult for me to say, but I guess...

3. Expressing feelings

Negative feelings	Positive feelings
I'm afraid I can't stand	I love

<p>I absolutely hate ... it's really horrible</p> <p>I really don't like</p> <p>I'm not very keen on</p>	<p>I just adore</p> <p>I absolutely adore</p> <p>I'm quite keen on</p> <p>I'm fond of</p> <p>I'm into doing something</p>
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SOCIAL INTERACTION (PHẦN PHỎNG VẤN)

In this part, you will be answered 3-6 questions about 2 different topics.

Step 1: Introduce yourself

My name is you can call me....

Step 2: Answer the questions given by the examiner

Tips:

- Answer at least 2-3 sentences for each question
- Stay on the topic and give extra information (reason for your answer as well)
- Using hesitating words and phrases to make your answer natural.
- Using linking words
- Never speak as if you memorize the answer.

Question types:

1. Like/ dislike

- Using expressing feelings expressions
- Listing ideas by using linking words or phrases

Example: What do you like about your hometown?

=> The best thing about living here is that *everything is at your fingertips*.

Moreover, *I just adore* the local cuisine. However, I'm afraid *I can't stand* the traffic jams during rush hours.

2. Yes/ no question

- Confirm the answer: yes/ no/ it depends
- State the reasons
- Clarify the reason by using example (Optional)

This kind of question partly similar to like/dislike questions except from the confirmation part

Example: Do you like sport?

=> Yes, definitely. I am into it since it helps me to keep fit. Furthermore, I can enjoy meaningful time with my friends.

Example: Do you think people should use public transport?

=> Yes, I totally agree that people should use buses or train since it would save a huge amount of money. Another reason is that it might reduce pollution.

3. Wh question

- You might give the answer and then supporting ideas for it. (interrogative words: what, where)

Example: Where does your family live?

We live in Danang city, the largest city of Central Vietnam. This beautiful place is famous for sandy beaches and annual festival.

- You might give the answer and the reason for your answer

Example: How did you come here today?

=> I came here by motorbike as it is my only vehicle. Furthermore, it's quite convenient because it's easy to find a parking lot.

Example questions for Vstep Speaking part 1

(Những câu hỏi thường gặp)

Family	Job
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can you tell me something about your family? - Where do your family live? - Who are you close to in your family? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you work or study? - Why do you choose that job?/that study? - Do you think you will ever change your job/ study?

Free time	Holidays
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What do you enjoy doing in your free time? - Why do you like doing these activities? - Do you read books/ watch movies/ play sports? why? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What do you do when you have a holiday? - Where do you like to spend your holiday? - Do you enjoy staying at home during the holiday?

Transportation	Hometown
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How did you come here today? - What is public transport like in your town? - Do you think people should use public transport? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can you describe your town or village to me? - What do you like about your hometown? - What jobs do people do in your town do?

Shopping	Keeping fit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you enjoy going shopping? - How much time do you spend shopping every week? - Do you enjoy going shopping alone or with your friends? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What do you do to be in shape - What's your favorite sport? - How can we get young people do more exercise?

Television	Weather
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What sorts of thing do you watch on TV? - What is your favorite TV program? - Do you think it's good idea to have a TV in a bedroom? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is your favorite weather? - Does the weather effect the way you feel? - Do you like the weather in your country?

Music	Hobbies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What's your favorite type of music? - Do you think music is important? - If you could learn a musical instrument, what would it be? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you have a hobby? - What hobbies are popular in your city? - Why do you think people should have hobbies?

Food	Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What's your favorite food? - Is there any food you dislike? - What is healthy diet? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you like book? - What kind of book do you like? - Do you think it is important to encourage children to read?

House	Pet
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can you describe the house where you live? - What do you like about the area where you live? - Do you think it better to live in the center of town or outside in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you like animals? - What is the popular pet to have in your country? - Why do you people have pets?

CHỦ ĐỀ 1: YOUR STUDY OR WORK

Các câu hỏi điển hình:

- ✓ Are you a student or a worker?
- ✓ Why did you choose your major/ job?
- ✓ Is your major/job popular in your country these days?
- ✓ How do you like your major/job?
- ✓ Is there anything you dislike about your major/ job?

- Strengths : thuận lợi
- Weaknesses : bất lợi
- Opportunities: cơ hội nghề nghiệp
- Threats : những thách thức

Giám khảo cũng có thể đặt câu hỏi theo SWOT, ví dụ:

What kind of language can you speak?

What are the benefits of speaking foreign language?

What is the most difficult part of learning another language ?

What is the most efficient way to learning another language?

→ Currently, I am a senior student at XXX University, majoring in computer science and technology and specializing in programing.

→ Well, I am fresh graduate from XXX University, and currently, I'm studying for IELTS at a language center and preparing to further my studies at XXX this coming July.

I choose it simply because.....

The reason why I decided on XXX is that.....

The incentive/ starting point was that I was born for XXX, and my dream is to be a/ an XXX one day.

Actually, I am considering changing my major from A to B since I think that...

1. I am not good at..., and the study of...is really not my cup of tea.
2. ... is the one that i really cannot get over/ is fairly demanding for me to overcome.
3. I am more talented/ gifted in...

NGHỀ NGHIỆP

THUẬN LỢI

Generally, the best thing about my job is... simply/ mainly/ because....

Những lý do khiến bạn yêu thích nghề của mình:

- ✓ Boost my people skills nâng cao kỹ năng giao tiếp

I enjoy interacting / communicating/ mingling with the different types of clients.

- ✓ Expand my social network mở rộng quan hệ xã hội

I may establish a sound relationship in this area

- ✓ Meet my requirements đáp ứng các nhu cầu
 - Financial security đảm bảo về tài chính
 - Promotion opportunity cơ hội thăng tiến
 - Self-improvement hoàn thiện bản thân

BẤT LỢI

Honestly, the worst I have to say about my job is... since...

Lý do bạn không thích nghề nghiệp của mình hay những khó khăn trong nghề

I am little bored with sitting in front of a computer screen all day long, and I am longing for the job that involves dealing with people.

Tôi cảm thấy chán việc ngồi trước màn hình máy tính suốt ngày, tôi khao khát làm một nghề được tiếp xúc với mọi người.

Frankly speaking, I am currently experiencing some bottlenecks at work, and I want to actively look for some breakthrough, so I have chosen to improve my competence through studying abroad.

Nói thẳng ra , hiện tôi đang gặp một số trở ngại trong công việc và tôi muốn chủ động tìm kiếm sự đột phá, vì vậy tôi đã chọn đi du học để nâng cao năng lực của mình.

I hunger to escaping from my daily life routine and living a different life.

Tôi khao khát thoát khỏi sinh hoạt thường nhật của mình và sống một cuộc đời khác

CHỦ ĐỀ 2: YOUR HOMETOWN

Các câu hỏi điển hình

Where are you from?

Is it a big city or small town?

What is the best thing of living in your home town?

Is it suitable for young people to live in?

Vị trí địa lý

My hometown is located in the northern / central / southern part of Vietnam.

Quê tôi ở miền Bắc/ Trung / Nam Việt Nam

Điểm nổi bật

My hometown features seafood and stunning ocean views

Điểm nổi bật của quê tôi là hải sản và cảnh biển tuyệt đẹp

My hometown is the birthplace / place of origin of XXX

Quê tôi là nơi sinh/ bắt nguồn của...

My hometown has the worldwide reputation for XXX

Quê tôi nổi tiếng khắp thế giới về ...

Quy mô

My hometown is a ...

- ✓ Metropolis with millions of dwellers *thành phố lớn với hàng triệu cư dân*
- ✓ Medium city with well-developed facilities *thành phố quy mô vừa với những tiện ích rất tiên tiến*
- ✓ Small city with a beautiful natural landscape *thành phố nhỏ với cảnh thiên nhiên tươi đẹp*

- ✓ Collection of villages with rich natural resource *khu làng giàu tài nguyên thiên nhiên*

Nét đặc sắc

The biggest feature of my city is ...

The most unique characteristic of my hometown is...

When it comes to my hometown,...will be the first thing that comes into people's mind

Cảm nhận về quê hương (nơi này có thích hợp với những người trẻ tuổi hay không)

Thích hợp

Defenitely yes, my hometown is a perfect place for young people to live in simply because ...

Không thích hợp

No, I don't think so since my hometown...

Facilities (những tiện ích)

Thích hợp:

The facilities are well developed, including gyms, schools, hospitals, public transport, and even leisure facilities.

Không thích hợp:

The facilities are les developed, and the resource are a bit limited.

Selection (sự chọn lựa)

Thích hợp:

Young people have all sorts of choices in my city; they can go shopping, enjoy fantastic delicacies, watch films, and so on

Không thích hợp:

Life in my hometown is a bit monotonous; young people have few entertainment options

Opportunity (cơ hội)

Thích hợp: Opportunities in my city are various, from education to job-hunting, from making friends to watching a show, you name it.

Không thích hợp:

Young people can hardly find a well-paid job in my hometown.

Life place (nhịp sống)

Thích hợp:

My hometown is less competitive and stressful than big cities, so young people may live a comfy and cozy life in such an environment.

Không thích hợp:

The living cost is a little bit higher than in small places, and people seldom have to stop and enjoy what they are opposed to.

CHỦ ĐỀ 3: YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Các câu hỏi điển hình:

What do you like to do in your spare time?

How do you spend your holidays or weekends?

What is your favorite way of relaxation?

Gợi ý

In my spare time, I like to...

- ✓ Catch up on gossip with my best friends *tán gẫu với bạn thân*
- ✓ Watch films my boyfriend/girlfriend *xem phim cùng bạn trai/bạn gái*
- ✓ Go window-shopping with my bestie *dạo phố với bạn thân*
- ✓ Play video games *chơi trò chơi điện tử*
- ✓ Go travelling around the country/ world *đi du lịch khắp đất nước/thế giới*
- ✓ Sing karaoke with my classmates / colleagues *hát karaoke với bạn học hoặc đồng nghiệp*
- ✓ Play cards / board games with my buddies *chơi bài/cờ cùng bạn bè*
- ✓ Do some exercise like hiking/jogging/swimming/doing yoga/playing badminton *vận động như đi bộ đường trường/chạy bộ/bơi lội/tập yoga/chơi cầu lông*
- ✓ Go on a picnic with my family members *đi dã ngoại cùng các thành viên trong gia đình*
- ✓ Walk my dog or play Frisbee with it *dắt chó đi dạo hoặc chơi ném đĩa với nó*

Simply because I can

- ✓ Relax my self/wind down/unwind/kick back/lie back/take a load off/ease my mind

Giải thích: Since I am a full-time student, I need to learn how to refresh and revitalize myself

- ✓ Release my pressure/put down my burden/ease my stress

Giải thích: Apparently, I have been pretty stressful about my examinations and my future so I need a way out

- ✓ Keep fit/keep in good shape/keep a good figure/build my body/lose weight/live a well-balanced life

Giải thích : Since I used to be a nerdy man, you know, sitting in front of the computer all day long, I'd better live a healthier life by doing some sport

- ✓ Boost family concord/maintain bonds with friends and family members

Giải thích : You know, I am about to study overseas, and I'll probably be away from them for a while, so I like to cherish every possible chance to socialise with them

Âm nhạc

Do you like music?

A – Khẳng định: Definitely yes, everyone enjoys music, and I am no exception. I love...

Phủ định: Well, honestly speaking, music is really not my cup of tea simply because...

What – pop, techno, hip-hop, rock, classical, light music

Where – Normally, I like to listen to music from my earphones when I take a ride on public transport.

When – When I can't go to sleep, I like to listen some light music to calm myself down.

Who – My most favorite singers are Adele, James Blunt, and Arvil Lavigne.

Why – I am fond of music mainly because it can cheer me up greatly when I feel down/low/blue/bored/tired/depressed (*âm nhạc khiến tôi phấn khởi khi tôi thấy buồn/chán/mệt mỏi/thất vọng...*)

Besides, I also believe that music is an indispensable part (*một phần không thể thiếu*) of culture and tradition, through which I may have a better understanding of

different cultures around the world (tôi có thể hiểu biết tốt hơn về các nền văn hóa khác nhau trên thế giới)

Tác dụng của âm nhạc

- ✓ Purify my heart with melodious rhythms (light/gospel/classical)
- ✓ Produce great chemical reaction in my mind (pop)
- ✓ Wake me up when I feel drowsy in the morning (rock/punk)
- ✓ Blow my mind with strong beats and rhythms (hip hop/R&B/rap)
- ✓ Promote my personal cultivation (classical/musical/opera/symphony)

Phim ảnh

Do you like watching films?

A – Speaking of films, yes, I am a big fan of types of films, such as...

What – comedy, action, romance, sci-fi, vampire, zombie, animation

Where – Normally, I enjoy watching films at cinemas, for it has a better atmosphere with better sound/visual effects.

When and Who – When I am available during weekends, I like to see a film with my bestie/girlfriend/boy friend

Why – I love watching films simply because I can/ it can...

- ✓ Cheer myself up/amuse myself/relax myself/release my pressure (comedy)
Vui vẻ/giải trí/thư giãn/giải tỏa áp lực
- ✓ Escape from my daily life and experience something that can hardly happen in real life
Thoát khỏi sinh hoạt thường nhật và trải nghiệm những thứ không có trong đời thật
- ✓ Have a blast and blow my mind
Cuốn hút tâm trí tôi
- ✓ Boost my imagination and please my eyes with visual effects
Tăng cường trí tưởng tượng và làm mãn nhãn vì hiệu ứng hình ảnh
- ✓ Maintain my childhood interest

Duy trì niềm vui tuổi thơ

- ✓ Provoke thought towards humanity and life

Gợi suy từ về nhân sinh

- ✓ Broaden my horizon and enrich my knowledge

Mở rộng tầm nhìn và làm giàu kiến thức

Du lịch

Do you like travelling?

A – Undoubtedly yes, travelling is my most favorite

When – Who – When I am free from study, I like to travel to different places with my friends or family members

Where – We make trips to big cities like Nha Trang, ancient towns like Hoi An in Quang Nam Province

Why – Through travelling, I can...

- ✓ Meet different people/try different food/experience another culture

Gặp gỡ nhiều khác nhau/thử món ăn khác nhau/trải nghiệm nền văn hóa khác nhau

- ✓ Have a sense of freshness and newness

Có cảm giác mới lạ

- ✓ Escape from daily life routines

Thoát khỏi sinh hoạt thường nhật

- ✓ Get myself well prepared for the future overseas life

Chuẩn bị tốt cho cuộc sống nước ngoài trong tương lai

- ✓ Achieve my lifelong dream of taking a round-the-world tour

Tích lũy dần giấc mơ lâu dài của tôi đó là đi du lịch vòng quanh thế giới

Chơi thể thao

Do you like doing sport?

A – Absolutely yes, I am greatly fascinated by all sorts of sport, including...

What – badminton, billiards, jogging, hiking, cycling, skiing, skating, swimming

Who – Where – Occasionally, I play basketball with my classmates/roommates on the basket-ball court/ in the stadium

Why – I find sport beneficial in a variety of ways. For example, playing sport, I can:

- ✓ Relax myself/release my pressure/release study burdens/ease tiredness
Thư giãn/giải tỏa áp lực/giảm gánh nặng học tập/bớt mệt mỏi
- ✓ Keep fit/keep in good shape/lose weight/build my body
Giữ sức khỏe/giữ dáng/giảm cân/rèn luyện cơ thể
- ✓ Strengthen teamwork spirit and improve co-operation skills
Tăng cường tinh thần đồng đội và cải thiện các kỹ năng hợp tác
- ✓ Socialise / interact with my peers
Giao tiếp với bạn đồng trang lứa
- ✓ Learn the concept of winning and losing/maintain a sense of competition
Hiểu khái niệm thắng thua/duy trì ý thức thi đua

Đọc sách báo

Do you like reading?

A – Yes, I Love reading

What – I normally read novels, newspapers, magazines, and textbooks.

Where – When – While I am on a coach, reading is what I usually do to kill time, and sometimes I read books/magazines or listen to audio books on my iPhone/iPad/cell phone.

Why – Reading, essentially, is a part of my daily life since reading can...

- ✓ Broaden my horizon
Mở rộng tầm nhìn
- ✓ Enrich my knowledge
Làm giàu kiến thức
- ✓ Help me keep us with the latest news and information
Giúp cập nhật tin tức

- ✓ Cultivate my way of thinking (dependent/critical/creative/analytical)

Rèn luyện tư duy

- ✓ Enlighten my mind/set a fire in my mind

Khai sáng trí tuệ

- ✓ Add a bit of fun to my life

Thêm chút niềm vui cho cuộc sống

Đi mua sắm

Do you like shopping?

A – Oh, when it comes to shopping, I have to say that I am really a shopaholic.

When – Where – In my spare time, I like to go to shopping at a mall, a convenience store, a grocery store, a supermarket, a department store, or go shopping online.

What – Mostly, I shop for daily necessities, like cosmetics, skin care products, fashion stuff, snacks, clothes, sneakers, etc.

Why – I love shopping for a variety of reasons; for example, I can...

- ✓ Relax myself/release my pressure

Thư giãn/giải tỏa áp lực

- ✓ Meet my requirements on a daily basis

Đáp ứng các nhu cầu hàng ngày của bản thân

- ✓ Get a sense of satisfaction

Có cảm giác thoải mái

- ✓ Buy myself a brand-new dress/try on different clothes

Mua cho mình một chiếc đầm mới tinh/mặc thử quần áo khác nhau

- ✓ Have an opportunity to catch up with beasties

Có dịp theo kịp bạn bè

- ✓ Catch up with the latest trend and fashion

Theo kịp xu hướng thời trang mới nhất

- ✓ Facilitate my daily life with new technologies

Giảm bớt những khó khăn trong sinh hoạt thường nhật bằng các công nghệ mới.

Travel

Do you like travelling?

A – Yes, I guess everyone enjoys travelling, and I am no exception.

When – Who – Normally, in my spare time, I may travel to different places with my parents or my best friends.

Where – I have travelled to many places, including coastal cities like Phu Quoc Island, minority gathering areas like Sa Pa and Central Highlands. I also went to Cambodia last summer vacation.

Why – I like travelling since it definitely brings me heaps of benefits.

1st reason: Firstly, my horizon can be greatly broadened as I can meet different people from different places, try different food, and even learn different languages and cultures

2nd reason: Besides, I always regard travelling as a perfect chance for me to get away from my daily life routines. You know, life gets monotonous if you stay in one place all year long, and through travelling, my life can be revitalized.

Lợi ích của du lịch :

- ✓ Broaden horizon
Mở rộng tầm nhìn
- ✓ Unwind/relax/release pressure
Thư giãn/giải tỏa áp lực
- ✓ Escape from daily life routines
Thoát khỏi sinh hoạt thường nhật
- ✓ Boost family/friend bonding
Thắt chặt quan hệ gia đình/bạn bè
- ✓ Experience new customs/visit sceneries
Trải nghiệm phong tục mới/tham quan
- ✓ Meet personal needs, like shopping/visiting friends or relatives
Đáp ứng các nhu cầu cá nhân như mua sắm/thăm bạn bè hoặc họ hàng.

Do you prefer to travel alone or with others?

Đưa ra quan điểm	Well, normally, I prefer travelling with others
Nêu lý do	Simply because I may share many things, such as accommodation, transport, and even laughter, with my mates during the trip
Nêu giả định	If I travel alone, I guess I will be lonely and I may even be helpless when there is a trouble
Đề cập mặt đối lập	However, occasionally, travelling alone can be more flexible and free, and I won't need to get with other people
Kết luận	So, it depends on my mood, but mostly, I prefer travelling in a group

Transport

What is your favorite mode of transport?

There is a variety of transport choices in my city, including..., and my most commonly used one is...

Từ vựng

Commuter người đi lại hàng ngày bằng phương tiện công cộng	Commute đi lại hàng ngày bằng phương tiện công cộng
Metro/subway/tube tàu điện ngầm	Cruise/passenger liner tàu du lịch
Train Tàu hỏa	Light rail tàu hỏa hạng nhẹ
Ferry phà	Double-deck bus xe buýt 2 tầng
Hydrofoil tàu cánh ngầm	Minibus xe buýt nhỏ
Shuttle bus xe buýt tuyến	Long-haul coach xe khách đường dài
Express train tàu hỏa tốc hành	High-speed rail tàu cao tốc
Private jet máy bay riêng	Yacht du thuyền

What kind of transport would you choose when taking a long-distance trip?

Đưa ra quan điểm	Personally, I would choose airplane as my priority for a long-distance trip
Nêu lý do	Apparently, airplane is the fastest way of transport, and I don't need to waste my time on the trip
Nêu ví dụ và giả định	For example, I am planning to study overseas; if I use others forms of transport instead of airplane, say, ship, it will be ridiculous since it might take me several months to get there.
Kết luận	So, it seems like airplane is the only choice left for me to reach my destination

Driving

Do you have a driving license?

Yes, I got my driving license when I was 20 years old, and currently, I am thinking of buying a car as long as my work is set.

Do you prefer to be a driver or a passenger?

Đưa ra quan điểm	Normally, I prefer to be a passenger
Nêu lý do	Mainly because it is less stressful. I don't need to focus my attention on the traffic situation, and I can spend time doing something like playing games on my phone
Nêu ví dụ và giả định	For example, if I am a driver, I may lose my way or get stuck in a traffic jam, which could be really annoying
Đề cập mặt đối lập	Yet, I do agree that driving sometimes can bring me lots of joy and freedom; for example, I can take a self-drive tour to nearby towns
Kết luận	All in all, being a passenger is my preference

Holiday/Weekend

How often do you have holidays?

Well, normally, since I am still a college student, there are two periods when I can have long holidays, which are the summer holiday and Lunar New Year holiday

What will you do during holidays?

During holidays, I like to go travelling, just as many other young people. Besides, I also try to find a part-time job or an intern job. Since I am about to hunt for a job in the coming year, it is pretty necessary to enrich work experience.

Is it important to have holidays?

Đưa ra quan điểm	Yes, absolutely yes, having holidays is really necessary
Nêu lý do	Mainly because holidays give us a chance to rest, and we can do whatever we want to
Nêu ví dụ	For example, we can learn new skills, travel to different places, or spend time with my parents, and after the holiday, we will be revitalised and refreshed for study or work
Đề giả định	Without holidays, I guess we would probably be exhausted and have no time for adjustment
Kết luận	So, holidays are vital for everyone

VSTEP SPEAKING PART 2

SOLUTION DISCUSSIONS

Question requirements

In this part of the test, you are given **A SITUATION** and **THREE OPTIONS** for you to choose from. You need to decide on **THE BEST** choice and **JUSTIFY** your opinion

Example

Your family is planning on a holiday. There are three options that are reasonable to your family time and financial budget: three-day trip to a foreign country, four-day trip to a mountainous area, and a two-day trip at a beach resort. What do you think is the best choice?

- **Situation:** Your family is planning on a holiday
- **Options:** There are three options that are reasonable to your family time and financial budget: three-day trip to a foreign country, four-day trip to a mountainous area, and a two-day trip at beach resort
- **Requirement:** Which do you think is the best choice?

Answering method:

Step 1: Analyze the topic. (1 minute)

- Choose the option that you have more ideas (not the one you interested in)
- List 2 advantages (reasons) of the option you choose and disadvantages of the 2 remain options

Step 2: Answer the question

- Introduction : (paraphrase the statement) State the option you choose
- Body : state 2 advantages and compare with the other 2 options
- Conclusion : Summarize your choice

Note:

- Don't try to complicate your ideas, Make it straightforward, simple and easy to understand
- Compound and complex sentences are welcome, make sure you produce accurate simple sentences
- Try to speak without hesitation. Choose the option that you find it easier to explain and support rather than choose what you like
- Try to maintain eye contact with the examiner during your talk

Languages features:

1. Comparatives and superlatives (to show the similarities and differences between the options, try to highlight the most outstanding features of your option)
2. Signal words to list the reasons and support to create coherence within your answer

Sample answer*Question:*

You are 18 now and you have the right to decide on what kind of accommodation you want. There are three options for you to choose from: living with your parents, living with your close friends in a rented house and living in the dormitory. Which do you think is the best?

Sample 1:

As for me, living in the dormitory is an ideal choice because of two main reasons. First, it will be more convenient and effective for my study. I don't have to waste time travelling to campus as when living with my parents or with my friends in a rented house. I can also get accessed to study facilities such as library or computer labs much more easily. Second, living in the dormitory will help me to enjoy my student life to the fullest. There are many fun activities on campus which students living at home or

outside the university my find it harder to participate in. I can also build a larger network of friends because many students live in the dormitory

Sample 2:

As for me, living in the dormitory is an ideal choice because of two main reasons. First, it will be more convenient and effective for my study. I don't have to waste much time travelling to campus. I can also get accessed to study facilities such as library or computer labs much more easily. Second, living in the dormitory will help me to enjoy my student life to the fullest. There are many fun activities on campus for me to participate in. I can also build a larger network of friends because many students live in the dormitory. By contrast, living with my parents or with my friends in a rented house will involve commuting to college, which makes it harder for me to utilize campus facilities or take part in all the activities organized at university

ESSENTIAL LANGUAGE FOR VSTEP SPEAKING – PART 2

1. Appropriate language for compare and contrast structures:

Function	vocabulary	Sample sentence frames
Compare	both same also like analogous to similar similarly alike whereas each likewise just as in the same way akin to as well asandboth have.... Both And.... Are....? ... and... are the same because...?also has... ...is like ... because....? Similarly ... is.... ...is similar to ... in many ways because ... and ... Whereas ...is ..., ... is and...? ... and ...are alike because...is just as difficult as... because...

	on a similar note	
Contrast	Different But Although Different from However One difference On the other hand In comparison By comparison Instead of In contrast to Conversely Even though Unlike On the contrary Yet Despite Differ Variation otherwise	...is Different than.... Because... ...is ..., but... is ... Although ...has..., ... has is However, ...is... ... is... . on the other hand, ..is... Even though... has...,... has... ... and... differ because... ... is unlike ... because has..., yet... has... ... is on the contrary, ...is... Despite having ..., ... is different because ... One variation between... and... is that ... has...

2. Appropriate language to express “advantages”: clear benefits, obvious plus point, further merit,...

- a. Begin with an opening linking phrase that explains that “there are many advantages”.
 - Well I suppose that there are quite a few clear benefits.
 - Clearly there are a number of obvious merits.
 - Sure there are a few favorable aspects.
 - Obviously there are a number of positive features.

- b. Now, highlight the most obvious advantage:
- But I would probably say that the one thing that really stands out is that ...
 - But it goes without saying that the most apparent would be that...
 - Although I guess that the most visible would be that...
 - However, I guess that the most evident would be that...
- c. Now develop this advantage with one of the following structures
- This is obviously favorable because
 - This is undoubtedly positive for the simple reason that...
 - This is without doubt beneficial because...
- d. Now introduce your second advantage:
- At the same time a second bonus might be that...
 - Besides this, a second plus point could be that...
 - As well as this a further favorable aspect would be that...
- e. Add a simple sentence to explain the advantage and develop it with one of the following:
- This is clearly advantageous because...
 - This is definitely valuable since...
 - This is surely a positive feature because...

NOTE: for most questions, two advantages should be enough to produce a good quality answer. There is no need to list every advantage.

3. Appropriate language to express “disadvantages” : drawback, shortcoming, limitation...

SUGGESTED STRUCTURES FOR DESCRIBING DISADVANTAGES OF SOMETHING:

- a. Begin with a linking structure to explain that there are some disadvantages:
- I think it's fair to say that there are few negative aspects.
 - I'm sure most people would agree that there are some drawbacks.
 - Of course there are a couple of shortcomings.
- b. Now introduce your main disadvantage:

- I guess the most impractical characteristic would be that...
 - I suppose the most unfavorable quality might be that..
 - Unquestionably, the most adverse feature would be that...
- c. Now use a linking structure to develop this disadvantage:
- Most people would agree that this is problematic because...
 - This is an obvious weakness because...
 - This is a clear limitation because...
- d. Now describe your second disadvantage:
- Correspondingly, an additional weak point might be that...
 - Supplementary to this, a further handicap may be that...
 - At the same time, another stumbling block might be that
- e. Add a simple sentence to explain the disadvantage and develop it with one of the following:
- And the trouble with this is that...
 - This is can be a hassle because...
 - This is usually an aggravation because...

ADDITIONAL STRUCTURE TO CONVEY YOUR IDEAS

- **State your opinion:**

I suppose I would choose A as the most suitable choice (method , means)...

Certainly/ obviously/ A would be the ultimate option...

A is the option that suits me most...

- **Explain your choice by giving two advantages:**

This is due to / because of two main factors.

Clearly/ obvious, there are two mains reason for my choice.

- **Present 2 other options:**

It is also suggests that I choose B and C...

My friends/ many/ several recommend that ...

However, I was recommended that... because...

- **Present the pros of B and C:**

Regarding B, it can't be denied that/ undeniably ...

C is clearly effective since/ as/ for ...

- **Present the cons of B and C:**

As compared to A / in comparison with A,....

Conversely, B/C is not suitable ...

Despite the plus points, B/C are not the ultimate options due to....

In spite of the positive, B / possesses several shortcomings.

- **Present the disadvantage of A and rebut (for rebuttal you may use the two tips presented in class)**

It is clear that A ...; however, considering ...

I must admit that A has one downside regarding ..., however,...

Even though ..., I still opt for this because...

Even though A is..., it is solvable...

Compared to B and C, A ...; however...

Example question for VSTEP speaking part II

1. You are going to invite your friends to your birthday party, but you are wondering where to hold your party: at your house? At a restaurant? or at a karaoke?
2. Your family is planning on a holiday. There are three options that are reasonable to your family time and financial budget: three – day trip to a foreign country, four-day trip to a mountainous area, and a two-day trip at a beach resort. What do you think is the best choice?

3. One of your classmates is having a trouble choosing another foreign language to study for some credits at university and asks you for your opinion. Between Spanish, Japanese and Thai, which one would be the best?
4. Your family is planning on overseas trip this Christmas. However, you and your family are still concerning about how long the trip would last. Between 3 days, 5 days and one week. Which one might be the best selection?
5. An older couple is going away for their 40th wedding anniversary. They are considering three options: a day hike in the mountains, a luxurious cruise around the Mediterrean, a spa get away at a beach? Which do you think would be the most suitable?
6. The youth club in your neighborhood intends to introduce a new activity for teenager in the area. They are considering three options: drama, chess and photography. Which do you think would be the most suitable for teenager in your area.
7. In order to raise student's awareness of world affairs, the principle of a high school in your neighborhood wants teacher to design a project on one of the following themes: climate change, terrorism and discrimination. Which do you think would be suitable for the project?
8. The local council having extra funds wants to improve the area. Here are some suggestions on how the money can be spent: a sports center, a library and a park. Which do you think would be suitable for your area?
9. This summer you and your friends are planning to go on a trip through Vietnam. Here are three means of transport you are considering: car, train and plane. Which would be best option in your opinion?
10. You are planning on buying a house, there are three options that need consideration; well-equipped apartment on the 30th floor of a condominium in the city center; a three-floor house in the suburbs without any furniture , and a single-floor with full furniture. What do you think is the best choice?
11. A group of friends is discussing ways to improve listening skill. Three possible options are watching movie on movie star, listening to radio programs and conversing with foreigners. Which way do you think is the best option?

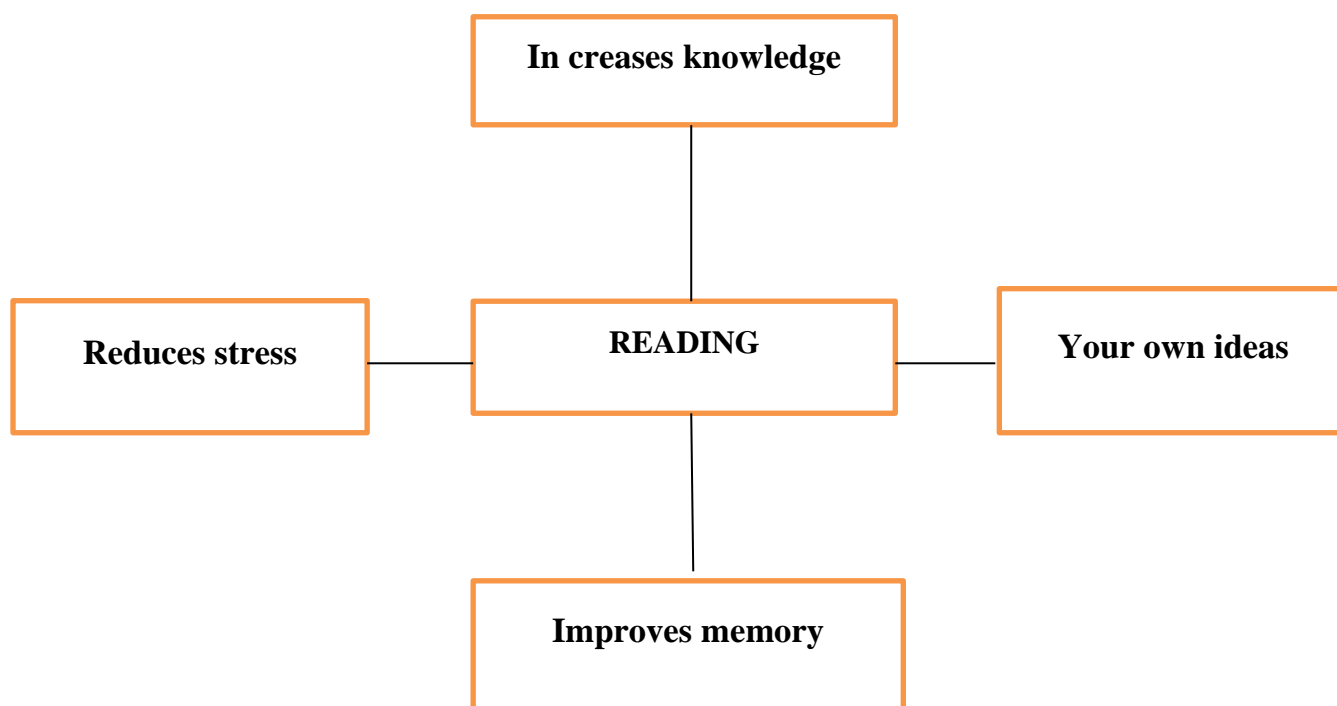
12. A group of people are discussing ways to protect the environment. Three possible options are go to school or work by bicycle, recycle all bottles, cans and paper and buy locally made goods whenever possible. What way do you think is the best choice?
13. Your class is going to get together and celebrate when exams are over. You and your friends have been asked to decide to have a picnic, a party at someone's house or a meal at a restaurant. Which options do you think is the best choice?
14. Some of your friends are thinking about a place to go on holiday. Which of three places do you think is the best options: sandy beach for sunbathing, picturesque mountainous area for picnic or recreational center for risky sports?
15. One of your friends has problem with his/ her sleep. What would you recommend him/ her to do to better sleep: counting sheep, reading before bed, listening to classical music?
16. Your friends are discussing ways to makes donations for charitable organizations. Three options are donating old clothes, produce hand- made crafts and sell for money, giving food. Which do you think is the best option?
17. You and your friends are going to go out tonight. Which places would you like to go to: the cinema, shopping center, recreation center?
18. You and your friends are making hand-made crafts for charitable fund-raising. You are thinking how to advertise your products: using Facebook, distributing leaflets, sending emails/ text messages. Which options do you think is the best choice.
19. You feel sorry for the mistake you've made with a friend. You want to make apology but don't know if a telephone call, a text message or handing writing letter can do best.
20. Your school is making a poll among students what to build next: a new canteen, a sports center or a new library. Which facility do you think will be of benefit for your school.

VSTEP SPEAKING PART 3

TOPIC DEVELOPMENT

In this part of the test, there will be given a **STATEMENT** and some **SUPPORTING DETAILS**, which are displayed in a **MIND-MAP**. You need to **CLARIFY** the statement by using the supporting details and your **OWN IDEAS**

Example: reading habit should be encouraged among teenagers.



- **Statement:** reading habit should be encouraged among teenagers
- **Supporting details:** increases knowledge
Reduces stress
Improves memory

Answering method

Step 1: **analyze the topic(1 minute)**

- Find synonym, phrasal verbs, collocation, etc. to change the expressions of the statement topic

- Find example for each supporting detail or clarify it with more information
- Find your own idea and example or more information for it.

Step 2: state your answer

- Introduction; paraphrase the statement.
- Body: develop the supporting details (which are given as nouns, noun phrase, verbs phrase, etc.) into sentences. For each supporting detail, present example or further information.
- Conclusion: summarize the topic.

Tips:

- Try to vary your vocabulary by using synonym , related words, phrasal verbs, etc, instead of using given words
- For the extended questions, use the method of speaking part 1

Answer sample: reading habit should be encouraged among teenagers

Step 1

❖ Statement:

- Reading habit = reading culture, the habit of reading , the culture of reading
- Encouraged =to boost, to inspire
- Teenagers = the youth , adolescence, young people, young generation, teens

❖ Supporting details

- Increase knowledge = broaden/ widen knowledge / understanding
Knowledge gathers day by day through books.
- Reduces stress = release stress, get away from pressure, stress reduction
Keep people away from reality
- Improve memory = memory improvement
Have to remember characters, backgrounds, etc => help to gain memory improvement
- ❖ Own ideas: improve focus and concentration.

Step 2

Reading culture seems to be forgotten because of modern technology. However, teens should engage with reading for following reasons

First of all, the culture of reading allows young generation to widen their understanding. In fact, everything they achieve from book would fill their head with new information.

Next, reading habit would be method to free adolescence's mind. No matter how much stress they have at a school, at home, in their relationships, it all just slips away when they lose themselves in a great story.

Another good point of reading culture is the memory improvement it brings. When you read a book, you have to remember characters, their backgrounds as well as their ambitions, history, etc. It is undeniable that it is a good method to practice memorization skills.

Lastly, teens would improve focus and concentration through reading books. When they read a book, all of their attention is focused on the story. As a result, their ability to concentrate would be increase.

To sum up, the youth should be inspired to read books due to the benefits it bring.

SUGGESTED TOPIC FOR VSTEP SPEAKING

No	topic	Part1	Part 2	Part 3
1	Family	Answer some question about your family	Which one would be your best choice: a large family with many children, a small family in which you a the only child, and a small family with 2 children	Advantages of nuclear family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For children - For parents - Your own ides
2	Jobs	Answer some	Between	Factors that affect

		question about your job	becoming a doctor, a teenager and an engineer, which one will you choose? Why?	people's choice of job <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personalities - Hobbies - Money-earning - Your own ideas
3	Transportation	Answer some question about your transportation	There are three means of transport: train, car, motorbike. Which one would be your best choice to travel to HCM city	The importance of air travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -promote international trade -facilitate international tourism - your own ideas
4	TV	Answer some question about your TV program	Between watching a sports program, a short show, which one might be your best choice?	Benefits of watching TV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -widen your knowledge - entertainment - your own ideas
5	Movies	Answer some question about films	Between a comedy , a horror movie and an romantic movie, which one is your best choice	Reasons for watching movies in the cinema <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More real feelings - brand-new movies -Your ideas
6	Cities	Answer some question about your city/ a famous city	New York, HCM city and Tokyo, which one might be your best choice	Changes of your home town <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Environment -Transportation -Your own ides

7	Famous people	Answer some question about celebrity	A famous singer like My Tam, a movie star like Ngo Thanh Van or a famous athlete like Anh Vien, who would you like to become, why?	Problems of being famous -lack of privacy - lots of pressure -Your own ideas
8	Hobbies	Answer some question about hobbies and interest	Which is your best choice- collecting stamps, fishing or listening to music	Reason for talking up a hobby -to build confidence -to fight stress - Your own ideas
9	Technology	Answer some question about technological advances	Advances in healthcare, the development of air travel and space exploration. What is your vote? Why?	The drawback of technology -make people lazy -kill people's leisure time - Your own ideas
10	Technological items	Answer some question about mobile phones	A dishwasher , mobile phone and a laptop. Which one will you buy?	Common use of mobile phone -communication -entertainment - Your own ideas
11	Keeping fit	Answer some question about sport	Between doing aerobics, skiing and playing football, which	Advantages of regular exercise -good health - be In shape

			one might be the best way to keep fit?	- Your own ideas
12	Presents	Answer some question about presents	Which gift you are going to bring to your friend's birthday party; some fruit, a bunch of flowers or cakes?	The difficulties of choosing presents: -takes lots of time Hard to choose a suitable one - Your own ideas
13	Charities activities	Answer some question about what to do to help people	Between an organization that rescues wildlife animals, a charity that helps HIV affected people and charity that helps street children. Which one would you like to work for?	Benefits of doing charities: -help people - feel better - Your own ideas
14	Vacation	Answer some question about holidays	Between going to the beach, mountain climbing and visiting hometown , which one might be the best choice	Reason for traveling -relaxation - discovery - Your own ideas
15	Tourist accommodation	Answer some question about	A big and expensive hotel,	Relationships between tourist accommodation

		travelling	a small but comfortable hotel and a home stay. Which one might be the best choice for you? why	and tourism -tourism helps to develop tourist accommodation - tourist accommodation promotes tourism - Your own ideas
16	shopping	Answer some question about shopping	Online shopping, TV shopping and catalog shopping. Which would be your best choice?	Benefits of online shopping -save time - variety of items - Your own ideas
17	music	Answer some question about music	Violin, piano, and drum, what would you choose to learn	Children should learn to play instrument in the early age: -teach them perseverance - increase their concentration - Your own ideas