

Key Points

- Listen to a prompt then respond (speaking)
- Listen to the prompt 3 times (within 20 seconds)
- Important to answer the prompt (task relevance)
- 90 seconds in total to answer
- Need to speak for at least 30 seconds
- Once on the test
- Conversation and production subscores
- Not on the practice test

Tips

- Make sure you understand the prompt
- Listen 3 times
- Your answer must be directly related to the prompt
- Use a range of vocabulary and grammar
- Use linking phrases to increase your fluency
- Speak for as long as you can
- Practice often

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Listening 1 2 3



Talk about

talk about _____ ?
_____. _____ ?
_____ ?

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Talk about a job that you would not like to do in the future. What is the job? Why wouldn't you like to do it?

NEXT

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Listening 1 2 **3**

 **Talk about**

_____ . _____ ? _____

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Talk about a festival that is celebrated in your country. What is it? Why is it important?

NEXT

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Listening 1 2 **3**



What school

_____ ? _____ ?

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Describe an art exhibition you have seen.
When did you go there? Where was it?
What was it like?

NEXT

Talk about the differences between working for a big company and working for a small company. Which do you prefer?

When choosing a company to work for, there are few things more important to consider than the size of the company. Typically, big companies offer higher salaries and have a bigger corporate ladder to climb, which could lead to more responsibilities and promotions. On the other hand, at a small company, an individual can make more of an impact. At small companies, your ideas and hard work have a bigger impact on the long-term success of the company, which can feel very rewarding. These are some differences between working for a big company and a small one. I definitely want to work for a small company when I graduate from university.

Sample Answer

Question: Describe a major decision you have taken in your life. Was it the right decision?

Answer: A really important decision I've made recently is to study abroad, which is the reason I'm here taking this test today. No one from my family has ever had the chance to study abroad before. My parents were actually hoping I'd start training to become a doctor as soon as I graduate. But, in fact, I don't think I want to practice medicine. I really want to study marketing, especially digital marketing, and I want to learn about different cultures. If I study digital marketing in Canada, I can learn how to do business in this new digital era, which is of course very competitive and fast-moving. As for whether it was the right decision, I'm pretty confident it was, and I am really looking forward to broadening my experience and meeting new people in Canada. I'm going to do my best to finish my university course and I will go back to my country with new ideas that will help me get a good job. So, anyway, that's an important decision that I have taken in my life.

Sample Answer

Question: Describe a school subject that you did not like in the past, but you like now. What made you change your mind?

Answer: When I was a school student, like everyone else, I had to study a lot of subjects. I enjoyed most of them, but there was one that I really didn't like, and that was history. I think the reason was that I disliked the teaching method of my teacher. To be completely frank with you, he was a lazy teacher. All he did was copy words and facts from our coursebook to the board and made us write down what he wrote. There was no actual teaching involved. He then would tell us that we had to memorize all the information if we didn't want to receive a low grade for his subject. It was awful! When I was in my early twenties, I watched a film about Roman history. The film was about how the Romans invented things like bridges, roads, stadiums, and lots of other important things. I really enjoyed the film and realized that history is not as dull as I originally thought. After watching that film, I began reading more about history, watching documentaries, and even going to museums. I'm completely fascinated with history now.

Sample Answer

Question: Nowadays more and more people live non-active lives. Why do you think this is? What are the problems associated with this?

Answer: Living a non-active life is becoming more and more common these days even though there are a large number of sports facilities and government campaigns. The main problems caused by an inactive lifestyle are obesity and back pain. Actually, I have suffered with back pain, and it is awful. It's a well-known fact that long periods of physical inactivity raise the risk of becoming overweight and obese. This is because you burn fewer calories and easily gain weight when you don't move or exercise often. Also, posture and back problems are associated with leading a non-active life. Sitting for long periods causes serious back pain, and this can have long-lasting problems. All in all, leading a non-active lifestyle causes a lot of health problems, including obesity and spinal issues. I suggest people start exercising and going outside more often. For the past 3 years, I have been doing 20 minutes of yoga every day, and it has helped me overcome my back pain!

Sample Answer

Question: Global warming is one of the biggest threats humans face in the 21st Century. What problems are associated with this?

Answer: Global warming is certainly the biggest issue facing humanity this century. The biggest worry I have is the rising ocean levels because I live near the sea. The most concerning problems caused by climbing sea levels are that land is being lost and peoples' homes being flooded. As water levels rise, low-lying land gets flooded, and many towns and cities get seriously damaged. On top of all that, millions of people all over the world live in coastal areas, and if the sea rises by even a few feet, they completely lose their property. Another major problem related to global warming is air pollution. Nowadays many big cities all over the world have major air pollution problems and this could lead to residents of those cities becoming seriously ill as they get older. In my opinion, it is time that we moved away from fossil fuels and tried using a cleaner type of energy, like wind power or even nuclear energy. Global warming is certainly the biggest threat to humans in the 21st century and I'm very worried.

Sample Answer

Question: Is there a job that you would not like to do in the future. What is the job? Why do you think it is undesirable?

Answer: Nowadays, there are ample choices available in the market when it comes to career options. If I had to choose one particular job among many that I would not like to do, I suppose it would be a sales job. Once I worked as a salesman for a computer company, and I really hated it. When I worked in the sales department for that company as an intern, I was in charge of making cold calls and trying to sell computers and other computer related items like printers and so on. Initially, I was very enthusiastic about calling people and selling them the computers. But right away I figured out that it was an incredibly stressful job for me. I'm an introvert, so calling and meeting lots of strangers every day made me very anxious. I have a lot of respect for sales workers, especially successful ones. They have a lot of determination and patience for their job. But I believe I don't have the skillset or personality for a sales job in the future. Anyway, that's a job that I certainly would not like to do in the future.

Sample Answer

Question: It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree?

Answer: There are some obvious pros and cons of living in a city and living in the countryside. And, to be frank, I'm not sure which is better. I think children who grow up in the countryside seem to be more mature and independent. The skills they need in life develop faster because of the environment they're brought up in, and this has some obvious advantages. On the flip side, even though kids who grow up in big cities tend to be less independent, they have more career and educational opportunities. In an ideal world, most children would live in a city and visit the countryside frequently or vice versa. I was pretty lucky that I spent most of my early childhood in the countryside, but then moved to a medium-sized city when I was about 15 years old. I'm sure this balance has helped me a lot in my life.

Sample Answer

Question: Describe an exciting experience you've had. What happened?

Answer: One of the most exciting experiences in my life so far was when I launched my first project for my business. I felt very proud of the product I had made, but I also had doubts about how I could find people to buy the product. So ultimately, I had very low expectations and just hoped a few people would like the product and support me. When launch day arrived, I was nervous but hopeful. At first, nothing happened and I started to get very worried. For the first few hours, my fears seemed to be confirmed. But then slowly over time, people began to find and buy the project, and it turned into one of the most exciting times of my life. Since then, I have launched several other small businesses, mostly on the internet, and I absolutely love thinking of new products to create. I think the most exciting experiences in my life so far have all been business related.

Question: In your opinion does money equal success? Why or why not?

To begin with, each person can be successful in their own way. Some people earn success through money while others earn success through hard work and respect. **A great example of this is** my father, I consider my father to be very successful even though he doesn't have a lot of money because he is deeply loved by all his friends and family. **What's more**, many social workers, musicians, artists, scientists, and writers have been successful in their lives because of their contribution to society regardless how much money they earned. **That being said**, money does play an important role in everyone's lives and a lot of people work very hard to build wealth. **To wrap up**, I believe that success is about fulfilment and not how much money you earn.



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Sample question

Discuss public assistance offered to low-income families in your country.

- What kind of assistance is offered?
- Who can benefit?
- What are some of positive and negative results of these programs?

Introducing your talk

- Today, I'd like to talk about ...
- In this talk, I'm going to describe/explain ...
- I would like to talk about ...
- I'm going to tell you about ...

Today, I'd like to talk about the different types of housing assistance low-income families get in my country.

Moving to another question

- In regard to the first question...
- Turning to the second question ...
- As for the final question ...
- Returning to the first question...

In regard to the first question, low-income families are entitled to several types of housing assistance, but the most common, I believe, is rental assistance where families can receive a grant to help pay their rent.

Moving to another question

- In regard to the first question...
- Turning to the second question ...
- As for the final question ...
- Returning to the first question...

In regard to the first question, low-income families are entitled to several types of housing assistance, but the most common, I believe, is rental assistance where families can receive a grant to help pay their rent.

Moving to another question

- In regard to the first question...
- Turning to the second question ...
- As for the final question ...
- Returning to the first question...

As for the final question, I strongly believe that support for low-income families is essential, especially for families with children.

Moving to another question

- In regard to the first question...
- Turning to the second question ...
- As for the final question ...
- Returning to the first question...

Returning to the second question, I would like to add that low-income families are not the only ones who can receive government support but also the elderly and people with disabilities can receive similar assistance.

Giving your opinion

- I'm inclined to believe that ...
- From my point of view/ perspective ...
- My impression is that ...
- As far as I'm concerned, ...
- The way I see it, ...

I'm inclined to believe that housing assistance is essential for many low-income families, especially families with young children.

Giving your opinion

- I'm inclined to believe that ...
- From my point of view/ perspective ...
- My impression is that ...
- As far as I'm concerned, ...
- The way I see it, ...

As far as I'm concerned, housing assistance is vital for many struggling families.

Giving your opinion

- I'm inclined to believe that ...
- From my point of view/ perspective ...
- My impression is that ...
- As far as I'm concerned, ...
- The way I see it, ...

The way I see it, housing assistance is an important benefit for families who are struggling economically.

Developing your ideas: Examples

- For instance, ...
- A great example of this is ...
- Let me share an example ...
- An instance from my life that springs to mind is ...

For instance families who are eligible for housing assistance can receive monthly grants to help pay for their rent as well as food stamps to cover the cost of groceries.

Developing your ideas: Examples

- For instance, ...
- A great example of this is ...
- Let me share an example ...
- An instance from my life that springs to mind is ...

An instance from my life that spring to mind is when my best friend's mother and father both lost their jobs and they had to rely on government benefits for a short time to afford their groceries and pay their energy bills.

Concluding

- To wrap this talk up, ...
- To summarize my opinion quickly, ...
- So that's why, ...
- To make a long story short, ...

To wrap this talk up, although some people argue that my government are too generous with the assistance they offer to low-income families, I believe it is essential that they continue offering this type of support.