**SPEAKING PART 2 – IDEA GENERATION, PROPER GRAMMAR & WORDS WITH CONTENT**

It is important that you understand what ideas you can use for your IELTS speaking Part 2. You need to know what topics are appropriate and how a topic can be expanded.

On this page you will see:

* a list of ideas
* a model answer
* examiner comments
* a list of vocabulary
* useful link
* a picture

**Possible Ideas**

Let’s look at these topics: An Activity near the Sea. Below is a list of possible topics:

Let me give you a current speaking part 2 topic: **An Activity Near the Sea You have Done**

Which of the following ideas can you use for this topic?

1. Fishing
2. Water-skiing
3. Swimming
4. Sunbathing
5. Shopping
6. Photography
7. A lazy day near the sea
8. A future holiday near the sea

Decide which of the above ideas is possible for this topic.

**Answer**

You can use all of the above ideas for your Speaking Part 2 talk about an activity near the sea.

The examiner is not marking your ideas. It does not affect your score to go off topic. You are not marked on using relevant ideas.

Your speaking score is based 100% on your English language – nothing more. You are not even marked on understanding. You are only marked on fluency, grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation.

**How to Use Ideas for Speaking Part 2**

See this model answer below to learn how to use all the above ideas:

**Model Answer**

I will tell you about a place I have been to near the sea and all the activities there were on offer there. Personally, I go to the sea to enjoy the sea air and see family. But there are also plenty of other things to do.

The town I go to is called Hoi An, which is both by the sea and also situated on a river. Most people take part in fishing and swimming, although the current in the sea can sometimes be a bit strong. It’s not the best place for water-skiing due to the waves, so most people just take a dip in the sea and sunbathe. Along the coast line are loads of shops selling a variety of souvenirs. I often enjoy browsing when I have the time.

The town itself is incredibly pretty. It is a UNESCO heritage site and boasts amazingly photographic scenes, particularly as daylight fades in the evening and the town has a golden glow under the street lamps. It attracts a lot of photographers from around the world and, the last time I was there, I couldn’t stop taking snap shots as I pottered around the town.

I think Hoi An is the perfect place for a lazy day near the sea. It’s not just because there are activities to do but because there is just a pleasant feel of arriving in another world that takes your breath away. I plan to have a lot more holidays there in the future. In fact, I’ve already booked my next trip.

**Comments**

You can see that this model answer does not focus on one activity near the sea. Instead, this model answer offers lots of activities as it describes a holiday.

This model answer would get band score 9. It is fine to adapt the topic and bring in lots of ideas to develop your story. The talk is informal (all IELTS speaking is informal) and you can see this in the style. It is chatty, friendly and full of interesting ideas – with great vocabulary.

Speaking part 2 has no questions, just prompts. It is your task to go beyond the prompts and add lots more information that isn’t asked for in order to develop your talk and showcase your English. Going off topic by adding more detail does not affect your score. Your ideas are not marked in IELTS speaking.

**Vocabulary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * the sea air * the current can be strong * take a dip in the sea * variety of souvenirs * enjoy browsing * photographic scenes | * as daylight fades * golden glow * taking snap shots * potter around * take your breath away |

You can see that the vocabulary is mostly informal or descriptive. This is prefect for IELTS speaking part 2 when you are describing a place or a memory.



**Picture: Hoi An , Central Vietnam**