

IELTS Speaking Success

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white desk. She is looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man has short, light-colored hair and is wearing a light-colored shirt. The background is a blurred office or classroom setting with blue posters on the wall. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter.

Each lesson has

- **Part 2**
 - Ideas
 - Advanced vocabulary
 - Model answer
 - Language analysis
- **Part 3**
 - Technique
 - Model answers



Topic from the IELTS Question Bank

Success





IELTS Speaking

Part 2

Part 2 Cue Card

Describe a friend or a person who encouraged you to achieve a goal.

You should say:

- Who this person is**
- What this person encouraged you to do**
- How this person helped you**

And explain why this encouragement helped you.

Similar Part 2 questions

Describe a person who has interesting ideas or opinions.

Describe a famous person from another country you'd like to meet.

Describe a person who you enjoyed working / studying with.

Describe a person who speaks a foreign language well.

1. Ideas

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Certainly talk about...

Friends, family, colleagues, classmates...

Choose someone who has **encouraged**, rather than inspired and motivated.

So they have taken (repeated) action to encourage you

So better not...

A famous person who's book, film, work has motivated or inspired you.

Study Goals

Pass an exam

Read a number of books

Join a club

Work goals

Develop a **professional** skill

- Public speaking
- Reach a sales target
- Reach marketing target

Develop a **soft** skill

- Presentation
- Team work
- Communication

New Year's Resolution

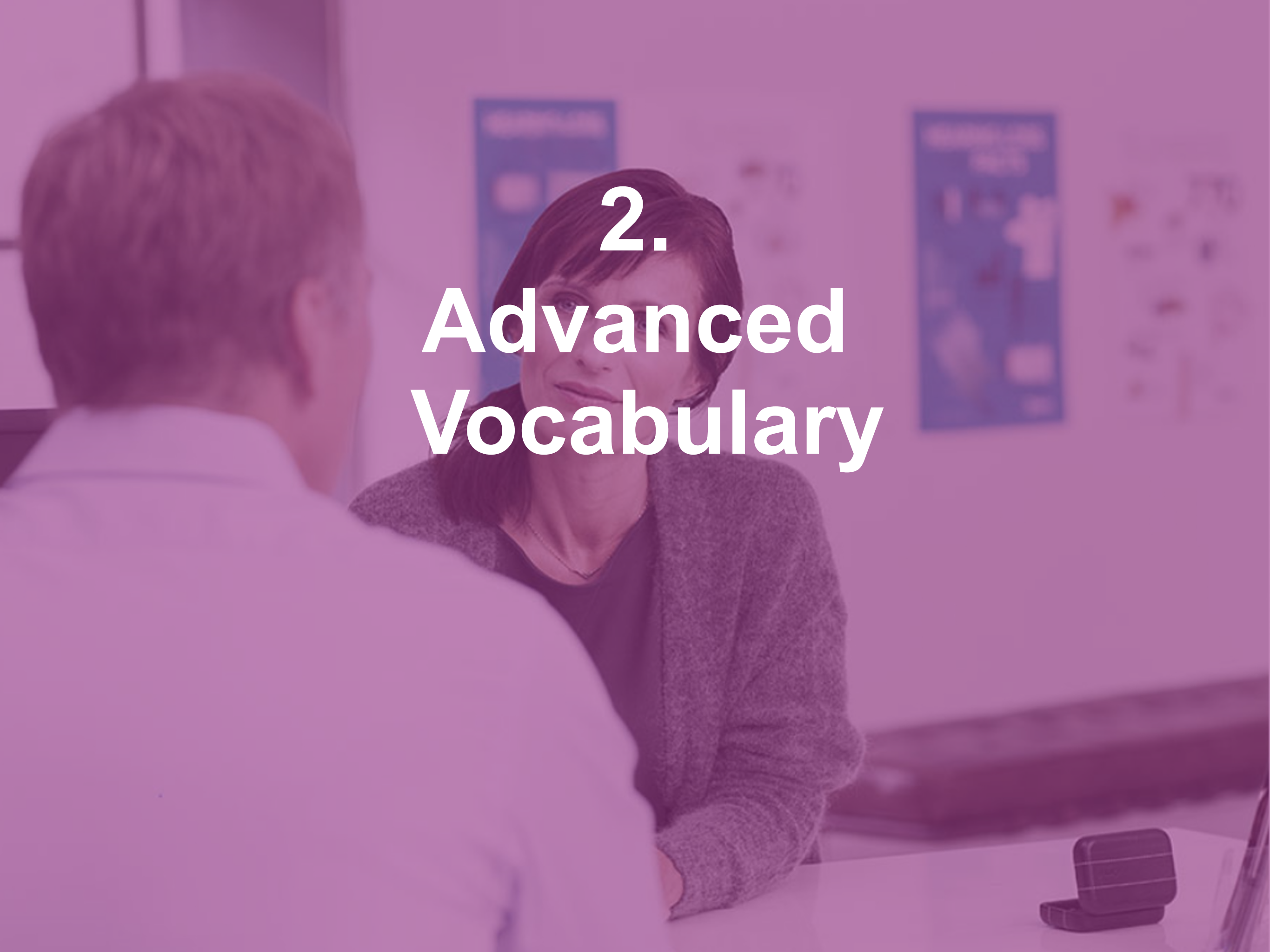
Lose weight

Go to the gym

Quit smoking

Eat healthier food

Spend more time with family

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2. Advanced Vocabulary

Facing difficulties


- I was **having a hard time**
- It wasn't **taking off**
- It **wasn't happening for me**
- I **got a sinking feeling**
- I was (totally, utterly, completely) **fed up**
- I was ready to **throw in the towel**
- I was **sick and tired** of it

Encouraging people


- He told me **to hang in there**
- She **gave me a pep talk**
- He **urged** me not to give up
- He **nudged** me to...
- She really **lifted my spirits**

Persistence

- I decided to **keep going**
- I resolved to **keep at it**
- I **got back on the right track**
- I decided to **give it my best shot**
- I **was on a roll**

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white table and looking towards a man. The man, seen from the back, has short brown hair and is wearing a white shirt. They are in an office environment with blue posters on the wall and a black object on the table. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter.

3. Model Answer

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white table and looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man is wearing a white shirt. The background is a blurred office environment with blue posters on the wall. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter.

4. Language Analysis

I'm going to tell you all about Mark and how he encouraged me to keep going with my reading club, **this was quite a while back**, a couple of years after graduating from university.

Introduction is to the point

I'm going to tell you about

Indicating time

*This was **quite a while back***

Mark was a friend I had met at university, and **he was a total bookworm**. You couldn't **tear him away from** his books. I guess that was what brought us together; our love of reading.

Describing personality

*He was a total **bookworm***

= he loved reading books

Idiomatic expression

*You **couldn't tear him away from...***

= he loves

I've always loved reading, I read books **like nobody's business**.
Night and day. So, after uni, I decided to set up a book club to
share new books and ideas with other people.

Idiomatic expression

do something like nobody's business

= do something a lot, to a high
standard

The trouble was, only a handful of people ever came, **turning up in dribs and drabs**. So, it wasn't really **taking off**. As you can imagine, I **got a real sinking feeling** that this was a waste of time.

Idiomatic expressions

Turn up in dribs and drabs

= appear slowly a few people at a time

It wasn't taking off

To take off = to be successful (a business, project, product)

I got a sinking feeling

= feel that everything is going wrong

Despite that, Mark told me not to give up hope. He **nudged me** to keep going. And he quoted his Dad to me, **of all people**.
It turns out, in times of despair, his Dad used to say, 'I will, until.'
Simple as that. Meaning 'I will continue, until this works'.

Linking words / Cohesive phrases

Despite... = *without being affected by*

It turns out = *it just so happens, it seems*

Vocabulary

To nudge someone = *to encourage someone*

Of all people = *the least expected person*

In times of despair = *in difficult times*

And so, I decided **to keep at it**, for as long as it took.

Sure enough, as if by magic over the following weeks, more and more people came and suddenly the reading club **was on a roll**.

Idiomatic expressions

to keep at it = to continue doing

to be on a roll = having great success

Linking words / Cohesive phrases

Sure enough = confirm something was true

Looking back, I think Mark's words were integral to it all coming together.
And I was forever grateful.

Linking words / Cohesive phrases

Looking back = remembering something
that happened



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Part 3

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1. Technique

- Say...


...what you think (opinion)

...why (reason)

...result (consequences)

...give a short example



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2. Model Answers

1. How can you motivate children to study?
2. Why do some people become demotivated?



How can you motivate children to study?

Well, I suppose you have to **understand their interests, what makes them tick**, and then leverage that to get them engaged. For example, kids usually like games, so if you wanted to teach them a language like English, then you could get them to practice through playing a game like Minecraft.

Without their **buy-in**, it's hard to get children learning, you certainly can't force them to learn. You can force them to study, but not to learn.

Spoken English

Same thing twice, different way

*understand their interests, what
makes the tick*

Idiomatic expression

their buy-in

= their agreement and acceptance

How can you motivate children to study?

Well, **I suppose** you have to understand their interests, what makes them tick, and then leverage that to get them engaged. **For example**, kids usually like games, so if you wanted to teach them a language like English, then you could get them to practice through playing a game like Minecraft.

Without their buy-in, it's hard to get children learning, you certainly can't force them to learn. **I mean**, you can force them to study, but not to learn.

Give an opinion

I suppose...

Give an example

For example...

I mean...

Give reason / consequences

Without....

Why do some people become demotivated?

I guess this happens to everyone at some time or another, especially with long-term activities. We all need positive feedback on the things we do, and when we don't get that, it can be tempting **to give up and throw in the towel.**

You either want someone telling you that you are doing the right thing, or some kind of encouraging result like a hitting a sales target or losing 5 kilos on your diet. Anything **to keep you going, to help you stick at it.**

Spoken English

Same thing twice, different way

to give up and throw in the towel

to keep you going, to help you stick at it

Why do some people become demotivated?

I **guess** this happens to everyone at some time or another, especially with long-term activities. We all need positive feedback on the things we do, and **when we don't get that**, it can be tempting to give up and throw in the towel.

You either want someone telling you that you are doing the right thing, or some kind of encouraging result **like** a hitting a sales target or losing 5 kilos on your diet. Anything to keep you going, to help you stick at it.

Give an opinion

I guess...

Give an example

Like...

Give reason / consequences

And when we don't get that....

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