

# IELTS Speaking Success

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 or classroom setting with blue posters on the wall. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent purple overlay. The text 'IELTS Speaking Success' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Topic from the IELTS Question Bank

# Television and Games





A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white desk 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 has a purple tint.

# IELTS Speaking

## Part 2

## Part 2 Cue Card

**Describe a quiz program or game show on TV you like.**

**You should say:**

- What it is**
- How you know it**
- How it is played**

**And explain why you like it**

## Similar Part 2 questions

Describe a piece of information that you think is not correct.

Describe a person who has interesting ideas or opinions.

Describe a successful thing your friend has done

Describe an intelligent person you know

# 1. Ideas

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 light-colored 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.

1. You can talk about game shows that...

...Guess the answer about general knowledge

**Who Wants to be a Millionaire / University Challenge / Mastermind / Jeopardy/**

...Guess the price

**The Price is Right**

...Guess the news

**Have I Got News For You**

...Guess the word, idiom or catchphrase

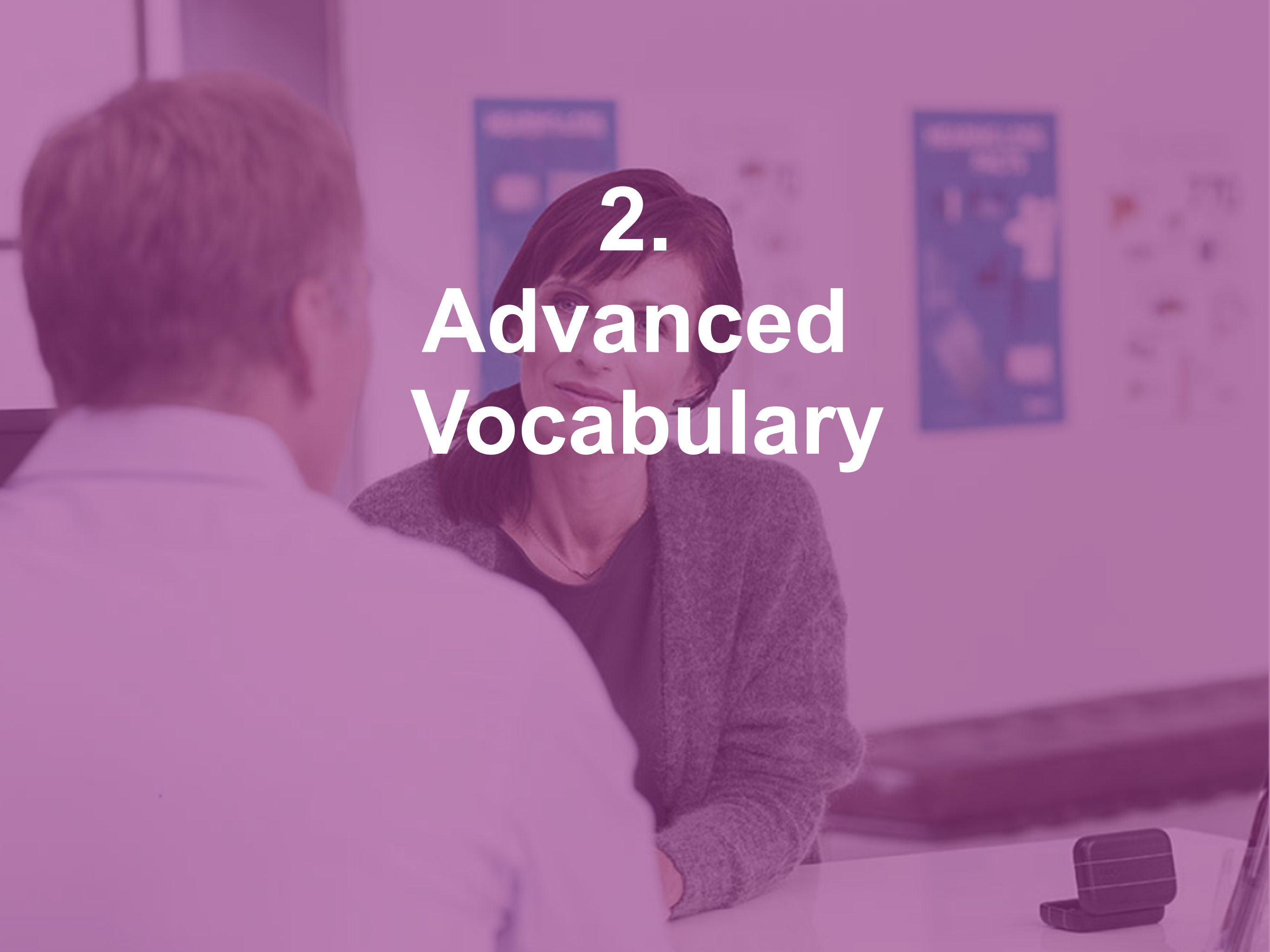
**The Wheel of Fortune / Catchphrase**

2. *Possibly* talk about **competitive** game show like  
**Masterchef**

3. *I wouldn't talk* about talent show (no focus on games or playing)

**The Voice / Britain' Got Talent / X Factor**



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# 2. Advanced Vocabulary




# Game Shows


- Contestant
- Quiz master / host
- Take part in the first / second round
- Make it to the final
- Get eliminated
- Go for the Jackpot
- Win hands down

# Choices

- Have a guess
- Double or quits
- Risk everything or play safe
- Play fair or play dirty
- Be off your game or be on your game
- Play your cards right

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# **3. Model Answer**

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# 4. Language Analysis



**Gosh**, this is difficult because I don't watch so much tv these days, but I'll tell you about a show that has been around **for donkey's years** and it's called 'Who wants to be a millionaire'

### **Natural English**

**Gosh** (*show surprise, show you are thinking*) = *wow, boy, blimey (U.K.)*

### **Idiomatic expression**

***for donkey's years***

= *for a long time*

**As far as I remember**, I think there are some **preliminary rounds** where several contestants compete **to get a place in the final** where just one person gets a chance **to go for** a million pounds.

### Connectors

*As far as I remember...*

### Gameshow vocabulary

**Preliminary** round = first round

To **get a place in the final** = to qualify for the final

To **go for** (a prize) = to try to win

When they **take the hot seat**, they are asked a question with 4 possible answers and they have **to opt for** the right one. For each correct answer they give, the prize money doubles.

### **Gameshow Vocabulary**

***To take the hot seat =***

*= to have to answer difficult questions*

### **Advanced vocabulary (synonyms)**

***To opt for***

*= to choose, elect, pick, settle on*

There are some kind of **crutches** to help the contestant, so if they don't know the answer, they can call a friend, ask the audience or do something called 50 - 50, where 2 of the answers are **eliminated**.

### **Advanced Vocabulary**

#### ***Crutches (n.)***

= something to support or help you.

### **Gameshow Vocabulary**

#### ***To be eliminated (thing or person)***

= *to be taken out or removed*



I think this gameshow **goes down so well**, because the audience at home can play too. You listen to the questions and **have a pop at** the answers, even competing with your family or whoever you **happen to be watching** with.

### Idiomatic expressions

***It goes down well***

= *to be popular*

***To have a pop at something (question, task)***

= *to try to do something*

### Natural English

***To happen to be***

= *to be (by chance - i.e. not planned)*

I think the music as well creates a real feeling of suspense, and the host really **draws it out**, waiting for ages before he gives the right answer - so keeping you **on the edge of your seat**.

**Idiomatic expression**

*To draw it out*

*= to make it last a long time*

*To be on the edge of your seat*

*= to be excited, want to know what happens next*

An interesting **titbit** about this show is that it was featured in a film called 'Slumdog Millionaire'. That was about a scandal where the contestant cheated because he knew the answers beforehand and so he could win the **jackpot**. **If I am not mistaken**, I think a similar scandal happened in real life too.

### **Advanced Vocabulary**

#### **A titbit (n.)**

= *an interesting bit of information*

### **Gameshow Vocabulary**

#### **To win the jackpot**

= *to win the big (main) prize*

### **Connectors**

#### **If I am not mistaken**

= *If I remember correctly*



# IELTS Speaking

## Part 3



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# 1. Technique

# Question type

Comparing past and present

Has X changed in recent years?

How has the way people 'verb' changed in recent years?

Is the way people 'verb' now, different from in the past?


Do people 'verb' more now than in the past?



1. Has the way children play games changed in recent years?
2. Do people watch more TV now than in the past?





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# 2. Model Answers



Has the way children play games, changed in recent years?

**The way I see it, definitely.** I mean in the past, kids used to play outdoors way more. When I was growing up we would often while away an afternoon down at the park playing our own, made-up games. That has all changed now, **mainly due to** the Internet and the proliferation of screens. **It seems** children, and so-called ‘screenagers’ can spend hours playing games on a tablet or play station. They no longer need any imagination, and **the fact that they** don’t need to move, **means** we are creating a generation of couch potatoes

**Give an opinion (agreeing)**

*The way I see it, definitely.*

*It seems...*

**Give a reason**

*Mainly due to...*

**Give consequences**

*The fact that..., means...*

Has the way children play games, changed in recent years?

The way I see it, definitely. I mean in the past, kids **used to play** outdoors way more. When I **was growing** up we **would** often while away an afternoon down at the park playing our own, made-up games. That **has all changed** now, mainly due to the Internet and the proliferation of screens. It seems children, and so-called 'screenagers' can spend hours playing games on a tablet or play station. They no longer need any imagination, and the fact they are don't need to move, means we are creating a generation of couch potatoes.

### **Tenses - past habit**

*used to + verb*

*would + verb*

### **Tenses - past state**

*when I lived*

*when I was living*

### **Tenses - connecting to present**

*(Present perfect)*

*Subj + has /have + participle (e.g. changed)*

Do people watch more TV now than in the past?

**Quite the opposite**, I'd say we watch less television nowadays compared to say, twenty years ago. And I think **it's mainly down to the fact that** twenty years ago we couldn't access films, TV programmes and that, on the Internet. Today, I get the feeling that loads of people watch films on their computers or phones via these Internet streaming services, **you know like** Amazon, HBO or Netflix. There is just such a huge choice of titles, and I actually quite like to go and chill out in a coffee bar and watch a film there.

**Give an opinion (disagreeing)**

*Quite the opposite...*

**Give a reason**

*It's (mainly) down to the fact that...*

**Give an example**

*You know, like...*

Do people watch more TV now than in the past?

Quite the opposite, I'd say we watch **less** television nowadays compared to say, twenty years ago. And I think it's **mainly** down to the fact that twenty years ago we couldn't access films, TV programmes and that, on the Internet. Today, I get the feeling that loads of people watch films on their computers or phones via these Internet streaming services, you know like **Amazon, HBO or Netflix**. There is just such a **huge** choice of titles, and I actually quite like to go and chill out in a coffee bar and watch a film there.

### **Pronunciation**

#### **Word stress (compare)**

*I'd say we watch **less** television*

#### **Word stress (emphasise)**

*I think it's **mainly** down to the fact*

*There is just such a **huge** choice*

#### **Intonation (for lists)**

*you know like Amazon, HBO or Netflix*

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