

Discussion Instruction: Social Networking Sites

In this task, you are going to discuss a topic with your interviewer.
We will follow the following steps.

1. First, read the following opinions about a topic of social networking sites.
2. Summarize Person B's opinion to the conversation partner during the test. You will be given 1 minute to retell Person B's opinion.
3. In the next stage, you are going to defend the position of Person B. Try to convince your partner. Even if you do not agree with the speaker, you need to support the speaker's position.

Person A's opinion:

I spend two to three hours per day using social networking sites. Not many things in the world are free, but social networking sites are. These sites have given me a chance to keep in touch with family and friends and helped me professionally. My research productivity has increased since I started using Academia, which is a social platform for academics. Many scholars, including me, post their research papers on this site, so that anyone can access their research. This has also helped me to build social networks with others who have research interests similar to my own.

Person B's opinion:

I never use social networking sites. I read a report that says as the number of Facebook friends a person has increased, the stress the person gets when they use the website also increases. Also, not surprisingly, people tend to spend far less time talking with their friends and families in face-to-face conversations because of the increased online interactions. Maybe most importantly, social networking sites are a huge waste of time and money. I can tell you that my boys are getting poor grades in school because they are always facebooking friends when they should be doing homework.

Instruction to the examiner

In this task, you are going to discuss a topic with your interviewer.
We will follow the following steps.

1. During the preparation time, the test-taker is allowed to read the two opinions on a topic.
2. Once the preparation time is up, you say that you are going to summarize Person A's opinions.
 - a. Summarize the Person A's view, highlighting:
 - i. that Person A thinks social networking sites are beneficial
 - ii. that Social networking sites gives A chance to connect with people in both private and professional life
3. Once you summarize Person A's view, ask the test-takers to summarize Person B's view.
4. Move onto the discussion by asking the test-takers whether they would like to start or they would like you to start the discussion.
5. Start the stopwatch (but not letting the test-taker know) and engage in the discussion.
 - a. Ask clarifying questions when you are unsure about what the test-taker meant
 - b. Push the test-taker to elaborate on their views
 - c. Push the test-taker to defend their viewpoint by countering their opinions, mainly using the Person A's viewpoints
6. After 3 mins, wrap up the discussion by acknowledging the last point of discussion and saying that you enjoyed the discussion. You can close the discussion to prioritize the time left.