Introduction

Who is this book for?

Speaking for IELTS will prepare you for the IELTS Speaking test whether you are taking the test for the first time, or re-sitting. It has been written for learners with band score 5–5.5 who are trying to achieve band score 6 or higher.

The structured approach, comprehensive answer key and sample answers have been designed so that you can use the materials to study on your own. However, the book can also be used as a supplementary speaking skills course for IELTS preparation classes. The book provides enough material for approximately 50 hours of classroom activity.

Content

Speaking for IELTS is divided into 12 units. Each unit focuses on a topic area that you are likely to meet in the IELTS exam. This helps you to build up a bank of vocabulary and ideas related to a variety of the topics.

Units 1–11 cover vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and exam techniques to prepare you for the IELTS Speaking test. Every exercise is relevant to the test. The aims listed at the start of each unit specify the key skills, techniques and language covered in the unit. You work towards Unit 12, which provides a final practice IELTS Speaking test.

Additionally, the book provides examination strategies telling you what to expect and how best to succeed in the test. Exam information is presented in clear, easy-to-read chunks. 'Exam tips' in each unit highlight essential exam techniques and can be rapidly reviewed at a glance.

Unit structure

Each of the first 11 units is divided into 2 parts.

The first part of each unit introduces vocabulary related to the topic, as well as phrases and language that can be applied to any topic. The vocabulary exercises give you the opportunity to express complex ideas and opinions so that you are able to do so in the IELTS Speaking test. The vocabulary is presented using Collins COBUILD dictionary definitions. In addition, each unit covers one or more pronunciation points, and one or more grammar points. The pronunciation and grammar exercises help you to develop accurate pronunciation, and grammatical range and accuracy to enable you to succeed in the IELTS test.

In every unit, you are given the opportunity to practise the new language you have learnt by attempting questions from Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 of the IELTS Speaking test. These test questions increase your familiarity with the exam format and help to build your confidence.

The second part of each unit teaches you exam techniques. The information and exercises raise your awareness of what constitutes an effective IELTS response and also provide you with strategies on how to achieve this. Techniques include making notes for Part 2 of the IELTS Speaking test, developing your fluency, and enhancing the length and quality of your answers to Part 3 of the test by using news articles.

