

- Examiner:** We're now going to talk about animals. What is your favourite animal?
- Candidate:** My favourite animal is the cat. I love cats because they're a lot of fun, very playful, but also seem to have bit of character. So, it's always quite amusing to try to play with your cat.
- Examiner:** Why do you think some people like keeping pets?
- Candidate:** I would suspect it's mainly for the company, so that they don't feel alone when they come home in the evening and they have someone waiting for them. I don't have any pets, though I used to when I was a kid.
- Examiner:** Are there any animals you are scared of?
- Candidate:** I have a phobia of snakes. I reckon it's because of the way the creature looks and they can also be venomous. They're aggressive so if they bite you, you can get very badly hurt. Spiders are another animal I'm terrified of. I hate the fast, erratic way they move.
- Examiner:** Are zoos popular in your country?
- Candidate:** Yes, they are, especially with kids. Kids love discovering new things, including new animals, and a zoo is the best place to do that. They can observe a wide range of animals in a safe environment.
- Examiner:** Let's move on to talk about food. Do you think men or women make the best cooks?
- Candidate:** It doesn't depend on the sex of the person but on their enthusiasm. The men in my family are really good cooks, and they enjoy talking about food as well as cooking and eating it.
- Examiner:** Is it important to teach children to cook from a young age?
- Candidate:** The younger the better. Of course, you wouldn't give a young child a knife, but they can mix ingredients together and things like that. The younger they start, the better cooks they'll be when they grow up.
- Examiner:** What is a typical dish from your country or region?
- Candidate:** Lots of people think we eat frogs' legs all the time. It's a kind of national stereotype. But actually I've never eaten them! I would say a more typical dish is steak with chips, and it's one of my favourites.
- Examiner:** Do people in your country or region eat traditional food or international food?
- Candidate:** We eat both. I regard it as very important to keep culinary traditions alive, but I also love Chinese food and Japanese food and Indian food, and loads of other cuisines. I like having variety in my diet.
- Examiner:** Now I'm going to give you a topic and I'd like you to talk about it for one to two minutes. You'll have one minute to think about what you're going to say before you begin talking. You can make some notes if you wish. Here is a pencil and some paper. I'd like you to describe a personal achievement you are proud of.
- Examiner:** All right. Remember, you have one to two minutes to talk on the topic. Don't worry if I stop you. I'll let you know when the time is up.
- Candidate:** OK.
- Examiner:** Please start speaking now.
- Candidate:** OK, so you asked me to talk about an achievement I'm particularly proud of, so I could have talked about when I passed my university exams, or when I bought my first home, but in the end, I decided to talk about the only time I actually won a sports tournament.
- Only once did I win my village tennis tournament. It was when I was fifteen years old. It was particularly difficult because, to be honest, I'm not a great tennis player and I always played mainly to have fun and not really to win. But that one year I decided. I made it my goal: I was going to win the village tennis tournament. So I played many matches, lots of them against older players, much older than me, who were members of the club, in their fifties, and it was very difficult. Playing older players is always tough. They have more experience, they do all these impressive tricks and they definitely know how to beat their opponent. And on top of that it's very much a matter of pride for them – they don't want to lose against one of the younger members of the club.