

## Ask and analyse 100 typical IELTS Speaking Part One questions

*Without looking below, choose a number at random. Your partner will ask you that question from below. Continue until your teacher stops the game, switching roles after each question. You can try to avoid or get the same questions as other people by remembering the numbers if you like, but you can't write the numbers down. If you can't understand the question that you are supposed to ask, ask your teacher what it means. If the person answering doesn't understand the question, they should ask their partner to repeat, explain or rephrase the question.*

### Other useful functions for the person answering the question:

- 1 **Checking (again) what the question means**
  
- 2 **Commenting on the question/ Filling silence while pausing for thought/ Dealing with difficult questions**
  
- 3 **Commenting on the match or possible (mismatch) between the question and the answer**
  
- 4 **Vague language/ Saying you are not sure (e.g. you can't remember exactly)**
  
- 5 **Changing your mind halfway through an answer/ Correcting wrong information**
  
- 6 **Explaining things that the examiner might not know or understand (e.g. names of things which are specific to your country)**
  
- 7 **Giving reasons**
  
- 8 **Different (past, present or future) time expressions ("a few days ago" etc)**
  
- 9 **Different tenses and other similar verb forms ("planning to" etc)**

### 100 typical IELTS Speaking Part One questions

- 1 Are there any museums that you would like to go to?
- 2 Are you working at the moment?
- 3 Are your friends interested in technology?
- 4 Can you tell me something about your hometown?
- 5 Can you cook well?
- 6 Did you enjoy learning English when you were younger?
- 7 Do you enjoy going to the cinema? (Why/ Why not?)
- 8 Do you find it easy to stay in touch with your school friends?
- 9 Do you have any plans to go abroad?
- 10 Do you have any subscriptions to publications? (Why those?/ Why not?)
- 11 Do you have many brothers and sisters?
- 12 Do you like the area where you live? (Why/ Why not?)
- 13 Do you often watch TV?
- 14 Do you prefer to get your news online or by other means?
- 15 Do you still continue any of your childhood hobbies?
- 16 Do you usually have music on when you study?
- 17 Do you want to take up any new sports in the future?
- 18 Do you celebrate Christmas?
- 19 Do people often attend public festivals in your culture?
- 20 Has your taste in music changed much since you were younger?
- 21 Have you always lived in the same place?
- 22 Have you ever tried to write a book?
- 23 How are your movie viewing habits changing?
- 24 How did you spend your weekends when you were younger?
- 25 How do changes in technology affect you?
- 26 How do most people in your country try to stay healthy?
- 27 How do you think you will spend your next holiday?
- 28 How do you usually revise before exams?
- 29 How easy is it to find work near where you live?
- 30 How important is the Internet to you?
- 31 How long do you think you will continue studying English?
- 32 How long have you been living in your present home?
- 33 How many books do you have?
- 34 How much time do you spend watching TV every week?
- 35 How much free time do you have?
- 36 How often do you download music?
- 37 How often do people eat out where you come from?
- 38 How popular is your hometown with tourists?
- 39 If you could live anywhere which area of your town would you choose?
- 40 In what ways is exercise important to you?
- 41 Is there any kind of healthy food which you don't like?
- 42 Is there anything you dislike about modern art?
- 43 Is there any hobby you'd like to try in the future?
- 44 Is there any festival you particularly want to go to?
- 45 Is the last place you went on holiday famous for anything?
- 46 Is celebrating birthdays popular with your people in your country?

- 47 Tell me a little about your parents.
- 48 The last time you met up with your friends what did you do together?
- 49 What is the best thing about public transport in your town?
- 50 Would you say the most popular newspaper in your country is a good one?
- 51 What are you going to do at the weekend?
- 52 What are your plans for the next public holiday?
- 53 What changes would you like to make to your hometown?
- 54 What did you do on your last birthday?
- 55 What do you do when you have time to surf the Internet?
- 56 What do you find most difficult about using modern technology?
- 57 What do you like about going to the cinema?
- 58 What do you like doing with your family?
- 59 What do you usually do to keep healthy?
- 60 What do your best friends do?
- 61 What does your taste in TV say about you?
- 62 What is the most famous food from your country? (Can you describe it?)
- 63 What is the most important sport for you? (Why?)
- 64 What is the most important festival in your hometown?
- 65 What ways of learning languages are there in your town?
- 66 What is your favourite means of transport? (Why?)
- 67 What is your main hobby?
- 68 What is your typical working day like?
- 69 What is the area near your home like?
- 70 What kinds of homes do people in your town usually live in?
- 71 What kinds of music do you dislike?
- 72 What kind of art do you like?
- 73 What kind of books do people your age in your country usually read?
- 74 What type of magazines do you like?
- 75 What kinds of things make you motivated to study?
- 76 What kinds of new leisure activity would you like to try?
- 77 What was the last concert you went to?
- 78 What kinds of subjects do you enjoy studying?
- 79 What was your favourite TV programme when you were a child?
- 80 What were the best things about the place you grew up in?
- 81 What would your ideal job be like?
- 82 What's the most interesting thing about your favourite website?
- 83 What level of English do you hope to have in ten years' time?
- 84 What kinds of literature do you most like to read?
- 85 What social problems are there in your neighbourhood?
- 86 What films would you like see in the future?
- 87 What part of your lifestyle would you most like to make healthier?
- 88 When are you next going to take an aeroplane?
- 89 When did you last buy some new technology? (Why that thing?)
- 90 When do you think you will next buy a magazine?
- 91 When was the last time you took a vacation?
- 92 When you celebrate family birthdays what do you like to do?
- 93 Where did you first meet your best friend?

- 94 Where do you exercise?
- 95 Which foods from your country do most foreign people enjoy?
- 96 Which part of your home do you like most?
- 97 Who in your family do you get on well with?
- 98 Would you like to take up a new hobby?
- 99 Would you prefer to go to an art gallery or other kind of museum? (Why?)
- 100 Would you help if a festival was held in your street? (Why/ Why not?)

*Ask your teacher about any questions you don't understand, don't know how to answer or think you can't answer.*

*Without looking above, try to remember as much as you can about the questions above, for example:*

## **Topics**

**Tenses and other similar verbs forms for talking about the present, past, future and hypothetical situations (“-ing”, “used to”, “want”, “wish” etc – the grammar of the questions)**

**Question stems (= phrases in the questions that could be used to many more similar questions on the same or different topics)**

*Look back at the questions to find ones you missed, underlining useful question stems.*

*Make sure you found all the topics and tenses and similar on the next page. There are at least four questions for each topic and more than one for some of the tenses etc, but you only need to think of or find one for each.*

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*Hints: The questions have 25 different topics, 100 different question stems and 11 different tenses and similar verb forms.*

## 25 typical IELTS Speaking Part One topics

- 1 Accommodation/ Home
- 2 Art
- 3 Books
- 4 Celebrations
- 5 Exercise/ Sport
- 6 Family
- 7 Festivals
- 8 Food and drink
- 9 Free time
- 10 Friends
- 11 Health
- 12 Hobbies and interests
- 13 Holidays
- 14 Hometown
- 15 Language learning
- 16 Movies
- 17 Music
- 18 The Press
- 19 Studies
- 20 Technology
- 21 The Internet
- 22 Transport and travel
- 23 TV
- 24 Work
- 25 Your area

## 11 typical tenses and similar verb forms in IELTS Speaking Part One

- 1 Past Simple (“did you + last”)
- 2 plans (“have plans”, “going to”)
- 3 Present Continuous (“are + ing”)
- 4 Present Perfect (“has/ have... + always/ ever + Past Participle = PP”)
- 5 Present Perfect Continuous (“have been + ing”)
- 6 Present Simple (“do you (often/ usually)”)
- 7 will (“think you will”)
- 8 would (if you could)
- 9 would like/ want to/ hope to

*Choose numbers from above and your partner will make a question with that tense/ verb form and that topic.*

*Practice in exam format, with three or four questions in a mix of different times on one topic and two or three topics in about three minutes.*

*Do the same, but practising from entering the room and handing over your ID.*

*Go back to the first page and brainstorm useful phrases for those nine functions (“Checking what the question means” etc).*