

Useful Phrases for IELTS Speaking Part Three

Part One: IELTS Speaking Part Three on the topic of Nature

Ask your partner three or four questions from below, extending each conversation if you like, then switch roles.

- Are people in your country worried about light pollution?
- Are people your age in your country interested in vegetarianism, do you think?
- Can you think of any bad effects of dams? (On balance, do you think more should be built?)
- Do you believe that people your age in your country live ecologically friendly lifestyles?
- Do you think it is okay for families to have two cars? (Why do you have that opinion?)
- Do you think it is possible to stop global warming without stopping economic growth? (Why/ Why not?)
- Do you think that banning plastic bags is a good idea?
- Do you think that people's energy consumption is changing?
- Do you think the air quality in the place where you live is getting better or worse? (What makes you say that?)
- Do you think there is a danger that rising sea levels could directly affect this city?
- Do you think your government is doing enough to save endangered species? (Why do you think that?)
- How has people's awareness of green issues changed over the last 50 years in your country?
- How important is recycling, in your opinion?
- How much do you think the government should get involved in making sure less packaging is used? (What could they do?)
- How popular are organic foods in your country?
- In what ways do genetically modified foods benefit society?
- Is noise pollution a problem where you live?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of wind turbines?
- What are your predictions for the state of the environment in your country in the next few years?
- What can be done to increase the amount of recycling? (Do you think that is likely?)
- What can be done to stop global warming, do you think?
- What could be the consequences of/ the effect of deforestation?
- What do you think about environmental education in your country?
- What do you think the ecological state of your country will be like in 50 years' time?
- What is the biggest environmental problem facing your country, do you think?
- Why do some people resist nuclear energy?

Underline typical IELTS Speaking Part Three question stems above (= phrases which can be used to make many similar questions).



Useful Phrases for IELTS Speaking Part Three

Part Two: Useful phrases for IELTS Speaking Part Three brainstorming

Ignoring the gaps for now, match the answers below to the questions on the last page.

According to _____,
_____, there will almost certainly be more flooding here in the future.

Prohibition is _____
_____ a good idea, because people can just use their own.

I don't have any data about this but _____
_____ the atmosphere is quite a lot cleaner than when I was growing up.

I don't know much about this but I _____
_____ the government could tax things that cause global warming.

I haven't heard any figures, but it _____
_____ be slowly decreasing due to power shortages.

I haven't heard much about this problem before, but I suppose it could _____
_____ lots of species of animals who lived there becoming extinct.

In general, it's the nuclear problem, _____
_____ radiation released into the sea.

In my humble opinion, it's is _____ important./ It's
_____ vital.

I'm afraid I know _____
_____ about this topic, but I imagine they are doing their best.

One _____ is
that it should be easier for farmers in less productive poor areas to be able to grow crops.

They obviously produce totally clean energy _____
_____ they ruin the scenery of places where they are put.

_____ people
my age pay absolutely no attention to the impact on our planet of what they are doing.

_____ but I
guess people are quite a lot more aware of green issues than they were half a century ago.

_____ they are worried about another accident at a power station.

Brainstorm at least three words or phrases into each of the gaps above, then compare your ideas with those on the next page.



Suggested answers – Useful phrases

- According to _____ an article I read/ something I read somewhere/ what I've heard/ what I learnt at school/ what someone told me/ government predictions _____, there will almost certainly be more flooding here in the future.
- Prohibition is _____ certainly/ almost certainly/ probably/ maybe/ perhaps/ possibly _____ a good idea, because people can just use their own.
- I don't have any data about this but _____ in my experience/ my personal impression is/ I get the impression that _____ the atmosphere is quite a lot cleaner than when I was growing up.
- I don't know much about this but I _____ guess/ imagine/ suppose/ would (probably) say that/ think/ believe _____ the government could tax things that cause global warming.
- I haven't heard any figures, but it _____ must/ may/ might/ could _____ be slowly decreasing due to power shortages.
- I haven't heard much about this problem before, but I suppose it could _____ cause/ lead to/ result in _____ lots of species of animals who lived there becoming extinct.
- In general, it's the nuclear problem, _____ for example/ e.g./ specifically/ especially _____ radiation released into the sea.
- In my humble opinion, it's _____ not at all/ not really/ not very/ a little/ fairly/ quite/ very/ really/ incredibly _____ important./ It's _____ really/ absolutely _____ vital.
- I'm afraid I know _____ nothing at all/ almost nothing/ very little _____ about this topic, but I imagine they are doing their best.
- One _____ advantage/ benefit/ positive factor/ selling point _____ is that it should be easier for farmers in less productive poor areas to be able to grow crops.
- They obviously produce totally clean energy _____, but (you could also say)/. However,/. On the other hand,/. Other people say that/. There are also drawbacks, e.g. _____ they ruin the scenery of places where they are put.
- _____ All/ Almost all/ The vast majority of/ Most/ The majority of/ Many/ Some/ Few/ Very few _____ people my age pay absolutely no attention to the impact on our planet of what they are doing.
- _____ I don't know much about this/ I'm no expert/ I haven't read much about this subject/ I've never thought about this before/ I'm not really into history/ we didn't really study this at school/ I'm not sure/ It's difficult to say/ It's hard to say (for sure) _____ but I guess people are quite a lot more aware of green issues than they were half a century ago.
- _____ This is mainly because/ One reason is (that)/ The main reason is (that)/ One cause is the fact that/ Due to the fact that _____ they are worried about another accident at a power station.

Ask and answer the same questions again.

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Suggested answers - Question stems

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Ask and answer similar questions on other topics.