

Silent letters in IELTS Speaking Part One

Error correction

Find at least one spelling mistake in each line below.

Present IELTS Speaking Part One questions with spelling mistakes

- Are there any academic subjects that you would like to improve your knowledge of?
- Are there any special autumn festivals in your culture?
- Are there any interesting buildings near where you live?
- Are you particularly interested in any areas of business?
- Are your friends mostly interested in doing the same kinds of jobs?
- Do you enjoy visiting islands?
- Do you ever write letters or postcards while you are on holiday?
- Do you like any foreign food?
- Do you sometimes ask for help from your neighbours?
- Do you go on holiday every summer?
- Do you often do exercise by yourself?
- Do you sometimes prefer to text people instead of phoning them?
- Do your family do anything special for Christmas or New Year?
- Have you been impressed by any advertising campaigns?
- How do you typically spend your summer holidays?
- How important is having leisure time to you?
- How many hours do you usually spend travelling to and from your work or studies?
- How often do you listen to classical music?
- In general, do you prefer to buy new clothes or secondhand ones?
- In what ways are smartphone apps important to you?
- Is it usually easy for you to decide whether to buy things online or not?
- What do you usually do when you get lost?
- What kinds of books do you read for pleasure?
- What kinds of visual art are you interested in?
- Which is more important to you, possessions or experiences?
- Would you say that you have a healthy diet?

Past IELTS Speaking Part One questions with spelling mistakes

- Did you enjoy studying history at school?
- Did you have a favourite cartoon character when you were a child?
- Did you like performing in front of other people when you were at school?
- How different are your hobbies now from those you had 10 years ago?
- Nowadays, are you still interested in any subjects you liked at school?
- What do you remember about your science lessons at school?
- When did you last go to an art exhibition?

Future and hypothetical IELTS Speaking Part One questions with mistakes

- Is there anything you could do to improve your living room?
- Is there much new technology that you would like to buy?
- What would you like to change about your appearance?
- When do you think you will next visit your grandparents?

Try to find a pattern in the spelling mistakes that you found and use that to finish and start checking your answers. Then check as a class or with the correct spelling version below.

Correct spelling version

Ask about any which you are not sure how to pronounce, are not sure how to answer, etc.

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Without looking at the previous page, find the silent letters in each line above.

Take turns asking each other three questions from above, using the version above to make sure you pronounce the questions the right way if you need to.

Silent letters in IELTS Speaking Part One answers

Find the silent letters in these possible words in Speaking Part One answers and use that to pronounce them the right way.

- acquaintances
- anywhere
- ballet
- biscuit
- buffet
- bustling
- cabaret
- castle
- columnist
- exhausting
- exhilarating
- fascinating
- gourmet
- ironing
- knapsack
- knitting
- lamb
- muscle
- overwhelming/ underwhelming
- playwright
- psychology
- raspberry
- rock climbing
- salmon
- sandwich
- scenery
- ski chalet
- sorbet
- Wednesday
- wheat
- whistle
- wholemeal food
- wrapping paper
- wreath
- wrestling
- yoghurt

Test each other on the silent letters above:

- Say one of the words above with the correct pronunciation and see if your partner can spell it (writing it down to help if they like)
- Choose one of the words above, pronounce it with or without the silent letter, and see if your partner can identify if you pronounced it correctly or not
- Say a word with a silent letter pronounced for your partner to repeat back with the correct pronunciation