

IELTS Speaking Part 1 topics and tenses

Label each section below with the topic that those questions have in common:

- Do you work or are you a student? (What exactly do you do?)
- Do you think you will change in the near future? (Why/ Why not?)
- What did you want to be when you were a child? (Do you still think that would be a good job?)
- How did you come here today? (Was it an easy journey?)
- What is public transport like in your town? (How do you think it could be improved?)
- When are you next planning to fly somewhere? (Do you like air travel? Why/ Why not?)
- Do you read much? (Why/ Why not?)
- When did you last go to the cinema? (How was the film?)
- Is there any music you would like to buy? (What kinds of music do you generally like?)
- What do you do on your days off? (Are there any other things you'd like to do?)
- Do you have any plans for next weekend? (Do you prefer planning your weekends or not?)
- How did you spend Saturdays and Sundays when you were a child?
- When did you last meet up with your grandparents? (What did you do together?)
- Would you be happy to live with your parents when they retire? (Why/ Why not?)
- Did you have any disagreements with your parents when you were a teenager? (Do you
 ever argue about the same things now? Why/ Why not?)
- What do you usually eat and drink in the morning? (Do you think it is true that breakfast is the most important meal? Why/ Why not?)
- Are you going to eat out in the next few weeks? (What kinds of places do you generally choose?)
- Have you ever cooked a meal for a large number of people? (How is that different from a normal family meal?)

The questions in each section above can be divided into three types. What are they?

What are the questions in brackets? How, when and why are they used in the exam?

Take turns asking each other all the questions from one section above. Only use the follow-up questions if you need to because the first answer is very short.

Do the same with these topics, making the questions yourselves and trying to use a mix of present, past and future questions:

- Where you live
- Your participation in festivals and celebrations
- Your hometown
- Your language studies
- How you keep fit and healthy
- Your uses of and attitudes to technology

Written by Alex Case for UsingEnglish.com ©2012/2023

Over 300 pages of IELTS materials at https://www.usingenglish.com/e-books/ielts-speaking/