IELTS SPEAKING

COMPLETE PRACTICE TEST 1

17 Original Questions
+ Humanised Model Answers

One question and one model answer on every teaching sheet

PART 1	**Introduction and interview** 8 questions
PART 2	**Long turn + rounding-off** 3 questions
PART 3	**Two-way discussion** 6 questions

For IELTS Academic and General Training

Natural Band 7+ style language that students can personalise

Indika Mallawarachchi IELTS Trainer - Teacher of IESD Sri Lanka
WhatsApp: +94 703 101 101 | info@englishwithasmile.lk

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The live IELTS Speaking test does not use one fixed public paper; questions vary. This independent booklet follows the current official three-part structure and uses original questions for safe, realistic classroom practice.

CURRENT OFFICIAL FORMAT

PART 1

4-5 minutes
Familiar topics and personal information

PART 2

3-4 minutes
1 minute to prepare; speak for up to 2 minutes

PART 3

4-5 minutes
A deeper, more general discussion

THE FOUR ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- **Fluency and Coherence**
  Speak smoothly and organise ideas clearly.
- **Lexical Resource**
  Use an accurate and flexible range of vocabulary.
- **Grammar**
  Use varied sentence structures with good control.
- **Pronunciation**
  Speak clearly so the listener can understand easily.

SIMPLE CLASSROOM ROUTINE

ASK → SPEAK → COMPARE → PERSONALISE → REPEAT

Format checked against IELTS.org Speaking test format and official sample tasks (accessed 16 August 2026).
IELTS is a registered trademark. This independent teaching material is not endorsed by the IELTS test partners.

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 1 | HOMETOWN

What kind of place is your hometown?

A MODEL ANSWE

My hometown is Kandy, a fairly busy city in the central part of Sri Lanka. It is surrounded by green hills, so it feels calmer than Colombo, even though the city centre can get crowded. Kandy is well known for its lake and the Temple of the Tooth, but what I value most is its friendly, close-knit atmosphere.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- surrounded by green hills
- can get crowded
- close-knit atmosphere

STUDENT TIP: Start with a direct answer. Add two clear details and finish with a personal feeling.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 2 | HOMETOWN

What do you like most about living there?

A MODEL ANSWE

What I like most is the balance between convenience and nature. I can reach shops, schools and hospitals quite easily, but I am also never far from a peaceful green area. I especially enjoy walking near the lake in the early morning because the air is cool and the whole city feels less hurried.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- the balance between
- never far from
- feels less hurried

STUDENT TIP: Choose one main idea, explain it, and support it with a small real-life example.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

English with a Smile

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 3 | HOMETOWN

Has your hometown changed much in recent years?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, it has changed quite noticeably. There are more apartment buildings, restaurants and shopping areas than there used to be, and the roads are much busier. On the positive side, public facilities have improved. However, I sometimes miss the quieter atmosphere the city had when I was younger.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- changed quite noticeably
- On the positive side
- I sometimes miss

STUDENT TIP: Use past and present language together: 'there used to be' and 'now there are'.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

English with a Smile

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 4 | HOMETOWN

Would you like to live there in the future?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, I probably would. It is a comfortable place to live, and being close to my family would be a major advantage. I might move away for work or further study for a few years, but in the long run, I can imagine returning and settling down there.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

a major advantage **in the long run** **settling down**

STUDENT TIP: For a future question, give your choice, one reason, and a possible condition.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 5 | LEARNING NEW THINGS

Do you enjoy learning new skills?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, I do, especially when the skill has a practical use. Learning something new keeps me interested and gives me a sense of progress. I do become frustrated at the beginning if I cannot do it well, but once I notice a small improvement, I usually feel motivated to continue.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- has a practical use
- a sense of progress
- feel motivated to continue

STUDENT TIP: A natural answer can include both a positive point and one honest difficulty.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

English with a Smile

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 6 | LEARNING NEW THINGS

What skill would you like to learn next?

A MODEL ANSWE

I would like to learn basic video editing. It would help me turn simple recordings into clear, interesting videos for study and social media. I do not need to become a professional; I just want to learn how to cut unnecessary parts, add captions and improve the sound.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- turn simple recordings into
- become a professional
- cut unnecessary parts

STUDENT TIP: Name the skill clearly, explain its purpose, and mention exactly what you want to do.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer:

One reason or detail:

A personal example:

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 7 | LEARNING NEW THINGS

Do you prefer learning alone or with a teacher?

A MODEL ANSWE

At the beginning, I prefer learning with a teacher because I can receive clear guidance and correct mistakes before they become habits. After I understand the basics, I am happy to practise alone at my own pace. For me, a combination of both methods works best.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

receive clear guidance | at my own pace | a combination of both

STUDENT TIP: You do not have to choose only one side. A balanced answer can sound very natural.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

English with a Smile

IELTS Speaking Part 1

QUESTION 8 | LEARNING NEW THINGS

When do you usually have time to learn something new?

A MODEL ANSWE

I usually set aside some time in the evening or at the weekend. Weekdays can be busy, so even twenty or thirty focused minutes is useful. At weekends, I can spend longer practising without constantly checking the time, which helps me concentrate better.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- set aside some time
- focused minutes
- concentrate better

STUDENT TIP: Use a real time reference and explain why that time suits you.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer:

One reason or detail:

A personal example:

Indika Mallawarachchi IELTS Trainer - Teacher of IESD Sri Lanka
WhatsApp: +94 703 101 101 | info@englishwithasmile.lk

IELTS Speaking Part 2

QUESTION 9 | LONG TURN - USEFUL SKILL

Describe a useful skill you learned.

You should say:
- what the skill is
- when and where you learned it
- how you learned it
- and explain why it has been useful to you

A MODEL ANSWE

1-MINUTE NOTE PLAN debating club -> nerves -> weekly practice -> self-recording -> confident presentations

One skill that has been extremely useful to me is public speaking. I began learning it when I joined my school's English debating club at the age of fifteen. Before that, I was comfortable speaking with friends, but standing in front of a group made me very nervous.

Our teacher showed us how to organise a short talk with a clear opening, two or three main points and a simple conclusion. Every week, we had to speak for a few minutes on an unfamiliar topic. At first, I relied heavily on my notes and hardly looked at the audience. Gradually, I learned to use key words instead of writing full sentences. I also recorded myself on my phone, which helped me notice that I spoke too quickly. By slowing down and pausing between ideas, I became much easier to understand.

The club forced me to step out of my comfort zone, but the regular practice made a noticeable difference. Public speaking has since come in handy during class presentations, interviews and group projects. More importantly, it has taught me how to stay calm when people are listening carefully to what I say. I still feel a little nervous before an important presentation, but I now see that feeling as useful energy rather than a reason to avoid speaking. That is why I consider public speaking one of the most valuable skills I have learned.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

step out of my comfort zone | **made a noticeable difference** | **come in handy** | **stay calm** | **useful energy**

STUDENT TIP: Use the four bullet points to organise your talk, but tell one connected story rather than four separate answers.

IELTS Speaking Part 2

QUESTION 10 | ROUNDING-OFF QUESTION

Do you still practise this skill?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, I do, although not in a formal debating club anymore. Whenever I have a presentation, I practise it aloud at least twice and time myself. I also try to speak without reading every word from a screen. That small habit keeps the skill fresh and helps me sound more natural.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

practise it aloud | keeps the skill fresh | sound more natural

STUDENT TIP: A rounding-off answer is brief. Give a direct response and one useful supporting detail.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

English with a Smile

IELTS Speaking Part 2

QUESTION 11 | ROUNDING-OFF QUESTION

Would you like to teach this skill to someone else?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, definitely. I would especially like to help students who have good ideas but are afraid to speak in front of others. I would begin with very short, low-pressure activities and show them that confidence grows through practice. I think sharing the skill would also improve my own communication.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

good ideas | low-pressure activities | confidence grows through practice

STUDENT TIP: Explain who you would teach, how you would help, and why it would be worthwhile.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My direct answer: _____

One reason or detail: _____

A personal example: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 12 | EDUCATION AND PRACTICAL SKILLS

What practical skills should children learn at school?

A MODEL ANSWE

I think schools should teach several skills that students will use in everyday life. Basic financial literacy is important, so children should understand budgeting, saving and responsible borrowing. They should also learn first aid, digital safety and clear communication. Academic subjects still matter, of course, but practical lessons can help students become more independent. For example, a teenager who knows how to plan a simple monthly budget may avoid serious money problems later. These skills do not need to replace traditional subjects; they can be taught through short projects and real-life activities.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

financial literacy **become more independent** **real-life activities**

STUDENT TIP: Part 3 needs an opinion, explanation and example. Move from a general idea to a specific case.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

Indika Mallawarachchi IELTS Trainer - Teacher of IESD Sri Lanka
WhatsApp: +94 703 101 101 | info@englishwithasmile.lk

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 13 | ADULT LEARNING

Why do some adults stop learning new skills?

A MODEL ANSWE

The main reason is probably a lack of time. Many adults are balancing work, family duties and financial responsibilities, so learning can feel like an extra burden. Some people are also afraid of being beginners again, especially if younger people learn faster than they do. In my view, the problem is not a lack of ability but a lack of confidence and opportunity. Flexible evening courses, short online lessons and supportive teachers can make learning feel manageable. Once adults see a clear benefit, such as better job opportunities, they are often willing to try.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- balancing work and family duties
- feel like an extra burden
- feel manageable

STUDENT TIP: Discuss more than one cause, then offer a practical way to improve the situation.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 14 | WAYS OF LEARNING

Is it better to learn a new skill from a teacher or online?

A MODEL ANSWE

It depends on the skill and the learner. A teacher is especially valuable at the beginning because they can demonstrate the correct method, answer questions and give immediate feedback. Online learning, however, is cheaper, more flexible and gives people access to a huge range of resources. For a physical skill such as swimming, direct supervision is essential. For video editing or a language review, online lessons can work very well. Overall, I think the strongest approach is blended learning: learn the foundations from a capable teacher and use online materials for extra practice.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

immediate feedback | a huge range of resources | blended learning

STUDENT TIP: Compare both sides fairly before giving your final judgement.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 15 | TECHNOLOGY AND LEARNING

How has technology changed the way people learn skills?

A MODEL ANSWE

Technology has made learning much more accessible. People can watch demonstrations, join live classes and practise with interactive apps without travelling to a training centre. It has also made learning more personalised because users can pause, repeat or choose material at the right level. The disadvantage is that the quality of online information varies, and learners may give up when nobody checks their progress. So technology has removed many barriers, but it has not removed the need for discipline, reliable guidance and meaningful practice.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

much more accessible | more personalised | removed many barriers

STUDENT TIP: Describe the change, give benefits, mention one limitation, and reach a balanced conclusion.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 16 | WORKPLACE TRAINING

Should employers provide training for their workers?

A MODEL ANSWE

Yes, particularly when employees need new skills to perform their jobs safely and effectively. Training benefits workers because it improves their confidence and future career prospects, but it also benefits the company through better service, fewer mistakes and higher productivity. Employers do not have to pay for every personal interest, but they should invest in training that is clearly connected to the job. In return, employees should take the programme seriously and apply what they learn. When both sides contribute, training becomes an investment rather than simply an expense.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

career prospects | higher productivity | an investment rather than an expense

STUDENT TIP: Explain how the issue affects both groups: the employer and the employee.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

IELTS Speaking Part 3

QUESTION 17 | FUTURE SKILLS

What skills will be most important in the future?

A MODEL ANSWE

Digital skills will certainly be important, but I do not think technical knowledge alone will be enough. As routine tasks become more automated, people will need to think critically, solve unfamiliar problems and communicate with different kinds of people. Adaptability will also be essential because workers may have to learn several new systems during their careers. In addition, human qualities such as empathy, creativity and good judgement will remain valuable because machines cannot fully replace them. The most successful people will probably be those who can use technology well while continuing to learn and work effectively with others.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

routine tasks become more automated | Adaptability will be essential | human qualities

STUDENT TIP: For a prediction, explain what may change and connect that change to the skills people will need.

YOUR TURN - PLAN YOUR OWN ANSWER

Use key words, not full sentences.

My opinion: _____

Main reason: _____

Example: _____

Final or balanced point: _____

PRACTISE - PERSONALISE - SPEAK

Use model answers as guides, not scripts to memorise.

1 **Answer first**
Speak before reading the model answer.

2 **Notice useful language**
Choose two or three phrases that fit your own life.

3 **Make it personal**
Change the place, people, reasons and examples.

4 **Record yourself**
Check your pace, clarity and unnecessary pauses.

5 **Answer again**
Speak naturally without trying to repeat every word.

Confidence grows every time you speak.