

IELTS Life Skills

A2 Speaking and Listening

Sample Test B

🕒 This test should not exceed 20 minutes.

Please note: With the exception of the Task Sheet in Phase 2a, this sample test frame will be used only by the Examiner. It will not be shown to the candidates.

🕒 4 – 5 minutes

Phase 1a

[The Examiner will select questions from those provided in the test pack, in a variety of areas such as name, nationality, work/study, where candidates live, and free time activities.]

🕒 6 minutes

Phase 1b

In this part of the test, you are each going to talk for about one minute. While you are talking, your partner will listen to you. Your partner will then ask you two questions about what you have said.

_____ (Candidate A), you're going to tell _____ (Candidate B) about the types of stories you liked when you were a child and why you liked them.

_____ (Candidate B), you're going to tell _____ (Candidate A) about something interesting you heard in the news and why you thought it was interesting.

Now you both have one minute to think about what you want to say. You can make notes if you want to. *[Indicate paper and pencil.]* If there's anything you don't understand, please ask me.

[Withdraw eye contact to signal start of preparation. Allow one minute for preparation.]

_____ (Candidate A), are you ready? Please tell _____ (Candidate B) about the types of stories you liked when you were a child and why you liked them. _____ (Candidate B), listen, and ask two questions at the end. *[Allow 1 minute.]*

Thank you. _____ (Candidate B), please ask _____ (Candidate A) your questions now.

Thank you.

_____ (Candidate B), are you ready? Please tell _____ (Candidate A) about something interesting you heard in the news and why you thought it was interesting. _____ (Candidate A), listen, and ask two questions at the end. *[Allow 1 minute.]*

Thank you. _____ (Candidate A), please ask _____ (Candidate B) your questions now.

Thank you.

🕒 4 minutes

Phase 2a

In this part of the test, you are going to listen to two recordings and answer some questions. You can make notes *[indicate paper]* if you want to.

You hear two people phoning from different places. *[Hand each candidate the booklet open at the correct page.]* Where are they? At home, at the dentist's, or in hospital?

Where are they?



at home



at the dentist's



in hospital

Listen to the information. *[Play CD]*

Listening script 1

Hi. It's Sally here. I had the baby this morning – it's a little girl, but she hasn't got a name yet! She's fine and so am I. Actually I really want to go home but the doctor says I have to stay here for two more days. It would be great if you could visit – the nurse says I can have visitors from tomorrow. If you can't come, then just give me a call. OK then speak soon. Bye!

Listening script 2

Hi. It's Pavel. I'm in the waiting room. I was lucky to get an appointment for nine thirty this morning. So it isn't long to wait. I feel really nervous, I never like coming here. My tooth really hurt yesterday, and this morning it was so bad I had to stay at home. I couldn't eat or drink anything. I hope he doesn't have to take it out. Anyway, I'm definitely going to the party whatever happens, so I'll see you there tomorrow night! Bye.

_____ (Candidate A), in the **first** recording, where is the woman? At home, at the dentist's, or in hospital?

Thank you.

_____ (Candidate B), in the **second** recording, where is the man? At home, at the dentist's, or in hospital?

Thank you. *[Take back booklets.]*

Now listen again, and answer these questions.

_____ (Candidate B), in the **first** recording, when was the woman's baby born? *[short pause]* And how long does she have to stay in hospital?

_____ (Candidate A), in the **second** recording, what time is the man's appointment? *[short pause]* And when is the party?

[Play CD again: scripts as above. At the end of the recording ask each candidate in turn their two questions again. After each question, wait for the candidate's response.]

Thank you.

🕒 4 – 5 minutes

Phase 2b

Now you're going to talk together about the people you live with. Talk to each other about the people you live with or the people who live near you.

[Repeat if necessary. Withdraw eye contact to signal start of activity.]

If necessary, prompt candidates with questions from the box below (e.g. if candidates are experiencing difficulty in continuing the interaction or if they stray from the topic). Adapt if necessary. Encourage candidate-candidate interaction by eliciting agreement or alternative opinions from candidates by asking questions such as "What do you think?", "Tell us what you think.", "And you?"]

People you live with – prompt questions

Is it better to live alone or with other people? (Why?)

Is it good for people of different ages to live together? (Why?/Why not?)

What's a good number of children to have in a family? (Why?)

Do you know the people who live near you? (Tell us about them.)

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

[Ensure candidates DO NOT leave the room with the candidate booklet.]

Key to Phase 2a

Where are they?

Script 1: (in) hospital

Script 2: (at) (the) dentist's

Candidate B:

When was the woman's baby born?

this morning

How long does she have to stay in hospital?

two (more) days

Candidate A:

What time is the man's appointment?

nine thirty / half past nine (this morning)

When is the party?

tomorrow (night)

A2, Phase 2, Sample Test B

Where are they?



at home



at the dentist's



in hospital