

## A2 Key for Schools Speaking test

Watch **the video of Tommaso and Greta** doing an A2 Key for Schools Speaking test and read the examiner comments below.

The Speaking test lasts 8 to 10 minutes. You will take the test with another student. There are two examiners.

### Part 1 (3–4 minutes)

The examiner will ask you and your partner some questions. These questions will be about your daily life, free-time activities, likes and dislikes, past experience and future plans. For example, you may have to speak about your school, family, hobbies or home. The examiner will also ask you a 'Tell me something about ...' question (for example, 'Tell me something about the food you like'), and you should give a longer answer (say two or three things about the topic) with some detail if you can.

### Part 2 (5–6 minutes)

In Part 2, Phase 1, you and your partner will talk to each other. The examiner will give you a task with five pictures on it related to one particular topic and will ask you to discuss these activities, things or places. You and your partner should talk about the different activities, things or places, saying what you like or don't like about them, and giving reasons for your opinions. You can also ask and answer questions of each other. Then the examiner will ask you one or more questions about the activities, things or places.

In Part 2, Phase 2, the examiner will ask two more questions on the same topic that you talked about in Phase 1.

### How the examiners assess your speaking

There are two examiners in the room. The **interlocutor** speaks to you, and the **assessor** just listens.

As you do the test, the **assessor** listens to you and thinks about:

#### Grammar and Vocabulary

How well you can use grammar and vocabulary in the tasks.

#### Pronunciation

How clear your pronunciation of English is and how easy it is to understand you.

#### Interactive Communication

How well you communicate with the examiner and your partner by asking and answering questions.

The **interlocutor** focuses on your **Global Achievement**. This is about your speaking in general: how well you can communicate in everyday situations and how clear you are.

When your test is complete, the examiners give you marks for each of these things: Grammar and Vocabulary, Pronunciation, Interactive Communication and Global Achievement. The marks are for what you do over the whole Speaking test, not for each part of the test. The examiners give you marks for your own performance – they don't compare you with the other candidate.

### Comments on the test video

Part 1	
Tommaso	Greta
<p>Tommaso gives clear answers to all of the questions the examiner asks him. His answers are almost all complete sentences.</p> <p>When the examiner asks, <i>'Tell me something about what you like to eat with friends'</i> Tommaso gives a complete answer, naming three different things he likes to eat: <i>'With my friends I like to eat pizza and hamburger or panzerotti.'</i></p> <p>When the examiner asks him, <i>'Do you and your friends go to restaurants?'</i> he answers just, 'No'. It is better to give a longer answer, and if you can, explain why or why not. It is good to give long answers in this part.</p> <p>Generally his grammar and vocabulary are correct, but there are a few errors: <i>'Yesterday I have, I had eh pasta ...'</i> Tommaso makes a mistake and corrects himself. This is good.</p> <p>His pronunciation is clear.</p>	<p>Greta gives good, full answers: <i>'I usually wear jeans with T-shirts.'</i> <i>'My favourite colour is black.'</i></p> <p>Greta gives a complete answer when the examiner asks her, <i>'Please tell me something about the clothes you buy.'</i> She responds: <i>'I usually go with Mum in a shopping centre and I go in a lot of shop and I try a lot of clothes and then I pay that.'</i></p> <p>Generally her grammar and vocabulary are correct although she does make some minor mistakes (<i>'I pay that'</i> should be <i>'I pay for them'</i>).</p> <p>Her pronunciation is clear.</p>
<p><b>Part 1 tips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practise giving information about yourself (your name, where you come from).</li> <li>• Practise giving longer answers about your daily life, your interests, etc.</li> <li>• Try to answer the examiner's questions with more than one word.</li> <li>• You can give short answers, but it is good to give some longer answers too.</li> <li>• When answering the 'Tell me something about' question, try to add more information or give reasons. Imagine you have been asked 'Why?'</li> </ul>	

<b>Part 2</b>	
<b>Tommaso</b>	<b>Greta</b>
<p>Tommaso's questions are generally clear, although his grammar is sometimes not right. (<i>'Do you like <b>go</b> swimming?'</i> should be <i>'Do you like <b>going</b> swimming?'</i>) His answers are complete and he generally explains why he likes something or why he doesn't. For example, <i>'No I don't because I can't do it.'</i></p> <p>He communicates very easily and his pronunciation is generally very clear.</p>	<p>Greta's questions are clear and her grammar is sometimes correct: <i>'Do you like going skate boarding?'</i> However, there are some mistakes. (<i>'Do you like <b>have</b> a picnic with your friends?'</i> should be <i>'Do you like <b>having</b> a picnic with your friends?'</i>)</p> <p>Her answers are also complete and easy to understand.</p> <p>She communicates very well in this part of the test. Her pronunciation is clear.</p>
<p><b>Part 2 tips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about why you like certain food, places, music etc.</li> <li>• Practise by asking your friends and family what they like, and why, about a range of familiar topics.</li> <li>• Remember the examiner does not know how much English you know, so you have to show him or her by speaking a lot.</li> </ul>	

<b>Overall</b>	
<b>Tommaso</b>	<b>Greta</b>
<p><b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Tommaso's grammar and vocabulary are generally correct and although there are a few mistakes, what he says is always clear.</p> <p><b>Pronunciation</b></p> <p>Tommaso speaks clearly and is generally easy to understand.</p> <p><b>Interactive Communication</b></p> <p>Tommaso interacts well in both parts of the test with both his partner and the examiner.</p> <p><b>Global Achievement</b></p> <p>Tommaso communicates well during the whole test and says a lot with only a little hesitation.</p>	<p><b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Greta's grammar and vocabulary are generally correct and although there are a few small mistakes, what she says is always clear.</p> <p><b>Pronunciation</b></p> <p>Greta speaks clearly, and she is easy to understand at all times.</p> <p><b>Interactive Communication</b></p> <p>Greta interacts very well, asking and answering her partner's questions. She also interacts very well with the examiner. She requires no support.</p> <p><b>Global Achievement</b></p> <p>Greta communicates very well using complete sentences during the whole test. She doesn't hesitate.</p>

**Scores**

	<b>Tommaso</b>	<b>Greta</b>
<b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Pronunciation</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Interactive Communication</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Global Achievement</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>