

## A2 Key Speaking test

Watch **the video of Rashid and Gonca** doing an A2 Key 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 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

<b>Part 1</b>	
<b>Rashid</b>	<b>Gonca</b>
<p>Rashid gives brief answers to most of the questions he is asked, for example, <i>'Living room.'</i> It is better to give longer answers if you can, for example, <i>'I watch TV in the living room.'</i></p> <p>When he is not sure of what the examiner has asked him, he repeats the question word (e.g. <i>'Where?'</i>) to check that this is correct. This is a good thing to do; it shows you know how to check that you have understood correctly.</p> <p>When the examiner asks, <i>'Please tell me something about one of your friends'</i> again he checks that he understands: <i>'One my friend?'</i> and then gives a longer answer: <i>'Name Ali Javer, this is manager of insurance company, yes, I ah, I know him twenty years ago.'</i> It is good to give more detail in your answers in this part.</p> <p>Sometimes his grammar is not correct, but he is mostly able to answer the questions he is asked.</p> <p>His pronunciation is clear.</p>	<p>Gonca gives appropriate answers to most questions she is asked in the first section of this part.</p> <p>When the examiner asks, <i>'Please tell me something about the things you like doing at home at the weekends'</i> Gonca gives a longer answer: <i>'I like have a breakfast with my family, and um we have a big garden, we grow some plants and er, that's all.'</i></p> <p>Generally she shows control of simple grammatical forms, but her word order is not always correct, for example, <i>'Four bedrooms, we have.'</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>Rashid</b>	<b>Gonca</b>
<p>Rashid's comments in this part of the test are not very clear. He answers Gonca's question but it is difficult to understand what he says. He tries to agree with Gonca about a noisy place to eat, but he doesn't have the grammar and vocabulary to be able to do this fully. In the last section of this part, Rashid answers the examiner's questions about cooking on the beach and which place is best: <i>'This is best, I think, because I can talk with my family there.'</i></p>	<p>Gonca talks about the different places to eat, saying what she likes about some of them. Then she asks her partner what he thinks about one of the pictures: <i>'What do you think about this picture?'</i> She communicates well with her partner, asking and answering her partner about the different places to eat.</p> <p>Her answers to the examiner's questions are not always grammatically correct, but she says a lot and she makes herself understood at all times.</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>Rashid</b>	<b>Gonca</b>
<p><b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Although Rashid's control of grammar and vocabulary is sometimes limited and there are many errors, what he says is usually clear.</p> <p><b>Pronunciation</b></p> <p>Rashid is sometimes easy to understand, but not always.</p> <p><b>Interactive Communication</b></p> <p>Rashid interacts with his partner and the examiner throughout the test. He does not need support.</p>	<p><b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b></p> <p>Gonca's grammar and vocabulary are generally accurate enough to be understood throughout the test, although there are a few errors.</p> <p><b>Pronunciation</b></p> <p>Gonca speaks clearly and is easy to understand at all times.</p> <p><b>Interactive Communication</b></p> <p>Gonca interacts well, asking and answering all of the questions. She doesn't have any difficulty and she requires no support.</p>

**Global Achievement**

Rashid communicates the basic message with difficulty during most of the test, using short sentences or individual words with some hesitation.

**Global Achievement**

Gonca communicates well throughout with only a little hesitation.

**Scores**

	<b>Rashid</b>	<b>Gonca</b>
<b>Grammar and Vocabulary</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Pronunciation</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Interactive Communication</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Global Achievement</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>