**Student’s Worksheet 1**

**Linguaskill Business Speaking Part 4 – sample task**

**This is an example task from Part 4 of the Linguaskill Business Speaking test. Read the task.**

**First you will read a statement. Then you will have 40 seconds to prepare what you are going to say. You will then have 90 seconds to talk about the statement.**

**You can take notes while you prepare. Please speak for all the time you have.**

*Working from home benefits businesses more than individuals.*

You should:

• consider arguments both for and against this statement

• reach a conclusion, providing reasons to support your final argument.

**Student’s Worksheet 2**

**Linguaskill Business Speaking part 4 – sample response**

**Read the transcript of how three different candidates answered the question on Worksheet 1.**

**How well did they do?**

**Make notes in the table below.**

**Candidate 1**

Working from home is becoming more and more common and it’s a great way for people to save money. By this I mean, they don’t need to pay commuting costs and they also save lots of time by not having to travel to and from work each day. Working from home also means people are available for appointments and deliveries during the day. For example, it can be really difficult to get an appointment to see a doctor or a dentist outside working hours. If you work from home, you can just find time for this in your working day. What is more, if you are at home, you can be sure you will never miss a delivery. To sum up, I would say the benefits of working from home are obvious.

**Candidate 2**

The benefits of working from home are often talked about, but these are usually the benefits for the individual. Things like saving time and money by not having to travel to work, for example. From the point of view of the business, there are also some benefits, such as needing less office space and encouraging employees to take responsibility. However, we should also consider the negative points. A business whose workers are all home-based may not be able to control productivity. By this I mean, how can they control how long and how efficiently staff are working? I think it is possible that some workers may not be completely honest about how hard they are working. This may be why some companies are changing their policies and asking workers to return to the office.

**Candidate 3**

Some people may say that working from home is the best option for both businesses and employees. It is becoming increasingly common. Businesses often disagree. Businesses prefer employees to come into the office at least one or two days a week. Some employees also prefer to spend at least part of their week in the office. In a nutshell, there are advantages and disadvantages on both sides.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Strengths** | **Issues** |
| **Candidate 1** |  |  |
| **Candidate 2** |  |  |
| **Candidate 3** |  |  |