



CAMBRIDGE
English

Cambridge English **C2 Proficiency**

**Sample Material for Access Arrangements Versions of
Speaking Tests**

Introduction

What happens?

Candidates who have a visual impairment may choose to take the speaking test **alone** or **with a partner**.

Any candidate who has **access arrangements approved** and needs to take a Speaking test **alone** can apply to take the single-candidate format Speaking test.

All tests have two examiners, the Assessor and the Interlocutor, even if the candidate is taking the test alone.

Candidates can:

- **take the test with a partner who is not an exam candidate**
- **take the test without a partner** (single-candidate format) - where both candidates would talk to each other, the candidate talks to the examiner instead
- **use text description or descriptions in braille rather than visual material**
- **have enlarged copies of pictures**
- **have large print versions** of written descriptions of pictures

Important: Please note that **both partners must use material in the same format**.

If a candidate uses **braille**, they can take the test with a partner who is using either **braille**, or the **text** description of the visual material.

A candidate using **enlarged visual material** must have a partner who is also using **visual material** (either enlarged or in standard format).

Who are Special Arrangements versions for?

On the following pages are sample materials for both single and paired candidate formats, which include:

- Standard visual material
- Enlarged visual material
- Enlarged written prompts

Enlarged print versions with written prompts can make the test accessible to candidates who have a vision impairment, or those who find it challenging to focus on pictures/photographs.

Brailled material is supplied to candidates who request this format. **Sample brailled materials are not provided here but brailled prompts are the same as the text used in enlarged material.**

Please contact the Helpdesk if you cannot arrange the braille of the sample candidate material and would like to be sent a copy.

Braille users should also note that written prompts for Part 2 and Part 3 tasks are provided on separate sheets.

What material is used with candidates who have a visual impairment?

Most Speaking Tests like C2 Proficiency use pictures, photographs or other visuals as a stimulus for interaction.

For C2 Proficiency Speaking the candidates can opt to use standard or enlarged visuals, written prompts (enlarged) or written prompts which have been brailled.

Below is an example of how the visual input might be adapted as a written prompt:

Visual input (as used in the original task):	Written prompt format for large print and braille:
	Two people are in a field standing beside a bee hive. They are wearing protective clothing, including head coverings and gloves. They are holding part of the hive which has bees on it.

All printed texts are enlarged to a uniform font size and type (Arial 18 point bold – see example above).

Candidates should use the written prompts as a starting point and say as much as they can about the situation/scene described in the written prompts and associated topic.

Examiners are given adapted scripts (called ‘interlocutor frames’) to use with the material. They are asked to study this material before the exam. There are different scripts for candidates taking the exam alone and those with a partner. These interlocutor frames are designed to keep the exam as close as possible to the standard C2 Proficiency Speaking in terms of structure and candidate experience, as far as is practicable.

What about timing?

For both paired and single candidate format tests, interlocutors allow candidates additional time to process texts or questions before replying, or to read and think about written material. The amount of additional time is at the discretion of the examiner, but candidates are always given sufficient time to read and process tasks. Approximate timings are shown in the following sample interlocutor frames.

If you have any questions about how Special Arrangements speaking tests are carried out then please contact the Cambridge English Helpdesk:

helpdesk@cambridgeenglish.org

The single candidate format

Candidates can opt to take the test alone, if preferred, or in circumstances where a partner may not be appropriate. In both cases, a single candidate version of the test can be provided using:

Visual material:

- Standard visual material
- Enlarged visual material

Written prompts:

- Enlarged written prompts
- Braille prompts

What happens in the single candidate format test?

Special interlocutor frames are prepared. In some parts of the test, the interlocutor takes the part of the other candidate.

Interlocutors, whilst playing the role of the candidate's partner, will not dominate or monopolise the conversation.

Interlocutors restrict themselves to minimal prompts and questions sufficient to keep the conversation going in a reasonably natural way and 'open' questions are used to encourage the candidate to continue speaking (e.g.: *'What do you think about this..?'*).

Additional questions are prepared where appropriate in order to compensate for the shortened nature of the test.

Single candidate format

Visual material

For candidates using:

- Standard visual material
- Enlarged visual material

Part 1 (2 minutes)

Interlocutor **Good morning / afternoon / evening. My name is and this is my colleague And your name is? Can I have your mark sheet, please?**

Thank you.

First of all, we'd like to know something about you.

Where are you from?

Are you working or studying at the moment?

Select a further question:

- **You said you're from (candidate's home town/area). Is that an interesting place to live?**
- **How much free time do you have at the moment?**
- **How good are you at organising your time?**
- **What would your dream job be?**
- **Do you have much opportunity to travel?**
- **How important is the internet to you?**

Candidate

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test I'd like you to talk on your own for about a minute. Here are some pictures of people in different situations.

*Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of the candidate.
Select **two** of the pictures for the candidate to look at*.*

First, I'd like you to look at pictures * and * and say how common these situations are in your country.

You have about a minute for this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

Candidate

 1 minute

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. Now look at all the pictures.

I'd like you to imagine that a television documentary is being produced on working in the food industry.

For the next three minutes, we're going to talk about the different issues related to working in the food industry that these pictures show. Then I would like you to decide which issue might stimulate most interest.

Would you like to start now...?

Select any of the following questions to encourage further discussion for approximately three minutes.

- What are the advantages for restaurant staff of working evenings and weekends?
- How challenging do you think it is to run a small, independent business in the food industry?
- Why is it important for people who work with food to be careful and precise?
- How do you think food production and farming will change in the future?

**Candidate /
Interlocutor**

 3 minutes

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the booklet, please?) *Retrieve Part 2 booklet.*

TV documentary – Working in the food industry

A



B



C



D



Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test you're going to talk on your own for about two minutes.

I'm going to give you a card with a question written on it and I'd like you to tell us what you think. There are also some ideas on the card for you to use if you like.

All right? Here is your card.

Hand over a copy of Task 1(a) or 1(b) to the candidate.

Remember, you have about two minutes to talk.

Allow candidate time to read task.

Would you like to begin now?

Candidate A

 2 minutes

.....

Interlocutor Thank you

Interlocutor Ask *one* of the following questions depending on the task used:

1(a)

- Generally speaking, do you think you are a decisive person?
- Who gives the best advice – friends, family or strangers?.... (Why?)
- Are you a good person to go to for advice?.... (Why?/Why not?)

1(b)

- If you had to depend on only one of the media for information, which would you choose?.... (Why?)
- To what extent do you believe what you read or hear?
- What kind of decisions need to be made before TV programmes are broadcast to children?

Candidate A

 1 minute

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the card, please?) *Retrieve card.*

Task 1(a)

Which is preferable, making your own decisions or asking others for advice?

- in education
- at work
- at different ages

Task 1(b)

How much are people's decisions influenced by the media?

- spending habits
- current affairs
- entertainment

Interlocutor Now to finish the test, we're going to talk about 'decisions' in general.

Select from the following questions:



up to 3 minutes

- Nowadays, there are so many products to choose from that it's impossible to choose. To what extent do you agree?
- Who should decide how taxes are spent, government ministers or local people? (Why?)
- Why do jobs that involve taking difficult decisions appeal to some people?
- What difficult decisions do you think scientists will face in the future?
- What is the best way of deciding how a criminal is punished?
- How easy is it to repair a wrong decision?

Interlocutor Thank you. That is the end of the test.

Single candidate format

Written prompts

For candidates using:

- Enlarged written prompts
- Braille prompts*

***Braille prompts will have the same wording as the enlarged written prompts.**

Part 1 (2 minutes)

Interlocutor Good morning / afternoon / evening. My name is and this is my colleague And your name is? Can I have your mark sheet, please?

Thank you.

First of all, we'd like to know something about you.

Where are you from?

Are you working or studying at the moment?

Select a further question:

- You said you're from (candidate's home town/area). Is that an interesting place to live?
- How much free time do you have at the moment?
- How good are you at organising your time?
- What would your dream job be?
- Do you have much opportunity to travel?
- How important is the internet to you?

Candidate

Interlocutor Thank you.

Interlocutor **Now, in this part of the test I'd like you to talk on your own for about a minute. Here are some descriptions of people in different situations.**

*Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of the candidate.
Select **two** of the descriptions for the candidates to read*.*

First, I'd like you to read descriptions * and * and say how common these situations are in your country.

You have about a minute for this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

Candidate

 *1 minute*

.....

Interlocutor **Thank you. Now read all the descriptions.**

I'd like you to imagine that a television documentary is being produced on working in the food industry.

For the next three minutes, we're going to talk together about the different issues related to working in the food industry that are suggested in the descriptions. Then I would like you to decide which issue might stimulate most interest.

Would you like to start now....?

Select any of the following questions to encourage further discussion for approximately three minutes.

- **What are the advantages for restaurant staff of working evenings and weekends?**
- **How challenging do you think it is to run a small, independent business in the food industry?**
- **Why is it important for people who work with food to be careful and precise?**
- **How do you think food production and farming will change in the future?**

**Candidate /
Interlocutor**

 *approximately
3 minutes*

.....

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

A

This is a street in a town or city. It is evening and groups of people are sitting at tables outside restaurants.

B

A man is working in a food van which advertises that it sells hot and cold drinks. The van is parked outside. A customer is waiting for his order.

C

A man is standing at a table in a commercial kitchen. He is wearing a chef's hat. There is a fish on a chopping board on the table. The chef is holding a long knife and carefully slicing fish with it.

D

Two people are in a field standing beside a bee hive. They are wearing protective clothing, including head coverings and gloves. They are holding part of the hive which has bees on it.

Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test you're going to talk on your own for about two minutes.

I'm going to give you a card with a question written on it and I'd like you to tell us what you think. There are also some ideas on the card for you to use if you like.

All right? Here is your card.

Hand over a copy of Task 1(a) or 1(b) to the candidate.

Remember, you have about two minutes to talk.

Allow candidate time to read task.

Would you like to begin now?

Candidate A

 2 minutes

.....

Interlocutor Thank you

Interlocutor Ask *one* of the following questions depending on the Task used:

1(a)

- Generally speaking, do you think you are a decisive person?
- Who gives the best advice – friends, family or strangers?.... (Why?)
- Are you a good person to go to for advice?.... (Why?/Why not?)

1(b)

- If you had to depend on only one of the media for information, which would you choose?.... (Why?)
- To what extent do you believe what you read or hear?
- What kind of decisions need to be made before TV programmes are broadcast to children?

Candidate A

 1 minute

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the card, please?) *Retrieve card.*

Task 1(a)

Which is preferable, making your own decisions or asking others for advice?

- in education
- at work
- at different ages

Task 1(b)

How much are people's decisions influenced by the media?

- **spending habits**
- **current affairs**
- **entertainment**

Interlocutor Now to finish the test, we're going to talk about 'decisions' in general.

Select from the following questions

 *up to 3 minutes*

- **Nowadays, there are so many products to choose from that it's impossible to choose. To what extent do you agree?**
- **Who should decide how taxes are spent, government ministers or local people? (Why?)**
- **Why do jobs that involve taking difficult decisions appeal to some people?**
- **What difficult decisions do you think scientists will face in the future?**
- **What is the best way of deciding how a criminal is punished?**
- **How easy is it to repair a wrong decision?**

Interlocutor Thank you. That is the end of the test.

The paired candidate format

A paired version of the test materials can be provided using:

Visual material:

- Standard visual material
- Enlarged visual material

Written prompts:

- Enlarged written prompts
- Braille prompts

What happens in the paired candidate format test?

Special interlocutor frames are prepared for candidates taking speaking tests with a partner. Partners of candidates, if sighted, are given a print version of the written prompts.

As far as is possible, the paired format for the speaking test procedure will be the similar to that of the standard speaking test. Some further time is given for candidates to look at/read materials but the structure of the test is the same as in the standard exam.

Paired candidate format

Visual material

For candidates using:

- Standard visual material
- Enlarged visual material

Part 1 (2 minutes)

Interlocutor **Good morning / afternoon / evening. My name is and this is my colleague And your names are? Could I have your mark sheets, please?**

Thank you.

First of all, we'd like to know something about you.

(Candidate A) **Where are you from? And you *(Candidate B)*, where are you from?**

(Candidate B) **Are you working or studying at the moment?**

(Candidate A) **And you?**

Select a further question for each candidate.

- **You said you're from (candidate's home town/area). Is that an interesting place to live?**
- **How much free time do you have at the moment?**
- **How good are you at organising your time?**
- **What would your dream job be?**
- **Do you have much opportunity to travel?**
- **How important is the internet to you?**

Candidates

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test you're going to do something together. Here are some pictures of people in different situations.

*Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of each candidate.
Select two of the pictures for the candidates to look at*.*

First, I'd like you to look at pictures * and * and talk together about how common these situations are in your country.

You have about a minute for this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

Candidates

 *1 minute*

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. Now look at all the pictures.

I'd like you to imagine that a television documentary is being produced on working in the food industry.

Talk together about the different issues related to working in the food industry that these pictures show. Then I would like you to decide which issue might stimulate most interest.

You have about three minutes to talk about this.

Candidates

 *3 minutes*

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the booklet, please?) *Retrieve Part 2 booklet.*

TV documentary – Working in the food industry

A



B



C



D



Interlocutor

Now, in this part of the test you're each going to talk on your own for about two minutes. You need to listen while your partner is speaking because you'll be asked to comment afterwards.

So (*Candidate A*), I'm going to give you a card with a question written on it and I'd like you to tell us what you think. There are also some ideas on the card for you to use if you like.

All right? Here is your card.

Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(a)**, in front of the *Candidate A*.

(*Candidate B*) Here is a copy for you. Please don't say anything yet. I will ask you to comment after (*Candidate A*) has spoken.

Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(a)** in front of *Candidate B*.

Remember (*Candidate A*), you have about two minutes to talk before we join in.

[Allow up to 10 seconds before saying, if necessary: **Would you like to begin now?**]

Candidate A

2 minutes

.....

Interlocutor

Thank you.

Interlocutor

Ask **one** of the following questions to *Candidate B*.

- Generally speaking, do you think you're a decisive person?
- Who gives the best advice – friends, family or strangers?(Why?)
- Are you a good person to go to for advice? (Why?/Why not?)

Invite *Candidate A* to join in by selecting one of the following prompts:

- What do you think?
- Do you agree?
- How about you?

Candidates

approximately 1 minute

.....

Interlocutor

Thank you. (Can I have the booklet, please?) Retrieve **Part 3** booklets.

Task 1(a)

Which is preferable, making your own decisions or asking others for advice?

- in education
- at work
- at different ages

Interlocutor **Now** (*Candidate B*), **it's your turn to be given a question. Here is your card.**

*Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(b)**, in front of the Candidate B.*

(Candidate A) **Here is a copy for you. Please don't say anything yet. I will ask you to comment after (Candidate B) has spoken.**

*Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(b)**, in front of Candidate A.*

Remember (*Candidate A*), **you have about two minutes to tell us what you think, and there are some ideas on the card for you to use if you like. All right?**

*[Allow up to 10 seconds before saying, if necessary: **Would you like to begin now?**]*

Candidate B

 *2 minutes*

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

Interlocutor *Ask **one** of the following questions to Candidate A.*

- **If you had to depend on only one of the media for information, which would you choose?.... (Why?)**
- **To what extent do you believe what you read or hear?**
- **What kind of decisions need to be made before TV programmes are broadcast to children?**

Invite Candidate B to join in by selecting one of the following prompts:

- **What do you think?**
- **Do you agree?**
- **How about you?**

Candidates

 *1 minute*

Interlocutor **Thank you. (Can I have the booklet please?)** *Retrieve Part 3 booklets.*

Task 1(b)

How much are people's decisions influenced by the media?

- **spending habits**
- **current affairs**
- **entertainment**

Interlocutor Now to finish the test, we're going to talk about 'decisions' in general.

Select from the following questions

 up to 3
minutes

- Nowadays, there are so many products to choose from that it's impossible to choose. To what extent do you agree?
- Who should decide how taxes are spent, government ministers or local people? (Why?)
- Why do jobs that involve taking difficult decisions appeal to some people?
- What difficult decisions do you think scientists will face in the future?
- What is the best way of deciding how a criminal is punished?
- How easy is it to repair a wrong decision?

Interlocutor Thank you. That is the end of the test.

Paired candidate format

Written prompts

For candidates using:

- Enlarged written prompts
- Braille prompts*

*** Braille prompts will have the same wording as the enlarged written prompts.**

Part 1 (2 minutes)

Interlocutor **Good morning / afternoon / evening. My name is and this is my colleague And your names are? Could I have your mark sheets, please?**

Thank you.

First of all, we'd like to know something about you.

(Candidate A) **Where are you from? And you *(Candidate B)*, where are you from?**

[Candidate B] **Are you working or studying at the moment?**

[Candidate A] **And you?**

Select a further question for each candidate.

- **You said you're from (candidate's home town/area). Is that an interesting place to live?**
- **How much free time do you have at the moment?**
- **How good are you at organising your time?**
- **What would your dream job be?**
- **Do you have much opportunity to travel?**
- **How important is the internet to you?**

Candidates

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test you're going to do something together. Here are some descriptions of people in different situations.

*Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of **each** candidate.
Select two of the descriptions for the candidates to look at*.*

First, I'd like you to read descriptions * and * and talk together about how common these situations are in your country.

You have about a minute for this, so don't worry if I interrupt you.

Candidates

 *1 minute*

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. Now read all the descriptions.

I'd like you to imagine that a television documentary is being produced on working in the food industry.

Talk together about the different issues related to working in the food industry that are suggested in the descriptions. Then I would like you to decide which issue might stimulate most interest.

You have about three minutes to talk about this.

Candidates

 *3 minutes*

.....

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the booklet, please?) *Retrieve Part 2 booklet.*

A

This is a street in a town or city. It is evening and groups of people are sitting at tables outside restaurants.

B

A man is working in a food van which advertises that it sells hot and cold drinks. The van is parked outside. A customer is waiting for his order.

C

A man is standing at a table in a commercial kitchen. He is wearing a chef's hat. There is a fish on a chopping board on the table. The chef is holding a long knife and carefully slicing fish with it.

D

Two people are in a field standing beside a bee hive. They are wearing protective clothing, including head coverings and gloves. They are holding part of the hive which has bees on it.

Interlocutor Now, in this part of the test you're each going to talk on your own for about two minutes. You need to listen while your partner is speaking because you'll be asked to comment afterwards.

So (*Candidate A*), I'm going to give you a card with a question written on it and I'd like you to tell us what you think. There are also some ideas on the card for you to use if you like.

All right? Here is your card.

Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(a)**, in front of the *Candidate A*.

(*Candidate B*) Here is a copy for you. Please don't say anything yet. I will ask you to comment after (*Candidate A*) has spoken.

Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(a)** in front of *Candidate B*.

Remember (*Candidate A*), you have about two minutes to talk before we join in.

[Allow up to 10 seconds before saying, if necessary: **Would you like to begin now?**]

Candidate A
⌚ 2 minutes

Interlocutor Thank you.

Interlocutor Ask **one** of the following questions to *Candidate B*.

- Generally speaking, do you think you're a decisive person?
- Who gives the best advice – friends, family or strangers? (Why?)
- Are you a good person to go to for advice? (Why?/Why not?)

Invite *Candidate A* to join in by selecting one of the following prompts:

- What do you think?
- Do you agree?
- How about you?

Candidates
⌚ approximately 1 minute

Interlocutor Thank you. (Can I have the booklet, please?) Retrieve **Part 3** booklets.

Task 1(a)

Which is preferable, making your own decisions or asking others for advice?

- in education
- at work
- at different ages

Interlocutor **Now** (*Candidate B*), **it's your turn to be given a question. Here is your card.**

*Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(b)**, in front of the Candidate B.*

(Candidate A) **Here is a copy for you. Please don't say anything yet. I will ask you to comment after (Candidate B) has spoken.**

*Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1(b)**, in front of Candidate A.*

Remember (*Candidate A*), **you have about two minutes to tell us what you think, and there are some ideas on the card for you to use if you like. All right?**

*[Allow up to 10 seconds before saying, if necessary: **Would you like to begin now?**]*

Candidate B

 *2 minutes*

Interlocutor **Thank you.**

Interlocutor *Ask **one** of the following questions to Candidate A.*

- **If you had to depend on only one of the media for information, which would you choose?.... (Why?)**
- **To what extent do you believe what you read or hear?**
- **What kind of decisions need to be made before TV programmes are broadcast to children?**

Invite Candidate B to join in by selecting one of the following prompts:

- **What do you think?**
- **Do you agree?**
- **How about you?**

Candidates

 *1 minute*

Interlocutor **Thank you. (Can I have the booklet please?)** *Retrieve Part 3 booklets.*

Task 1(b)

How much are people's decisions influenced by the media?

- **spending habits**
- **current affairs**
- **entertainment**

Interlocutor Now to finish the test, we're going to talk about 'decisions' in general.

Select from the following questions

 up to 3
minutes

- Nowadays, there are so many products to choose from that it's impossible to choose. To what extent do you agree?
- Who should decide how taxes are spent, government ministers or local people? (Why?)
- Why do jobs that involve taking difficult decisions appeal to some people?
- What difficult decisions do you think scientists will face in the future?
- What is the best way of deciding how a criminal is punished?
- How easy is it to repair a wrong decision?

Interlocutor Thank you. That is the end of the test.