

ESOL International
English Speaking Examination
Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to interlocutor

Tick the learner's name on the attendance register.

Check the learner has an Entry form and take it from them.

Start the recording – do not stop the recording until the end of the examination.

Complete the examination sheet as the learner responds to the prompts.

The learner must not see this paper

Interlocutor:

My name is..... and this is the NOCN Speaking Examination at Proficient User Level C2. Today is (date)

The learner's name is Please state your name for the recording(learner name).

This is Part 1 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 3.5 minutes)

I am now going to ask you some questions.

1. What is your greatest achievement?
2. Tell me three skills you would like to improve or develop and explain why.
3. In your opinion, what is the most annoying habit someone could have and why?
4. If you could change three things about you or your life, what would they be and why?
5. If you could own your own business, what kind of business would it be and why?

Additional prompts allowed:

In Part 1, the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe e.g. to extend the learner's answer if they have just given very short answers. The questions may be rephrased slightly to ensure that in questions where there are two parts (i.e. and why...), the learner responds fully. The interlocutor may also give an example if it is clear that the learner is struggling to think of ideas. For example, in question 5 the interlocutor may prompt by asking what things they like to do in their free time and then suggest a business they may be interested in based on their interests. Interlocutors should be aiming to guide the learner towards language structures expected at this level.

Thank the learner.

This is Part 2 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 4 minutes)

*The interlocutor chooses **two of the situations per learner**, making sure that a mix of situations are used across the learners being examined. For each of the situations being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet. Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.*

Please listen carefully and tell me what you would say in these situations.

Situation 1: You have just moved into a new area and your neighbour kindly brings a welcome dish of meatballs and cake around to your house. You are a vegetarian. You don't want to offend your neighbour who has gone to all the trouble of making a special meal for you. What would you say?

Situation 2: You have ordered a book and paid for it. You go to the shop but the wrong book has arrived. You have a test next week and really need the book for the test. Request an urgent order to be made to your home free of charge. What would you say?

Situation 3: You want to join a fitness club but don't have time to go. You have heard they do an online fitness support club and you want to find out more about it. It includes exercises and healthy recipes. You phone them up. What would you say?

Situation 4: Your boiler has broken down twice. The plumber has charged you for a new pilot light system and pump but it is still not working. What would you say?

Additional prompts allowed:

*It is expected that the learner gives a minimum of **four sentences** to respond to each situation, including at least one complex sentence. The interlocutor may have to ask supplementary questions to gain a sufficiently detailed response.*

In Part 2 the interlocutor may ask additional questions to probe the learner's answers.

Situation 1: *The learners may be prompted to explain why they don't eat meat, how long they have been a vegetarian and what kinds of food they like to eat instead of meat and if they like sweet food or have any allergies.*

Situation 3: *The learners may be prompted to think about why they want to get fit, what kinds of healthy food they eat or dislike. What kind of exercises they would prefer to do.*

Situation 2: *The learners may be prompted to explain: why they need the book so urgently, whether an alternative book would suffice, whether they would be willing to pay for an urgent delivery to their home.*

Situation 4: *The learners may be prompted to explain what the problem is with the boiler, what work has been done and paid for, how long it has not been working, what action they want the plumber to take.*

Thank the learner.

This is Part 3 of the Speaking Examination. (Approximately 6 minutes)

*The interlocutor chooses **one scenario per learner**, making sure that all scenarios are used across the learners being examined. For the scenario being used, give the learner the relevant prompt sheet.*

Ensure that the learner does not take the prompt sheet from the room.

Interlocutor: You will now take part in a conversation.

Scenario 1: You think that plastic bags and plastic wrapping should be banned completely. Plastic creates pollution, litter and is a danger to fish, birds and animals. Your friend does not agree with this. Convince your friend that banning them is a good idea. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Scenario 2: You believe that children should learn how to protect themselves at a young age and would like to see a martial art included on the school sports curriculum. A martial art instils discipline and teaches children to follow instructions. The head teacher disagrees. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the head teacher.

Scenario 3: A piece of land is being sold for development in your neighbourhood. The council have asked people to put forward ideas for its use. You would like to have a retail park offering a variety of shops so you don't have to travel into town all the time, but your neighbour would like it developed into a cinema complex with restaurants. You will have two minutes to prepare your argument. You may make notes. I will take the place of your neighbour.

Scenario 4: A cable company is laying internet and TV cables along your road, digging up trees and pavements. You phone the council and ask if the trees will be replanted because they are good for controlling pollution and putting oxygen into the air. The council says they are too expensive to replant. You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of a member of the council.

Additional information:

*There should be a minimum of **eight exchanges** to ensure that the learner has considered a number of options and put across sufficient arguments. Ideas that you may use include:*

Scenario 1:

Plastic bags can be biodegradable and harmless to the environment.

Plastic wrapping is one of the best ways of protecting and storing food.

Plastic isn't the problem; people are the problem; they are responsible for dropping litter and destroying the environment.

Scenario 3:

There is only one cinema in town and it's small.

There are no local facilities that residents can use or go to for a good night out.

Children won't have to travel into town to the cinema, which is safer for them.

A larger cinema with more choice could offer lower prices and discounts on ticket.

Scenario 2:

Children can be irresponsible and could hurt each other without realising the dangers of using a martial art.

Children should be allowed to play a sport and not learn a defence skill; this only teaches them that the world is a dangerous place and takes away the fun of growing up.

Scenario 4:

The trees are old and dying.

They won't be replaced because it's too expensive and dangerous as they overhang the road which is very narrow.

There are no funds available to replant them. The parks have a lot of trees to replace oxygen and clean the air.

Thank the learner.

End of Examination

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Please give the learner the correct sheets for the **situations** and **scenarios** being used in the examination for Part Two and Part Three.

The learner must complete **two situations** for Part Two and **one scenario** for Part Three.

Do not allow the learner to take the prompt sheet from the room.

Do not allow the learner to see the additional prompt sheets for the scenarios not being used.

Part 2

Situation 1:

You have just moved into a new area and your neighbour kindly brings a welcome dish of meatballs and cake around to your house. You are a vegetarian. You don't want to offend your neighbour who has gone to all the trouble of making a special meal for you. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 2:

You have ordered a book and paid for it. You go to the shop but the wrong book has arrived. You have a test next week and really need the book for the test. Request an urgent order to be made to your home free of charge. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 3:

You want to join a fitness club but don't have time to go. You have heard they do an online fitness support club and you want to find out more about it. It includes exercises and healthy recipes. You phone them up. What would you say?

Part 2

Situation 4:

Your boiler has broken down twice. The plumber has charged you for a new pilot light system and pump but it is still not working. What would you say?

Part 3

Scenario 1:

You think that plastic bags and plastic wrapping should be banned completely. Plastic creates pollution, litter and is a danger to fish, birds and animals. Your friend does not agree with this. Convince your friend that banning them is a good idea.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of your friend.

Part 3

Scenario 2:

You believe that children should learn how to protect themselves at a young age and would like to see a martial art included on the school sports curriculum. A martial art instils discipline and teaches children to follow instructions. The head teacher disagrees.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of the head teacher.

Part 3

Scenario 3:

A piece of land is being sold for development in your neighbourhood. The council have asked people to put forward ideas for its use. You would like to have a retail park offering a variety of shops so you don't have to travel into town all the time, but your neighbour would like it developed into a cinema complex with restaurants.

You will have two minutes to prepare your argument. You may make notes. I will take the place of your neighbour.

Part 3

Scenario 4:

A cable company is laying internet and TV cables along your road, digging up trees and pavements. You phone the council and ask if the trees will be replanted because they are good for controlling pollution and putting oxygen into the air. The council says they are too expensive to replant.

You will have two minutes to prepare your arguments. You may make notes. I will take the place of a member of the council.

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