

# CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH: ADVANCED SPEAKING PRACTICE TEST

## TIME

The test lasts for approximately 15 minutes

## INSTRUCTIONS

Use the scripts to interview students in pairs.

Do not say anything which is not in the script and do not help students with their answers.

For Part 2, provide students with the photos found in Appendix A & B as instructed in the script.

For Part 3, provide students with the diagram found in Appendix C.

## INFORMATION

Part 1 lasts for 2 minutes. Students answer questions about themselves.

Part 2 lasts for 4 minutes. Each student is asked to compare 3 photos and respond to 2 questions for 1 minute. Then, their partner is asked to provide a 30 second response to a question about the same photos.

Part 3 lasts for 4 minutes. Students are supplied with a task and are asked to work together to solve a problem or make a decision.

Part 4 lasts for 5 minutes. Students are asked further questions based on the topic of the task discussed in Part 3. Students are asked to respond to the interlocutor's comments and respond to their partner's topic.

## SPEAKING – PART 1 (2 minutes)

**INTERLOCUTOR** Good morning / afternoon / evening. My name is [your name].  
And your names are?

**STUDENTS** .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** First, we'd like to know something about you.

*(Select one or two questions and ask candidates in turn, as appropriate.)*

- Where are you from?
- What do you do here / there?
- How long have you been studying English?
- What do you enjoy most about learning English?

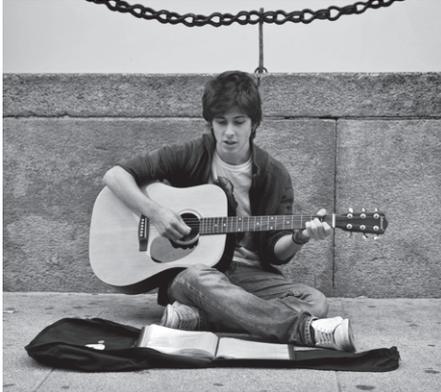
*(Select one or more questions from the following, as appropriate.)*

- What is your favourite time of the day? ..... (Why?)
- Who did you admire most when you were younger? ..... (Why?)
- Do you have any habits that you'd like to change?
- Do you enjoy trying new things? ..... (Why? / Why not?)
- What do you wish you could do better?
- What do you hope to have achieved within the next ten years?
- Would you say you are an open-minded person? ..... (Why? / Why not?)
- What has been your most interesting travel experience? ..... (Why?)

## SPEAKING – PART 2 (4 minutes)

**INTERLOCUTOR** In this part of the test, I'm going to give each of you three pictures. I'd like you to talk about two of them on your own for about a minute, and also to answer a question briefly about your partner's pictures.

[Student A], it's your turn first. Here are your pictures. They show people with different skills.  
(Place pictures from **Appendix A, Part 2, Task 1** in front of Student A.)



I'd like you to compare two of the pictures, and say what skills the people are using, and what they might be using their skills to achieve. All right?

**STUDENT A** (1 minute) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. [Candidate B], which skill do you think would be most difficult to acquire and why?

**STUDENT B** (approximately 30 seconds) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. Can I have the photos, please?

(Retrieve Part 2, Task 1 photos)

Now, [Student B], here are your pictures. They show people doing things alongside other people.

(Place pictures from **Appendix B, Part 2, Task 2** in front of Student B.)



I'd like you to compare two of the pictures, and say what the people might be doing, and why the people choose not to do these things alone. All right?

**STUDENT B** (1 minute) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. [Candidate A], in which situation do you think the people most benefit from being with someone else and why?

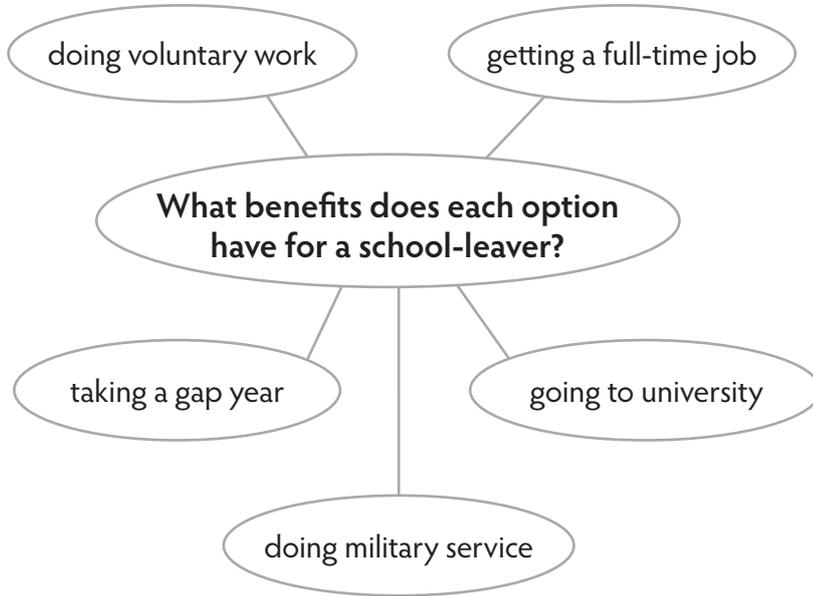
**STUDENT A** (approximately 30 seconds) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. Can I have the photos, please?

(Retrieve Part 2, Task 2 photos.)

## SPEAKING – PART 3 (4 minutes)

**INTERLOCUTOR** Now, I'd like you to talk about something together for about two minutes.  
**Here are some options that people might have after leaving school** and a question for you to discuss. First you have some time to look at the task.  
(Place the task from **Appendix C, Part 3** in front of the candidates. Allow 15 seconds.)



Now, talk to each other about **what benefits each option has for a school-leaver.**

**STUDENTS** (2 minutes) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. Now you have about a minute to decide **which option would be beneficial for most people.**

**STUDENTS** (1 minute) .....

**INTERLOCUTOR** Thank you. Can I have the task, please? (Retrieve Part 3 task from students.)

## SPEAKING – PART 4 (5 minutes)

INTERLOCUTOR *(Use the following questions, in order, as appropriate.)*

- Is it best for people to go directly into higher education after leaving school? .....  
(Why? / Why not?)
- Some people think that we learn more from work experience than at university. What is your opinion?
- Why do you think some people find it harder to choose what to study than others?
- Do you think people who go to university always go on to get the best jobs? .....  
(Why? / Why not?)
- How do you think young people can be helped to decide what to do when they become adults?
- Some people think it's a waste of time to study 'soft' subjects, such as Art or Media Studies.  
What is your opinion?

*(Select any of the following prompts, as appropriate.)*

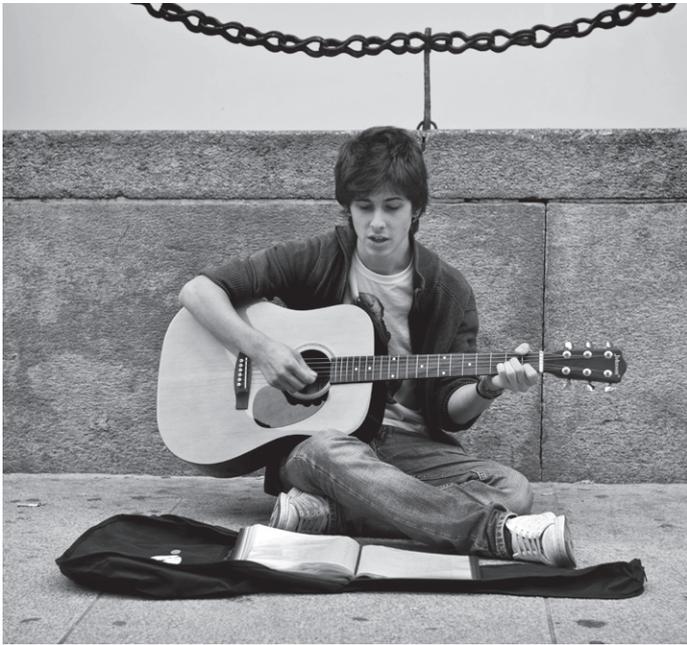
- What do you think?
- Do you agree?
- How about you?

Thank you. That is the end of the test.

## Appendix A – Part 2, Task 1

What skills are the people using?

What might they be using their skills to achieve?



## Appendix B – Part 2, Task 2

What might the people be doing?

Why might the people choose not to do these things alone?



