Handout 2: Good and bad answers

Work in pairs or small groups. Look at the answers to typical questions from Part 1 of the Speaking Test. Which answers (a, b or c) are best? Why?

1 Do you come from a small family or a large family?

a) Large. There are my parents, me, and my 2 brothers and 2 sisters.

b) Large.

c) Large. There's my mother, Anna. She's a teacher. My father, Paul, is an engineer. I have 2 older brothers, Phil and Dave. They're at university. And then my 2 younger sisters, Chris and Helen. They're still at school.

2 What is the area like where you live?

a) It's boring. There isn't anything to do. There are no shops, or parks, or cinemas, or restaurants, or discos or sports centres.

b) It's boring.

c) It's quite boring. There isn't much to do – no shops or cinemas or anything.

3 What do you find most difficult about learning English?

a) The grammar, especially the tenses. Sometimes I don't know the right one to use.

b) The grammar. The tenses are very difficult and I don't know when to use the present perfect or the past tense or when to use the continuous or simple, or when to use 'will'. Very difficult.

c) The grammar.

Work in pairs. Ask and answer the 3 questions in exercise 1 about yourself.

LIVEWORKSHEETS