

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.