

Handout 3: Speaking task types

Identify the types of speaking tasks below

1.....

Paper 5: Visual material

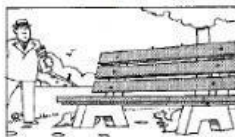
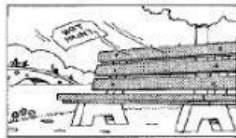
Part 2 (about 4 minutes)

Candidate A: What advantages and disadvantages are there to communicating in these ways



2.....

Now please look at the six pictures below. I'd like you to tell me the story that the pictures show, starting with picture number 1 and going through picture number 6. Please take one minute to look at the pictures and think about the story. Do not begin the story until you are told to do so.



Tell me the story that the pictures show. (60 seconds)

(ETS, 2002)

3.....

Situation: An optional subject will be added to the curriculum for secondary students in your city. Three options are suggested:

- photography
- swimming
- dancing

Which do you think is the best option for secondary students?

4.....

Examinee's test booklet

You are asked for information on suburban train travel. From the details below, reply to the question.

Full day travelcard \$3.00
Three hour travelcard \$1.50

(Adapted from Brown, 1993)

An extract from the tape transcript

Instructor You are asked for information on suburban train travel. First read the information in your booklet. You will then be asked the question.

(5 sec)

Client Kippu wa ikura desu ka? [How much is the ticket?]

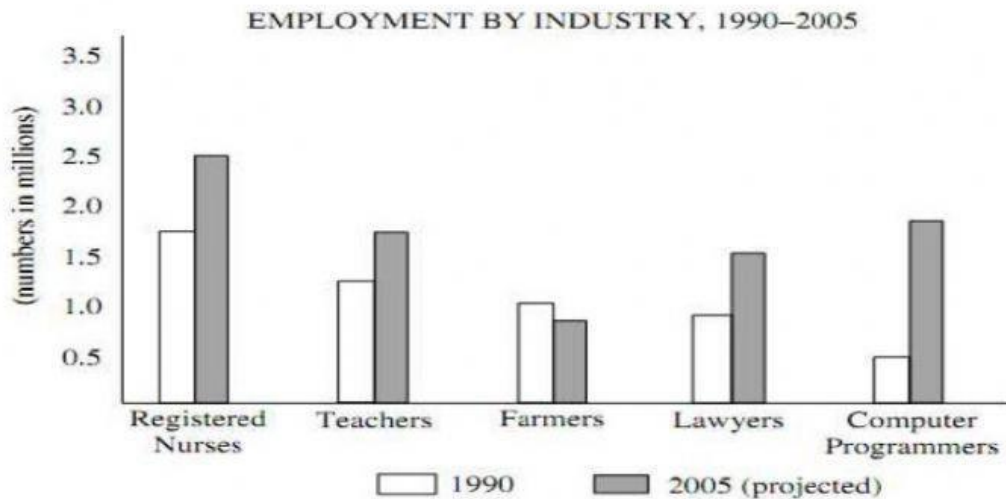
(15 sec)

(Adapted from Brown, 1993)

5.....

1. What is your opinion on the way languages are taught in schools?
2. How can the type of school you go to affect career success?
3. What changes do you think will happen in the classroom in the near future?

6.....



1. Tell me about the information given in the graph. (60 seconds)
2. What do you think might be some of the reasons for the changes represented in the graph above? (60 seconds)

(ETS, 2002)

8.....

Hand over the pictures.



Please describe your pictures to each other and then talk about what is similar in your pictures and what is different. Student A, you begin.

Students A and B describe and discuss their pictures for about 2 minutes. If necessary, give them further prompts: describe the scenery, describe the town, what part of the world ...

Approximately 2 minutes.

Thank you.

(Adapted from Heaton, 1991: 95)

9.....

Examinee's test booklet

Occasionally in your academic program, you will need to read aloud, for example, to quote from sources or to refer to a part of a reading. In this task you will be asked to read the article you spoke about in the previous task.

PEI post-secondary student gets a boost

CHARLOTTETOWN. Prince Edward Island has developed new initiatives, including a \$2-million award program, to help its post-secondary students.

Awards of \$600 each will go to 800 third- and fourth-year students at the University of Prince Edward Island. Four hundred students in their second year at Holland College will also be eligible.

The government also announced it will delay the interest on student loans for up to 60 months in cases where graduates are either unemployed or underemployed.

(© CAEL, 2000)

10.....

Pupil A's test booklet

A British diplomat and his/her family stationed in Finland will be travelling in the Greek archipelago for 3 months in the summer. They are looking for a young Finn to take care of their sons (4 and 9). The diplomat father/mother, Mr/Mrs Right, is interviewing you. Try to give as good an impression as possible of yourself in this job interview.

TELL HIM/HER:

- why you want this job
- about your experience in taking care of children
- about your language skills
- that you can swim very well

ASK:

- about the nature of the job
- about working hours
- about salary, free time
- about opportunities for sailing

11.....

PART 2

Describe a party that you enjoyed.

You should say:

whose party it was and what it was celebrating
where the party was held and who went to it
what people did during the party
and explain what you enjoyed about this party.

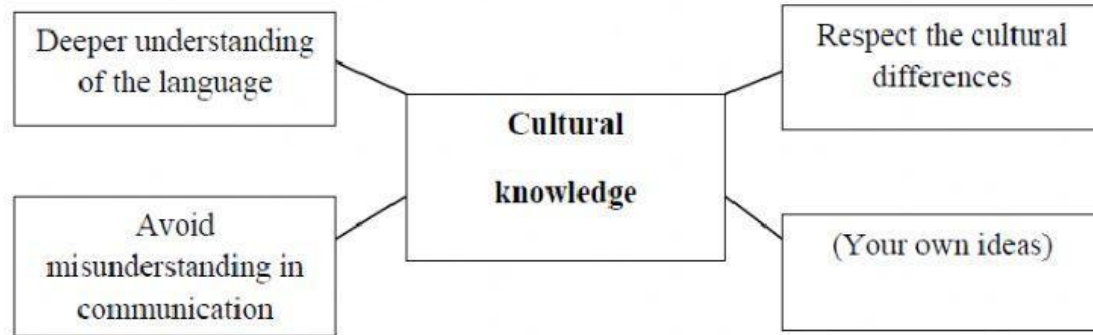
You will have to talk about the topic for one to two minutes.

You have one minute to think about what you are going to say.

You can make some notes to help you if you wish.

12.....

Topic: Cultural knowledge is important for language learners.



13.

Describe a journey that you remember well.

You should say:

- **where you went**
- **how you travelled**
- **why you went on the journey**

and explain why you remember this journey well.