Speaking Test 2

Part 1 Talking about general topics (3 minutes)

- Do you come from a large or a small family?
- Who do you get on best with in your family? Why is that?
- What do you enjoy doing when you spend time with your family?
- Do you often have big family gatherings? Can you say something about them?

Part 2 Monologue (4 minutes)

Country life & City life

What might life be like in places like these?





Candidate A: Compare the photographs and say what life might be like in places like these. (1 minute)

Candidate B: Would living in either of these places appeal to you? (20 seconds)

Useful language

Speculating		
• It may/might/could be ... • It would probably be ...	• It's likely/unlikely that ... • I'd say it would ...	• Perhaps ...

KEY LANGUAGE

Country life		City life	
Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
nice houses, not close together, gardens, no traffic jams, less pollution, relaxing environment, close to nature, fresh air, slow pace of life, healthier lifestyle	isolated, limited public transport, fewer job opportunities, limited entertainment, isolated, boring, village gossip	everything close at hand, good public transport, better changes of employment, wide variety to choose from, better medical care, more educational opportunities, exciting nightlife, more luxurious lifestyle	ugly urban landscape, traffic congestion, heavy pollution/smog, work under pressure, temptation to spend more, cold & impersonal, fast pace of life, hustle and bustle, people keep themselves to themselves

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SHOPPING

What are the advantages and disadvantages of shopping in places like these?





Candidate B: Compare the photographs and say what the advantages and disadvantages of shopping in places like these are. (1 minute)

Candidate A: Which of these kinds of shopping is more popular with young people? (20 seconds)

Useful language – Expressing advantages and disadvantages

listing advantages	• A good thing about ... • The best thing about ... • One obvious advantage is ... • An important factor is ...
adding advantages/ disadvantages	• In addition, ... • Another point is ... • What's more, ... • As well as that, ...
listing disadvantages	• A bad thing about ... • The worst thing about ... • A major disadvantage is ... • A serious/slight drawback could be ...
contrasting advantages/ disadvantages	• *(Street markets usually have a friendly atmosphere),* but ... • *(A shopping mall offers a wide range of facilities).* However, ... • *(There is no doubt street markets have fresher produce).* On the other hand, ...

KEY LANGUAGE	Advantages	Disadvantages
street market	friendly atmosphere, chat to stallholders, reasonable prices, fresher produce, find bargains, great selection, in the open air	unpleasant in bad weather, don't always find what you want, end up buying more than planned, can be crowded
shopping mall	convenient, variety of goods under one roof, protected from the weather, comfortable and luxurious, wide range of facilities	tends to be pricey, impersonal atmosphere, crowded at peak shopping times, tempts you to overspend

Model Interview:

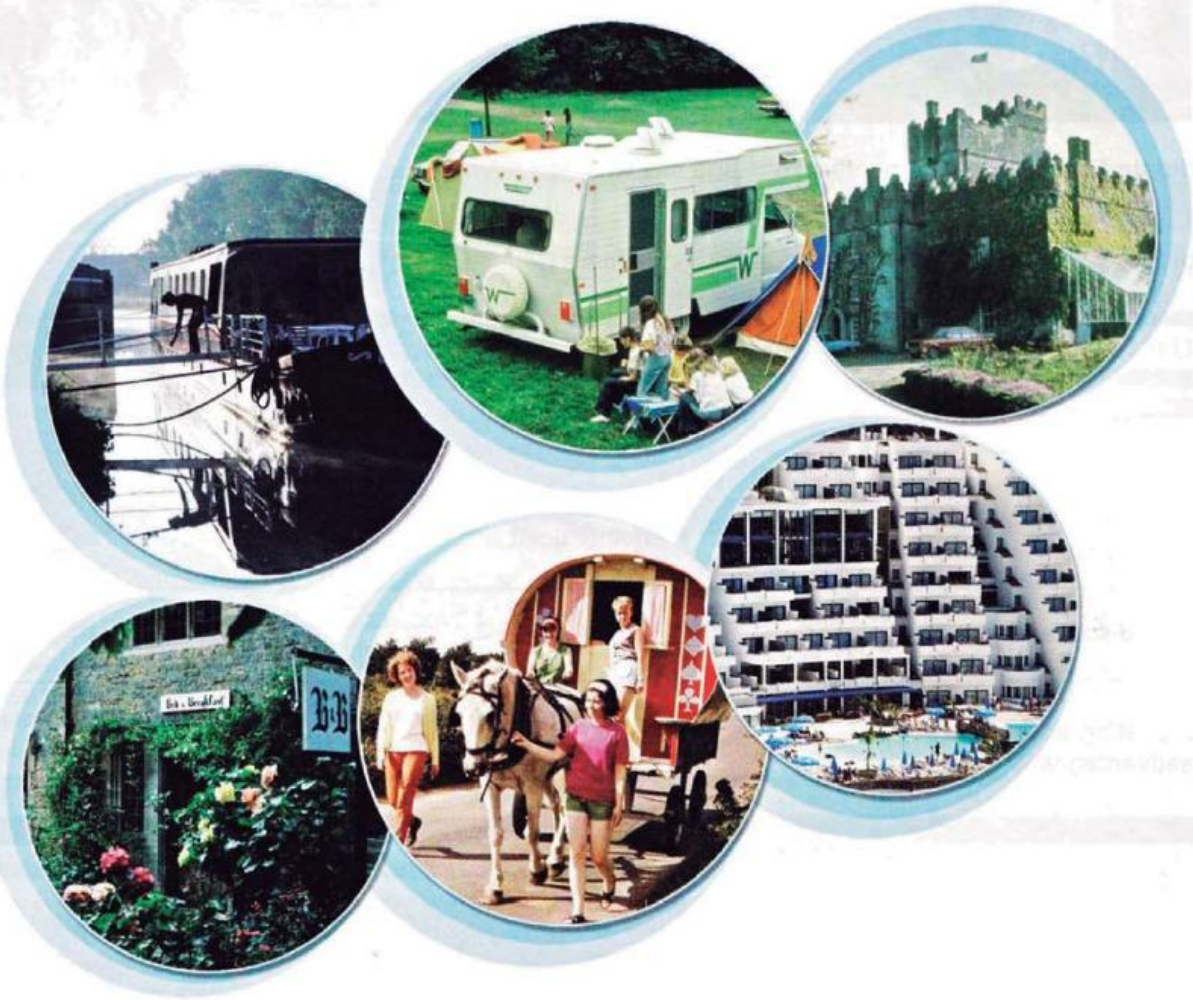
Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Part 2. What reasons does each candidate give to support their answers?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 3 Decision making (pairwork) (3 minutes)

Your neighbours are planning their holidays and have asked for your opinion on where to stay. The father is a nature lover, the mother would like a holiday without housework, and the two children want to be near entertainment facilities. Here are some possible suggestions.

- How suitable would each type of holiday accommodation be for your neighbours?
- Which two places would be the best choices for them?



Useful language – Expressing/Asking for/Giving opinion

Expressing opinion	Asking for opinion	Giving opinion
• I (don't) think (that) ... • I believe (that) ... • In my opinion, ... • If you ask me, ... • From my point of view, ...	• Don't you agree? • What's your opinion? • Wouldn't you say so? • What do you think about ... ?	• That's true, (but) ... • That's a good point. (However, ...) • I quite agree. • I couldn't agree more. • I'm not so sure (about that).

LIVEWORKSHEETS

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

KEY LANGUAGE	Positive Points	Negative Points
barge	quiet and relaxing, close to nature, economical	need to be self-catering, might be difficult to reach a town or village, lack of variety
castle	in a rural setting, surrounded by countryside, exclusive, uncrowded, quaint and unusual, accommodation with a difference	might not be much to do in the area, could be a bit pricey
campsite	offers entertainment and other facilities, economical, in a green area, possibility of walks, picnics outdoors	could be crowded and noisy, might need to prepare some meals, cramped accommodation, can be disorganised and messy
bed and breakfast	reasonably priced, comfortable, breakfast provided, evening meal often included	might not be near many entertainment facilities, boring, more basic facilities than a hotel
gypsy caravan	traditional, good way of seeing the countryside, on the move, life in the open air, economical	tiring, cramped sleeping space, need to keep caravan tidy and organised, have to cook your own meals sometimes, boring for children
luxury hotel with swimming pool	luxurious, wide range of facilities, all meals provided, opportunity to relax, caters for all ages and tastes, variety of entertainment	expensive, busy, not always close to nature, lack of contact with local people, can be isolated

Model Interview:

Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Part 3 and answer the questions.

1 How suitable do the candidates find each type of accommodation for the family? Which two places do they choose for them? What reasons do they give to support their decision?

Part 4 Discussing in pairs (4 minutes)

- What kinds of holiday accommodation are popular in your country?
- What things are important to you when you choose a place to stay?
- Why do some people choose to stay in five-star hotels?
- What kind of person do you think would enjoy travelling around in a traditional gypsy caravan?
- Is tourist accommodation in your country expensive?

Model Interview:

Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Part 4 and answer the questions.

1 What things are important to the candidates when they choose a place to stay?
2 Why do the candidates think some people choose to stay in five-star hotels. What reasons do they give to support their answers?

LIVEWORKSHEETS