Speaking skills Identifying yourself

Technique
Speak slowly and clearly. In the opening exchange, sound interested in order to make a good first impression.

1 1.3 Listen to four questions from the start of the IELTS Speaking test. Write the exact questions the examiner asks.

Audio

a Can you _____ ?

b And what _____ ?

c Where _____ ?

d Could you _____ ?

2 Read this information about a candidate for the Speaking test. Use the information to complete the dialogue with the examiner.

Benjamin Weiss is going to take the Speaking module at 3.30 this afternoon. He comes from Switzerland and prefers people to call him Ben. He has brought his passport as identification.

Candidate: Hello, good _____ .

Examiner: Good _____ . Can you _____ me your _____ name, please?

Candidate: My name is _____ .

Examiner: And what can I _____ you?

Candidate: Please _____ me _____ .

Examiner: Good. Where _____ you come _____ ?

Candidate: I come _____ .

Examiner: Can you _____ me your identification, please?

Candidate: Of course. _____ is my _____ .

3 With a partner, practise reading the dialogue above. Then practise again giving answers as yourself.

Discussing familiar topics

1 The following questions are taken from an interview in a daily newspaper with a famous singer. Match the questions 1–8 with her answers a–h.

1 What kind of town did you grow up in?
2 Where would you like to live?
3 Do you have any hobbies?
4 What sort of TV programmes do you like watching?
5 What is your greatest fear?
6 Which living person do you most admire?
7 What is your most precious object?
8 What sort of place do you live in now?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a I've got this beautiful ring that belonged to my grandmother. It has sentimental value for me. It's very special.
b Spiders.
c In New York, of course.
d I'm quite keen on comedies. I don't particularly like news and current affairs. They make me feel sad.
e Hotels mostly.
f I grew up in quite a small town. It was quiet and nice, and everyone seemed to know everyone else.
g I like playing jazz piano. I like it because it relaxes me.
h My dad. He has taught me such a lot about how to live my life well, and I'm grateful for that.

2 Look again at the questions and answers in exercise 1. Answer the questions below.

a Are the questions complex and abstract or do they relate to personal information?
b Which answers would be good in the Speaking test? Why?

3 Make 10 typical questions that examiners ask in Part 1 of the Speaking module. Use the words given to make the full questions, add in extra words such as articles where necessary. The first one has been done for you.

a How often / you / listen / music?

How often do you listen to music?

b Where / was / last / place / you / travelled / to?

c What form / transport / you / use most?

d When / you / start / learning English?

e Which form / communication / you / like / use / most – / email / phone?

f What sports / you / played?

g What kind / food / like / eat?

h What hobbies / you / have?

i What sort / television programmes / you / enjoy / watching?

j What type / books / you / enjoy / reading?



Technique

Prepare for Speaking Part 1 by thinking about the kinds of topic the examiner may ask you about. Prepare also by thinking of extra details to support your answers.

4 With a partner, ask and answer the questions you wrote in exercise 3. Give extra information to elaborate your answers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Saying where you come from

1 1.4 In Speaking Part 1, you will often be asked about your home town or where you live now. Listen to an extract from an interview. Complete the examiner's questions in the spaces below.

Audio

Now in this first part I'd like to ask you some questions about yourself. Let's talk about your town or village.
Question 1: Could you tell me .....?
Question 2: What .....?
Question 3: Is there anything .....?
Question 4: And what kind .....?

2 1.4 Listen again. Make notes on the details that the student mentions in response to each question.

Audio

Question 1 _____
Question 2 _____
Question 3 _____
Question 4 _____

How much detail does the student give in each answer?

3 Make a note of your own personal answers in response to the questions in exercise 1.

4 With a partner, ask and answer the questions in exercise 1. Try to add extra information to your answers. Use the phrases in the list below to help you.

I used to live in ... but now I ...
I moved here ...
It's a ... place with ...
What I like about it is ... because ...
The great thing about ... is ...
I suppose most people ...

Technique
Always support your answer by adding extra information. Use *for example* and *because*.

Pronunciation: stressing syllables

1 How many syllables are there in each of these words for describing places?

pleasant ■ dynamic ■ flat ■ peaceful ■ cramped ■ bungalow ■ detached ■ overpriced

2 1.5 Listen to the words and match each word with a stress pattern below.

Audio

Example
pleasant *pattern 2*

Pattern 1 O Pattern 2 Oo Pattern 3 oO Pattern 4 Ooo Pattern 5 oOo Pattern 6 ooO

3 Identify which word has a different stress pattern from the rest of the words.

a	discuss	also	although	reply
b	interest	hotel	prefer	technique
c	quality	radio	comedy	solution
d	example	experience	advantage	afternoon
e	technology	variety	information	environment
f	interference	explanation	analysis	sentimental
g	unacceptable	theoretical	unobtainable	communicable

LIVEWORKSHEETS