BRITISH COUNCIL
IELTS
Speaking Book

HOMETOWNS • CITIES • COUNTRIES

PART 1

Hometown

- Where's your hometown?
- Where do you live now?
- Is there anything you don 't like about your hometown?
- Is your hometown big or small?
- Does anyone famous come from your hometown?
- Could you describe the landscape of your hometown?
- What is some of the history of your hometown?
- When is the best time to visit your hometown?
- What is the best thing about your hometown?
- How do you think your hometown Will change in the future?
- How long have you lived in your hometown?
- Do you like your hometown?
- Would you rather live in your hometown or another city?
- What's the difference between your hometown and other cities in your country?

Neighbourhood

- What is the area like where you live?
- What's your neighbourhood like?
- What kinds of jobs do people have in your neighbourhood?
- Do you get along with your neighbours?
- Is your home in a convenient location?
- Is your neighbourhood a safe place to live?

Cities

- What is your city famous for?
- What should a tourist do if they visit your city?
- What would you like to Change about your city?
- How can you make your city better?
- What are the main industries in your city?
- What kinds of amenities does your city offer?
- Is it easy to get around your city?
- How has your city developed over the past few decades?
- Could you describe the layout of your city?
- Why do people move to the city?

Countries

- Describe the geography of your country.
- What are some social issues your country has?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- What are some global issues?
- What can you do to make the world a better place to live?
- What's the standard of living like in your country?
- How can you improve your quality of life?
- What are the advantages of living in the country?
- Where would you like to live when you retire?

PART 2

Describe where you would like to retire. You should say:

- where it is
- What it's like
- why you like this place

and explain how this place makes you feel.

Describe a problem in your city. You should say:

- What it is
- how it was caused
- why it is a problem

and offer some solutions to the problem.

Describe a famous place in your country. You should say:

- where it is
- What it's famous for
- who visits the place

and explain how/why it became famous.

Describe a place you often went to as a child. You should say:

- where it was
- Who you went there with
- What you did there

and explain why you often went there.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 3

Living Standards

- Is the government doing enough to raise the standard of living?
- How does a city shape who you are or become?
- Which is more important, raising the standard of living or protecting the environment?
- What factors determine a country's standard of living?

Globalisation

- What role does the UN play?
- Do you think the world is becoming smaller?
- What are the major differences between your country and other nations?
- What can you learn from other countries and cultures?

Growth of Cities

- How have cities in your country developed since your parents were young?
- What Will cities be like in the future?
- What is the cause of urbanisation?
- What is the downside of urbanisation?
- How is overpopulation caused?

Society

- Are people isolating themselves from society these days?
- What responsibilities do citizens of a nation have?
- How does unemployment affect society?

Immigration

- Why do people emigrate?
- What kind of problems may immigrants experience when they arrive in a new country?
- Does Immigration threaten local culture or enhance it?
- What can be done about illegal immigration?
- Does immigration have a positive or negative effect on the economy?

Developing Countries

- What can the government do to ensure the equal distribution of wealth?
- What can we do to assist developing countries?
- What are the causes of poverty in a nation?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORK

PART 1

Your Job

- Do you work or are you a student?
- What do you like about your job?
- What don't you enjoy about your work?
- How do you travel to work?
- When would you like to retire?
- Describe a typical day in your job.
- What do you find most difficult about your job?
- What other jobs would you be interested in?
- Which job wouldn't you like to do?
- Would you like a job in which you could travel? Why/Why not'?
- What training do you need for your job?

Companies

- Is your company a good one? Why/Why not?
- Would you like to run your own business? Why/Why not?
- What is the ideal work environment?

Employers

- Do you like your boss? Why/Why not?
- What's the best way to prepare for a job interview?
- Do you prefer male or female bosses?

Employees

- Do women usually work after they get married in your country?
- Is it easy to find a job in your country?

PART 2

Describe a successful company you know. You should say:

- What it is
- What you know about the company
- why you liked this company

and explain how it became successful.

Describe the kind of boss you like. You should say:

- What they teach you
- What qualifications they need
- What qualities they need

And explain why they would be a good boss.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Describe What makes a good employee. You should say:

- What qualifications they need
- What qualities they need
- What attitude they should have

and explain why it's important to be a good employee.

Describe a memorable day you had at work. You should say:

- when it was
- who was there
- What made it memorable

and explain how you felt that day.

PART 3

Workforce

- What are the characteristics of a good employee? And employer?
- What are the benefits and shortcomings of being a manager?
- How important is teamwork?

Unemployment

- What problems does unemployment cause?
- What can be done about the problems that unemployment causes?
- Why is it difficult to find a good job?

Work Conditions

- Which is more important, a good salary or a job you enjoy?
- Why do many people become workaholics?
- What factors influence job choice?
- How important is job interest?
- What are the perfect work conditions?
- How serious is the problem of unfair labour practices?
- How could the government improve employment conditions in your country?

Work Discrimination

- Which jobs are considered prestigious in your country and why?
- Is work discrimination a problem in your country?
- How are female bosses different from male bosses?
- Do men 's jobs differ from women 's in your country?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The Development of Jobs

- How have jobs changed over the past 50 years in your country?
- How Will jobs Change in the future?
- Do you think young people are becoming less and less hard-working?

Work and Education

- Which is more important, educational qualifications or work experience?
- Does the education system in your country adequately prepare people for the workforce?
- Do employers prefer degrees from foreign universities or local ones in your country?

EDUCATION

PART 1

Studies

- Do you work or are you a student?
- What do you like your studies?
- Which subjects don't you enjoy?
- What don 't you enjoy about your studies?
- What's the best way to prepare for a test?

School

- Is your school a good one? Why/Why not?
- What facilities does your school have?
- What are teachers like in your country?
- Are your tuition fees expensive?
- Do you like school uniforms?
- How do you travel to school?
- Do you to any school clubs?
- How strict is your school?

English

- Why are you studying English?
- Why do you need IELTS?
- What do you find most difficult about learning a language?
- What is your strength in English?
- Did you leam a foreign language at primary or high school?

PART 2

Describe a teacher who has influenced you. You should say:

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- who he/she was
- What they taught you
- why you liked this teacher

and explain how they influenced you.

Describe something you learnt that is very useful. You should say

- What it is
- how you learnt it
- who taught you

explain why it is so useful.

Describe something that you would love to learn. You should say:

- What it is
- How you will learn it
- What it may lead to in the future

explain why you are interested in it

Describe a memorable day you had at school. You should say:

- When it was
- Who was there
- What made it memorable

explain how you felt that day

PART 3

Primary & Secondary Education

- Do you think it's better to leam in a coeducational or single sex school?
- Could you compare public schools to state schools?
- Do you think you leam more from your teachers or your parents?
- What's the best way to punish students if they have broken a rule?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of school uniforms?
- Would you agree that exams are the way to measure what a student has learnt?

Tertiary Education

- Which factors determine which university to attend?
- How important is a tertiary education in getting a job in your country?
- What do you think of the saying "Experience is the best teacher"?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Ministry of Education

- Should education be free?
- Do women have the same education opportunities in your as men?
- How serious is the problem of illiteracy in your country?
- How can highly experienced and qualified teachers be encouraged to teach in rural areas?
- ow could the government improve the education system in your country?

Development of Education

- Which subjects at school are becoming increasingly important?
- How has education changed over the past 50 years in your country?
- How Will education change in the future?

CRIME

PART 1

Public Safety

- Is your hometown a safe city?
- Are there any parts of your city that are too dangerous to visit?
- Is it safe to walk outside alone at night?
- Do you always lock your house and car?

Crimes

- What are some common crimes committed in your country?
- Do you ever drink and drive?
- Are there any problems with drugs where you live?
- What crimes have you heard in the news recently?
- What are prisons like in your country?
- Have you ever seen a crime?
- What would you do if you heard a burglar in your home?
- Have you ever been the victim of a crime?

PART 2

Describe a school rule that you don't like or disagree with. You should say:

- What it is
- why the rule exists
- why you don 't like the rule

and offer some alternatives to the rule.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Describe what crimes affect the area you live in. You should say:

- What they are
- How they affect people
- How often they occur

and explain why they happen.

Describe what makes a good police officer. You should say:

- What qualifications and training they need
- What qualities they need
- What responsibilities they have

and explain why it's important to be a good police officer.

Describe a crime that you have heard about. You should say:

- When it was
- Who was there
- What happened

and explain how you feel the crime.

PART 3

Development Of Crime

- How have crimes Changed over the last 50 years in your country?
- How Will crimes Change in the future?
- Could you compare blue- to white-collar crime?
- Do you think abortion is a crime?
- How concerned are you about terrorism?
- Are you optimistic that in the future we Will living in a safer society?

Deterring Crime

- Do you believe public executions would deter crime?
- How important is education in preventing crime?
- Do you think gun control is a good idea?
- Do you think police should be allowed to carry guns?
- Do you think the punishment for violent crimes should be the same for juveniles?

Criminal Behaviour

- Why do people become criminals?

LIVEWORKSHEETS