

SPEAKING TEST – C1.1**PART 1 (2-4 mins)****PERSONAL QUESTIONS**

Candidates are asked questions regarding personal information.

- **Home:** What was your childhood home like? Can you describe it?
- **Travel:** What is more important for you, the journey or the destination?

PART 2 (4-6 mins)**MONOLOGUE: SUMMARY of a TEXT**

Candidates are asked to summarise a text, which they have read before the speaking test, and relate it to their own experience. Candidates are given 15 minutes to read the text and take notes, if necessary.

SPEAKING TEST**C1.1 SAMPLE TEXT CANDIDATE A**

Reading time: 15 minutes. You can take notes to refer to during the test.

Speaking test: Summarise the text highlighting its main ideas and discuss the topic with your partner. You can relate it to your own experience.

TOPIC: HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**Pollution: A life and death issue**

We do not have the option of growing food, or finding enough water, on a clean planet, but on one increasingly tarnished and trashed by the way we have used it so far. Cutting waste and clearing up pollution costs money. Yet time and again it is the quest for wealth that generates much of the mess in the first place.

Living in a way that is less damaging to the Earth is not easy, but it is vital, because pollution is pervasive and often life-threatening.

- Air: The World Health Organization (WHO) says 3 million people are killed worldwide by outdoor air pollution annually from vehicles and industrial emissions, and 1.6 million indoors through using solid fuel. Most are in poor countries.
- Water: Diseases carried in water are responsible for 80% of illnesses and deaths in developing countries, killing a child every eight seconds.
- Soil: Contaminated land is a problem in industrialised countries, where former factories and power stations can leave waste like heavy metals in the soil. It can also occur in developing countries, sometimes used for dumping pesticides. Agriculture can pollute land with pesticides, nitrate-rich fertilisers and slurry from livestock.

Chemicals are a frequent pollutant. But the problem is that modern society demands many of them, and some are essential for survival. So while we invoke the precautionary principle, which always recommends erring on the side of caution, we have to recognise there will be trade-offs to be made.

Another complication in dealing with pollution is that it does not respect political frontiers. There is a UN convention on trans-boundary air pollution, but that cannot cover every problem that can arise between neighbours, or between states which do not share a border. Perhaps the best example is climate change - the countries of the world share one atmosphere and what one does can affect everyone.

Source: adapted from bbc.co.uk

Date: December 2004

SPEAKING TEST**C1.1 SAMPLE TEXT CANDIDATE B**

Reading time: 15 minutes. You can take notes to refer to during the test.

Speaking test: Summarise the text highlighting its main ideas and discuss the topic with your partner. You can relate it to your own experience.

TOPIC: HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**Water scarcity: A looming crisis?**

The amount of water in the world is finite. The number of us is growing fast and our water use is growing even faster. A third of the world's population lives in water-stressed countries now. By 2025, this is expected to rise to two-thirds.

There is more than enough water available, in total, for everyone's basic needs.

The UN recommends that people need a minimum of 50 litres of water a day for drinking, washing, cooking and sanitation. In 1990, over a billion people did not have even that. Providing universal access to that basic minimum worldwide by 2015 would take less than 1% of the amount of water we use today. But we're a long way from achieving that.

As important as quantity is quality - with pollution increasing in some areas, the amount of useable water declines. More than five million people die from waterborne diseases each year - 10 times the number killed in wars around the globe.

And the wider effects of water shortages are just as chilling as the prospect of having too little to drink. Seventy percent of the water used worldwide is used for agriculture. Much more will be needed if we are to feed the world's growing population - predicted to rise from about six billion today to 8.9 billion by 2050.

New technology can help, however, especially by cleaning up pollution and so making more water useable, and in agriculture, where water use can be made far more efficient. Drought-resistant plants can also help. Drip irrigation drastically cuts the amount of water needed, low-pressure sprinklers are an improvement, and even building simple earth walls to trap rainfall is helpful.

Some countries are now treating waste water so that it can be used - and drunk - several times over.

Source: bbc.co.uk

Date: October 2004

PART 3 (6-7 minutes)

INTERACTION:

Candidates are asked to have a conversation on the topic of the texts in part 2. They express and exchange opinions on the subject and relate it to their own experience.

Candidates might be asked to answer follow-up questions related to the topic if necessary.

TOPIC: HEALTH and ENVIRONMENT**Follow-up Questions:**

- How does your local government make it easy or hard for citizens to recycle?
- What can we do to increase awareness about environmental pollution?
- How has environment awareness developed in the last years?
- What are the main environmental challenges that society has to face today?