

CHECK THAT THE TAPE RECORDER IS ON AND WORKING

Test time: 15 minutes

I = Interlocutor C = Candidate

Part 1 (3 minutes)

- I: City & Guilds International Spoken ESOL Test, Mastery level. (*Give today's date and candidate's name*). Test begins. Hello. My name's (*give full name*). Can you spell your family name for me please?
- C: (*Spells family name.*)
- I: Thank you. And where are you from?
- C: (*Responds.*)
- I: Thank you. Now, in the first part of the test I'm going to ask you some questions about yourself, your ideas and opinions. All right? (*Choose **up to five** questions as time allows. Name the topic; eg "Now, **Growing up**".*)

Questions

Growing Up

- Tell me something about the place where you grew up. How has it affected you?
- People disagree about whether we're more influenced by our genes or our surroundings. What do you think?
- From your own experience, which things do you think are important for children as they grow up?
- Which do you think prepares us best for adult life - growing up in the country or the city?

Relationships

- If you have a problem, who are you most likely to talk it through with and why?
- What would you say are the key ingredients for a strong relationship and why?
- People sometimes say 'You can choose your friends but you can't choose your family'. What do you think about this?
- What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of a husband and wife working in the same profession?

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The Environment

- What kind of environmental issues are of particular concern in your country?
- What do you think governments should do to help protect the environment?
- What do you as an individual do to help protect the environment?
- What do you see as the greatest threat to the environment at the moment and what can be done about it?

Feelings

- To what extent do you think it's true that money does not bring happiness?
- Do you think the weather affects people's feelings? In what ways?
- How do you feel about music in public places?
- Does advertising encourage you to buy or irritate you?

Health

- To what extent do health concerns influence your own eating habits?
- Should hospitals treat people whose illnesses are brought on by their lifestyle? Why/why not?
- Tell me about a situation relating to health and medicine which has been in the papers recently. What is your own opinion on the issue?
- What factors make you feel stressed and what do you do about it?

C: *(Responds.)*

I: Thank you.

Part 2 (3 minutes)

I: Now, Part Two. I'm going to read some situations. First situation (*choose a situation from A*).

A

- I'm a university lecturer in your subject. You want to study in the department where I work. I start.
"So why do you want to study here?" (Ask for details of interests, aims for the future etc).
- You're on a coach. You've lost your ticket but have the receipt. I'm the inspector. I start.
"All tickets please."
- We're friends. I start.
"Oh (give candidate's name). My sister's only 18 but she wants to get married before she goes to university. What do you think I should say to her? What do you think I should do?"
- I'm your English teacher. I start.
"So could you tell me what you've enjoyed most about learning English?"

C: (*Responds*)

I: (*Role-play the situation with candidate – approximately two turns each*)

I: Second situation (*choose one situation from B*).

B

- You are at work. You forgot to bring some important documents to a meeting. What do you say? You start.
- We're friends. Persuade me to lend you my laptop computer for the weekend. You start. (*Ask for reasons.*)
- I'm a friend of your parents. I live in a town you're going to visit. You'd like to stay with me. You start. (*Ask about reasons for visit, special dietary needs etc.*)
- I'm your bank manager. You want to borrow a sum of money. You start. (*Ask for reasons and amount.*)

C: *(initiates)*

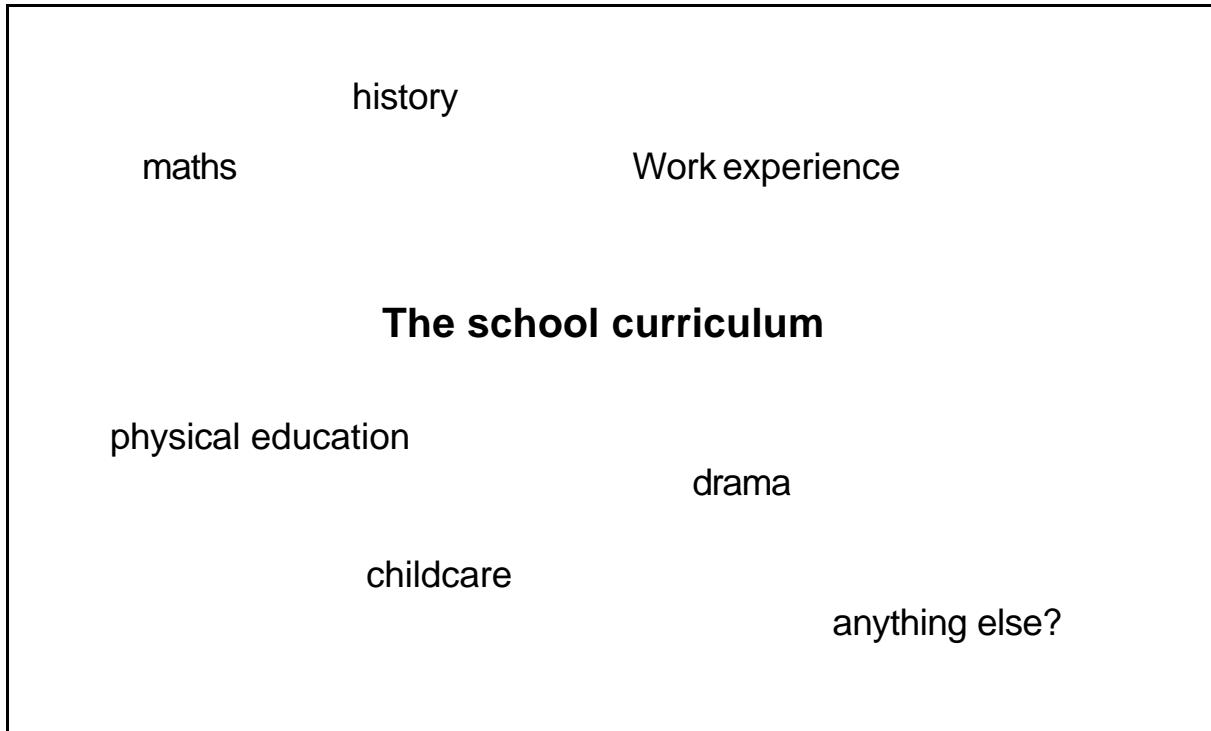
I: *(Role-play the situation with candidate – approximately two turns each.)*

I: *(Role play a third situation from **A** or **B** if time allows)*

I: Thank you.

Part 3 (4 minutes)

I: Now, Part Three. In this part of the test we're going to discuss something together. Here's a list of some subjects which might form part of a school curriculum. (*Hand over candidate's task sheet.*) Let's discuss the importance of these subjects and which others should be included. Take twenty seconds to think about what you want to say. (*Wait twenty seconds.*)



I: Thank you. (*Retrieve candidate's task sheet.*)

Part 4 (5 minutes)

I: In Part Four of the test you are going to talk on your own for about three minutes. Your topic is (*choose topic*).

Topics

- A How do the buildings we work or study in affect our performance?**
- B Is it better for children to grow up in the town or the countryside?**
- C Do you think young people today have an easier or a harder time than their parents did when they were young?**

I: First, think about it for thirty seconds and make some notes if you want. (*Hand over piece of paper and pen/pencil.*) So your topic is (*repeat topic*). All right? (*Withdraw eye contact for thirty seconds. Leave tape running.*)

I: Ready? Please start.

C: (*Talks for about three minutes, with support when appropriate.*)

I: (*Choose follow-up questions if time allows.*)

Follow-up questions

A How do the buildings we work or study in affect our performance?

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of open-plan workplaces?
- How do technological changes in the way we work and study affect the design of buildings?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of very tall buildings?
- Some managers do not allow their staff to have photos or other personal items on their desks. What do you think about this?

B Is it better for children to grow up in the town or countryside?

- What is the infrastructure like in rural as opposed to urban areas of your country?
- Some people have second homes in the countryside. What effect do you think they have on the lives of the villagers where their second homes are?
- In what ways do you think the relationships between people in villages differ from relationships between people in towns?
- What about for older people - where is quality of life better for them?

C Do you think people today have an easier or harder time than their parents did when they were young?

- In what ways has the Internet altered life for young people today?
- Do you think it is easier or harder for people to find a life partner these days? Why?
- What do you think would have been the best or worst period in history to be young in?
- How do you think the lives of young people will have changed in, say, thirty years time?

I: Thank you. That is the end of the test. (*Give candidate's name*). End of test.

CANDIDATE'S TASK SHEET FOR PART 3

