



Ascentis Anglia Language Examinations
Ascentis Level 1 Certificate in ESOL
International (Ofqual Accreditation No. 500/4062/5)
Advanced Level (B2)
Speaking Test
Winter 2011/12
Instructions for Examiners

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ADVANCED SPEAKING EXAMINATION, WINTER 2011/12

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINERS

Location: A quiet place in the school.

Duration: about 20 minutes.

Participants: 2 students; an examiner; an interlocutor if possible; an usher.

Materials needed: list of topics to be handed out to students one week prior to exam; sets of cards for priority ordering – at least two copies of each card, A, B and C.

Task 1: 2 – 4 minutes. **Introductory warm-up:** ask each student to introduce him or herself. Prompt the students to ask each other questions about their lives, families, hopes and so on.

Task 2: 8 – 10 minutes. **Prepared talk and discussion:** each student gives a short presentation (2 – 3 minutes) on a topic from the list. Then students respond to one another's presentations for about 3 minutes each.

Task 3: about 8 minutes. **Free discussion and decision-making:** priority ordering – each student draws a card containing a list of subjects, the order of importance of which they have to decide on with their partner by negotiation.

When the card has been chosen, the student's partner is also given a copy to work from.



ADVANCED SPEAKING EXAMINATION, WINTER 2011/12

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINERS

Task 2: List of topics

1. Sports stars should be paid no more than the average wage in that country. Do you agree?
2. In your opinion what makes a good school?
3. We should all eat organic food. Do you agree?
4. Everyone should retire when they are 60 years old. Do you agree?
5. It is wrong to use animals for scientific research. Do you agree?

ADVANCED SPEAKING EXAMINATION, WINTER 2011/12

Task 3: Priority ordering

Make sure you hand the copy of the assignment to your partner, so he / she has the same information.

There is a well-known saying, 'The best things in life are free'. However, in our current world of rising prices, what is it worth spending money on?

Decide which of these things are worth spending a reasonable amount of money on by ranking them in order of importance: 1 (the most important) to 12 (the least important).

- PRIVATE EDUCATION
- GYM MEMBERSHIP
- PRIVATE HEALTHCARE
- ORGANIC FOOD
- A RELIABLE CAR
- EXOTIC HOLIDAYS
- MODERN TECHNOLOGY
- STOCKS AND SHARES (INVESTMENT)
- ART (INVESTMENT)
- A HOUSE
- AN EXPENSIVE WEDDING
- STYLISH CLOTHES

CARD A



ADVANCED SPEAKING EXAMINATION, WINTER 2011/12

Task 3: Priority ordering

Make sure you hand the copy of the assignment to your partner, so he / she has the same information.

There is a popular saying that 'Life is what you make of it'. Apart from a sense of optimism, what factors are important in contributing to a good life?

Decide which of these qualities are most important by ranking them in order of importance: 1 (the most important) to 12 (the least important).

- A HAPPY MARRIAGE
- MONEY
- CLOSE FRIENDS
- A SENSE OF HUMOUR
- AN INTEREST IN ART AND LITERATURE
- A SATISFYING JOB
- EATING HEALTHILY
- YOUR OWN HOME
- CLEAR GOALS OR AMBITIONS
- A LARGE FAMILY
- KEEPING FIT
- YOUR MEMORIES

CARD B

ADVANCED SPEAKING EXAMINATION, WINTER 2011/12

Task 3: Priority ordering

Make sure you hand the copy of the assignment to your partner, so he/she has the same information.

In 2010 international tourism generated over \$900 billion and international tourism is continuing to grow. If you were planning a holiday abroad, what criteria would be the most important for you when choosing your destination?

Decide on exactly how important these criteria would be in choosing a holiday destination by ranking them in order of importance: 1 (the most important) to 12 (the least important).

- CLIMATE
- LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN COUNTRY
- HOW TO GET THERE (TRAIN? PLANE?)
- CLOSENESS TO BEACH
- VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES
- RANGE OF RESTAURANTS
- PRICE OF HOLIDAY
- CRIME LEVEL IN COUNTRY
- SIZE OF RESORT/ HOTEL
- QUALITY OF ACCOMMODATION
- POLITICAL STABILITY OF COUNTRY
- DISTANCE FROM HOME

CARD C

MARKING CRITERIA ASCENTIS ANGLIA SPEAKING TEST ADVANCED (B2) LEVEL

	COMMUNICATION	CONTENT	PRONUNCIATION	VOCABULARY	GRAMMAR
D	Can produce extended stretches of language with fairly even tempo and interact without placing strain on the participants. May need to hesitate and pause for thought.	Covers the subjects of discussion well. Can tackle every aspect of the conversation and discussion even if it is an effort.	Good, clear pronunciation and stress / intonation.	Uses a variety of appropriate words and idiom.	Some inaccuracies and inappropriate uses, but generally confident with the structures demanded by the tasks.
M	Candidate is reasonably fluent, but some unevenness of tempo and longer pauses for thought.	Covers the subjects satisfactorily. Effort made not too distracting for participants.	Reasonable pronunciation and stress / intonation.	Adequate words and idiom for all the tasks.	Mistakes are made, but do not usually break up the flow.
P	Candidate can make his / her way through the interactions, but the effort is very obvious and could be distracting for the flow of conversation.	May not say what he / she thinks, but rather what he / she can say, leading to blocked discussion, but not a complete stop.	Mother tongue easily detected and leading to oddities in stress and intonation, but not generally interfering with understanding.	Just about adequate words and idiom for all the debate and discussion, even if some paraphrase noted when a true expression is missing.	Mistakes, but can continue and make him / herself understood.
R	Pauses and hesitation indicating lack of adequate range in candidate's spoken English to cope with the tasks.	Does not confidently cover the subject. Is very hesitant about what to say.	Flow of pronunciation and intonation does not inspire confidence in the speaker having an advanced level of spoken English.	Vocabulary too limited to be called functional at this level.	Mistakes indicating advanced grammar in spoken English not quite achieved.
U	Little or no communication in English takes place at all.				