



Anglia Examination Syndicate Limited



A Company Registered in England: Company N° 2046325

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE / BUSINESS EXAMS FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

Advanced Level

Guidelines for teachers / Instructions for examiners

Procedure

The AES Advanced Speaking Test consists of four Core Tasks. The test should take approximately 16 minutes to complete. It is conducted by you, the external examiner, with procedural help from an usher, when needed.

The Speaking Test comprises 25% of the total score for the entire examination.

Participants: 2 candidates per interview; examiner; usher, if desired.

Materials needed

Core Task 2:

A set of pictures / photographs depicting similar subjects but differing considerably in their treatment of the subject.

Core Task 3:

A set of cards with fictitious roles for the candidates to act out. The cards also show fictitious names, which the candidates will have to assume for use during the role-play. The situation for this task may or may not relate to that of the previous task.

Both candidates are given one card each on which there are a few sentences describing a certain situation and what kind of people they are.

Core Task 4:

List of the 10 discussion topics for Advanced level.

Conducting the test

Core Task 1: 3 minutes in total.

The examiner welcomes and reassures the candidates. They are then encouraged to ask each other questions about themselves using prompts given by the examiner. At an appropriate point, the examiner may stop the candidates and start prompting him/herself.

Core Task 2: 4 minutes in total.

The examiner gives one picture / photograph to each candidate and tells them they are not allowed to show their visuals to each other. The candidates are then, in turn, invited to describe their pictures / photographs to their partners before listening to their partner's description of a similar (but not identical) picture. Each candidate should listen to his/her partner's description alternatively, as they are then asked to discuss together in which ways the two pictures are the same and in which ways they differ. The interlocutor may take part in the discussion in order to elicit further information.

Core Task 3: 4 minutes in total.

The examiner gives each candidate one role-card. Both role-cards are related to each other and describe a situation in which both candidates will be involved. They are given 30 seconds to read their role-cards, and then the examiner checks they have understood the situation and know what they are expected to do. The candidates are then asked to act out the roles assigned to them. At this stage, the examiner does not interfere but lets both candidates talk freely.

Core Task 4: 4 minutes in total.

The examiner asks the candidates to choose a number each, between 1 and 10. After the candidates have picked their numbers, the examiner shows them the list of topics for Advanced level and gives them 30/45 seconds to think about their chosen topic. Then the examiner invites them, in turn, to speak.

The object of this part is to let the candidates speak uninterrupted for 1 minute each, after which the examiner will stimulate debate with both candidates at the same time. The debate should take no more than 2 minutes.

Stay cheerful and encouraging, and when the test is over, thank the students and say "well done".