



## CAE Speaking Part 1 Interview – teacher’s notes

### Description

In this activity, students choose from a list of topics that could be asked in Part 1. They then ask and answer some Part 1 questions. Finally they write some Part 1 questions of their own, ask a partner their questions and answer their partner’s questions.

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**Time required:** 15 minutes

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**Additional**           ▪ CAE Handbook (optional)

**Materials  
required:**

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**Aims:**               ▪ To familiarise students with typical Part 1 questions.

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### Procedure

1. Give out student’s worksheet and introduce Part 1 Speaking by reading the first paragraph. If you would like to include any additional information, please look at Additional information below.
2. When you are sure the students know which type of topics are typically asked about in Part 1, ask them to do activity 1. Students can work in pairs for all the activities here.
3. Check through the answers and elicit why the wrong topics are wrong – they are too complex and knowledge-based and they are not part of usual social interaction.
4. Point out that there are general introduction questions before the topic questions. These are designed to help the students relax and start talking in English. Before students do Activity 2, suggest they always try to give two brief pieces of information: for example, *Where are you from?* Answer: *Spain. I live in Madrid.* Encourage students to ask and answer all the questions.
5. When they have had enough time, ask a few students some of the questions and discuss any points that might come up.
6. For activity 2.2 ask the students to work in pairs and to each choose a topic. They then take it in turns to ask and answer two or three questions.
7. When the students have practised this, elicit what was easy/hard about doing this task. Remind the students that in the exam they have only 3 minutes for Part 1 (for pairs).
8. For activity 2.3 ask students to work in pairs. Each student should choose a topic and write four questions on it. Elicit a couple of examples if you think your students may need help, and/or go round the class as they work to help with ideas and to check that the questions are correct.
9. Ask students to ask their questions and to answer their partners’ questions.



10. Finally point out that when they come into class they should at some point have a brief social chat, in English of course, with other students.

### **Additional information**

In this part of the test, examiners will ask candidates one or two questions about themselves, for example where they live, to help them relax. They will then ask some further questions about, for example, their leisure time, their studies, their future plans, travel and holiday experiences, their daily routine. Encourage your students to respond promptly with answers which are as complete (not just one word) and spontaneous as possible. Rehearsed speeches should be avoided as these might be inappropriate for the questions asked.

### **Suggested follow-up activities/questions (and answers)**

Ask students to look at the CAE handbook page 88. They could role-play a Part 1 Speaking test in groups of three. One student is the interlocutor and the other two are candidates. The interlocutor reads the script and the candidates answer the questions.



## CAE Paper 5 Part 1 Interview – answer keys

### Key to Classroom Activity 1

- a) leisure time ✓
- b) the history of Britain
- c) your future plans ✓
- d) the problem of endangered wildlife in the world
- e) travel and holidays ✓
- f) the economy of your country
- g) daily life ✓
- h) the latest scientific discoveries
- i) work and study ✓
- j) the place where you live ✓

### Examples of typical questions they might ask each other:

#### • Leisure time

What are your interests and leisure activities?

How important is sport and exercise in your life?

What types of TV programme do you think are worth watching?

What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

#### • Entertainment

What are the most popular sports in your country?

What do you do to keep fit and healthy?

What's your opinion of computer games? ..... (Why?)

What kinds of book do you enjoy reading? ..... (Why?)



## CAE Paper 5 Part 1 Interview – Student’s Worksheet

In Part 1 of the Speaking test the interlocutor asks candidates questions. The questions are about the candidate’s personal life, for example, *Where are you from?* and then there are some more questions on general topics which require candidates to talk about everyday topics such as sports.

### Activity 1

Put a tick next to the topics that you think you could be asked to talk about in Part 1.

- a) leisure time
- b) the history of Britain
- c) your future plans
- d) the problem of endangered wildlife in the world
- e) travel and holidays
- f) the economy of your country
- g) daily life
- h) the latest scientific discoveries
- i) work and study
- j) the place where you live

### Activity 2

1 Work in pairs. Take it in turns to ask each other these questions.

- a) Where are you from?
- b) What do you do?
- c) How long have you been studying English?
- d) What do you enjoy most about learning English?

2 Now choose one of these topics and ask your partner two or three questions.

If your partner gives a minimal response (.....) ask ‘Why?’

#### Travel and holidays

- What kinds of holiday appeal to you most? ..... (Why?)
- Which countries would you most like to visit? ..... (Why?)
- Which part of your country would you recommend to tourists? ..... (Why?)



- Do you think you would like to work in the travel industry? ..... (Why?/Why not?)

**Future plans**

- What do you hope to be doing this time next year?
- How might you use your English in the future?
- Would you consider living abroad permanently?
- Are you someone who likes to plan for the future or do you prefer to let things happen?

3 Work in pairs. One of you writes four questions to ask your partner about:

**Leisure time**

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- 
- 
- 

and the other writes four questions on

**Entertainment**

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- 
- 
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Ask and answer each other's questions.