

# 125+ IELTS Cue Card Practice Questions



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# Introduction: What to Expect from this EBook?

Our goal with this Ebook is to help you ace the cue card questions that will come up in the **Speaking Section (Part 2 or Task 2 ) on the IELTS exam**. Based on our research, it is one of the most challenging sections of the IELTS.

You are only provided a moment to look at the question, a short preparation time (*1 minute to plan and prepare on the spot*), and then speak your answer (*1 to 2 minutes*). If English isn't your first language, the task is even more challenging because of the short time available to think and prepare.

We created this mini-guide to help you overcome and ace this challenge test question(s). Our goal is to provide you with a thorough understanding of cue card questions and help you to prepare and structure your responses. And most importantly, a list of over 100+ cue card questions (in various categories) for you to practice and prepare.

Once you know how to structure a response properly, you can ace this test section; thus helping you attain a higher band score on the IELTS Speaking Section.

This list of 100+ cue card questions in this Ebook will give you a clear idea of what type of questions to expect. We hope you understand this question type and then practice these before the test.

Once you know how to structure a response properly, you will ace this test section; thus helping you attain a higher score on the IELTS.

This Ebook/mini-guide briefly explains what cue card questions are in the DET, some sample questions from the actual IELTS Speaking Test, and a list of 130+ practice questions. We've also included another BONUS – a few tips on how you can structure your responses.

Since you are interested in acing the **IELTS Speaking Test**, we wanted to make sure you've all the necessary tools. This mini-guide has 130+ test practice questions. However, we want to give you the extra edge. So we've also compiled an extra useful guide ([\*\*40+ IELTS Speaking Cue Card Questions with Sample Answers\*\*](#)).

Increase your chances of acing this test section – [\*\*Check out the EBOOK using this link here.\*\*](#)

# A Quick Overview of the IELTS Speaking Test Cue Card Questions

## What is the IELTS Exam?

The **International English Language Testing System (IELTS)** is the most widely utilized English language proficiency test for international higher education and immigration worldwide. The exam is designed to assist you in immigrating or pursuing higher studies in a country where English is the primary language. These countries are Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The IELTS has over 1,200 test center locations worldwide, including 50 test centers in the USA alone (and growing). It is also considered one of the best and fair tests for assessing one's English language proficiency as it offers a one-on-one speaking test with an examiner. Also, it accepts both British and American spellings, which makes it fair to everyone who takes the test.

The IELTS test costs around USD 200 or EUR 190. The IELTS exam uses a band scoring system and is marked on a scale of 1 to 9, 9 being the highest.

IELTS test centers' fees may vary depending on your country and what version of the test you want to take either the **IELTS Academic** or **IELTS General Test**.

The IELTS Academic Test and IELTS General Test measure the English language proficiency in the following skills: **writing, listening, reading, and speaking**.

## 1. IELTS Academic Test

The IELTS Academic Test is applicable for those who want to study in International Institutions and Universities. And to those who wish to proceed to any higher education such as doctorate degrees, master's degrees, and graduate schools. One can also take the IELTS Academic Test for professional registration purposes.

The IELTS Academic Test usually measures your readiness to study the English language, and it commonly features advanced English vocabulary that is generally used within an academic setting.

## 2. IELTS General Training Test

The IELTS General Test is generally suitable for applying to study below a degree level. It includes an English-speaking school or local colleges. The IELTS General Test can also be taken to assess one's English language proficiency for work-related requirements and other employment training.

Also, the IELTS General Test is one of the requirements for migration to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. It is also taken by those who want to study in an English-speaking country below a degree level. This type of IELTS Test features conversational English language skills usage-based in social and workplace type of settings.

Both the IELTS Academic and IELTS General Test have four sections:

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Reading   | 2. Writing  |
| 3. Listening | 4. Speaking |

### 1. Reading

In the **IELTS Reading section**, the test taker needs to identify core ideas and essential information, understand the meaning of passages, identify the writer's opinion, and summarize arguments accurately and effectively. This part of the test usually lasts up to 60 minutes, more or less.

- **IELTS Academic Test (Reading test section):** In this part, there are three long texts given about different academic subjects. These texts are original texts taken from newspapers, journals, etc. texts may be factual, analytical, or opinion-based.
- **IELTS General Test (Reading test section):** This reading part of the IELTS General test has a series of shorter and more factual texts. These short texts are usually related to the living and working environment in an English-speaking country. However, it also includes one long and more complex text of general interest. The texts in this section are also authentic texts taken from notices, newspapers, documents, magazines, and more.

## 2. Writing

Here, in the **IELTS Writing test**, the test takers are scored in a range of criteria. It includes grammatical accuracy, range of vocabulary, and the ability to connect ideas, sentences, and paragraphs accurately.

Also, it assesses the test taker's ability to use the appropriate English language and organize one's thoughts coherently. The total test time for writing is about 60 minutes.

- **IELTS Academic Test (Writing test section):** When taking the IELTS Academic Test, you must write at least two texts in the Writing section. In connection with that, the first writing test requires you to write a report based on some data given or presented, including statistical tables, graphs, and more. The second piece you need to write is an essay, wherein you need to respond or discuss an opinion or statement regarding a particular topic.
- **IELTS General Test (Writing test section):** In the IELTS General Test, the test takers are also required to write two texts. The first one is a letter responding to a given specific situation. At the same time, the other is an essay that corresponds to an opinion of a statement. In this writing test, the writing can be more informal compared to the IELTS Academic writing.

## 3. Listening

The **IELTS Listening Test** consists of four texts, two of which are set based on a social setting or environment. Also, the other two are generally based on a more educational or academic context. The texts given are either conversations, discussions, or a monologue.

It is also important to note that different speakers will use various accents in this test. Also, the test-takers will need to listen to specific information, understand the main context, and recognize the speaker's attitude and personal opinion of the conversation. This part of the exam usually lasts up to 40 minutes, more or less.



## 4. Speaking

The **IELTS Speaking Test** is a face-to-face speaking kind of test. In this test, the test taker is scored based on their ability to express themselves clearly and coherently.

Also, grammar, vocabulary, intonation, pronunciation, and eloquence in the language are considered.

There are three parts to this test. The first one is an introductory conversation, and the second one is where the test taker is given a minute to prepare for a short presentation regarding a specific topic.

The third part of the speaking test is where the examiner and the examinee will discuss a couple of questions connected to the topic discussed in the second part. You can schedule the IELTS Speaking test on a different day. The duration of this part lasts up to 14 minutes.

## What is the IELTS Speaking Test Section?

The IELTS Speaking test is similar for both the **Academic** and **General Training** modules. As mentioned earlier, it lasts for about 11 to 14 minutes.

It is designed to assess your pronunciation, fluency, grammar, and vocabulary. It is divided into three parts:

- **Part 1: Introduction and Interview**
- **Part 2: Individual Long Turn**
- **Part 3: Two-Way Discussion**

The IELTS Speaking test is in an (informal) interview format between the examiner and the candidate (you) and is recorded if you want a remark.

The examiner controls the time and the length of your answers. They will be the ones to decide your marks after the test.

For candidates who take the computer-based IELTS test, the Speaking test still has to be done face-to-face.

Depending on local arrangements, the Speaking test is conducted either on the same day as the other three tests: Listening, Reading, and Writing, or seven days before or after.

The IELTS Speaking test evaluates your English communication skills. For your spoken English language skills, the examiner assigns band scores that range from 1 to 9.

All IELTS test examiners will have some teaching experience and be hired by test centers after being approved by the [British Council](#) and [IDP IELTS Australia](#).

## Part 1: Introduction and Interview (4 to 5 minutes)

In the first part, you will be told by the examiner to state your name and present your identification.

You will be asked typical questions about yourself like where you live and work or study. You will then be thrown a series of questions regarding various things, such as your favorite music, cooking, weather, or favorite movies.

More often than not, you will be questioned about one or two topics.

If your answer is too brief, the examiner will ask rehearsed questions and listen to your response, urging you to elaborate with a *"why?"* or *"why not?"*

This part of the test uses a **question-and-answer style** to assess your ability to deliver your point of view on various topics by responding to a series of questions.

## Part 2: Individual Long Turn (3 to 4 minutes)

In the second part, the examiner will assign you a topic and ask you to speak for one to two minutes about it.

You will be handed a **cue card** with the topic on it, as well as a piece of paper and a pencil for you to take notes. On the card, you will find the speaking prompt and some ideas for topics to discuss.

Before you talk, you will have exactly one minute to prepare and take notes.

The examiner will keep track of your time and notify you when it is up. They will advise you when to begin your discussion and warn you that you will be stopped after two minutes.

The points on the topic card will help you come up with ideas for what to say, and you should aim to speak for the entire two minutes.

Before moving on to the next portion, they may ask you a question about what you have said. (one or two follow-up questions).

This part of the test appraises your ability to speak for an extended period about a specific topic while using proper language and organizing your thoughts logically. You can use your prior knowledge of the subject to assist you in completing the long turn.

### Part 3: Two-Way Discussion (4 to 5 minutes)

Questions in the third part will be related to the overall topic you discussed in the second part.

You will explore the topic in a more general and abstract manner, demonstrating to the examiner that you can express and justify your thoughts and analyze, discuss, and hypothesize about the topic in greater depth.

If your long turn was about a lovely spot to visit in your city, this part might start with a discussion about beautiful places, with the first question being, *"Do you believe it's essential to keep cities beautiful?"*

In this part, the examiner will speak with you longer and may ask you to justify your beliefs to assess how well you can convey abstract ideas compared to the personal topics you discussed in the first and second parts.

# What are the Cue Card Questions in IELTS Speaking Section?



**IELTS Speaking Part 2** is called '**Long Turn**' and takes about 2 to 3 minutes. You will be given a card with a topic on it, and you need to talk about that topic for two minutes. Do not worry, as you will be given one minute to prepare before you speak. On the cue card, you will find the speaking prompt and some ideas for topics to discuss.

The points on the topic card will help you think of what to say, and you should try to speak for the entire two minutes. They may ask you a question regarding what you have stated before moving on to the next section.

This part of the test assesses your ability to speak for a more extended period about a given topic while using appropriate language and rationally structuring your thoughts. You can complete the long turn by drawing on your prior knowledge about the given topic.

Those who have taken the IELTS Speaking test would probably say that Part 2 is the most challenging. Why? It is because you have to talk for two minutes in this part of the IELTS test.

If you think about it, two minutes is not such a long time for you to talk... if you know what you will be talking about. But what if you don't? Chances are, it will be the longest two minutes of your life.

## What Topics to Expect for the Cue Cards Questions in the IELTS Exam?

Through the years, these are the most common topics and themes from which your IELTS Speaking cue card will be based:

<b>People</b>	A family member, a friend, someone at work, or someone famous
<b>Places</b>	A place, a country, or a tourist spot
<b>Things</b>	Things that might have an important value to you
<b>Activities</b>	Activities that you usually do or your hobbies
<b>Past Occurrences</b>	Things that you had experienced and done recently
<b>Favorites</b>	People, things, or places that you like
<b>Emotions</b>	Situations that brought you different emotions
<b>Work/Studies</b>	Things related to school and your profession

You will have four questions to answer in addition to the topic. These questions are not optional, and if you don't answer them altogether, the examiner may deduct points from your score.

However, you have to take note that there are no requirements for how much time or information you must provide for each one.

So it is OK to answer three of the questions in 15 seconds (or less) and then the rest of your time on the fourth question.

### People

- *Describe a well-known figure you admire or respect.*
- *Describe a friend or acquaintance who has launched a business.*
- *Describe someone who has had a significant impact on your life.*
- *Describe a person you know who excels at something.*
- *Describe a well-known actor from your country's film industry.*

### Places

- *Describe a shop in your neighborhood that you frequent.*
- *Describe a fascinating location you have visited.*
- *Describe a future destination you would like to visit.*
- *Give an example of a well-known tourist location in your country.*
- *Describe the home of your dreams.*

### Things

- *Describe a unique present or gift you gave to someone.*
- *Describe something you own that is extremely valuable to you.*
- *Describe a future technological device you would like to have.*
- *Describe a website that helps you with your career or education.*
- *Describe a favorite song or piece of music.*

### Activities

- *Describe a pastime or activity that you enjoy.*
- *Describe a task or activity that you do not enjoy.*
- *Cite an example of a sport that you enjoy playing.*
- *Describe what you do on a typical day.*
- *Describe a significant celebration in your nation.*

### Past Occurrences

- *Give an instance when you aided someone.*
- *Describe a recent event that you went to.*
- *Describe a critical life decision you had to make.*
- *Describe a particularly challenging task that you completed with flying colors.*
- *Describe a fascinating dialogue you had about your profession or study.*

In the next few sections, we'll look at guidelines and tips on how to answer these cue card questions.

# 125 + Practice IELTS Speaking Test Cue Card Practice Questions

We've compiled a list of 100+ possible cue card questions across various categories (Favorites, Places, People, etc.). These questions will give you further ideas about what type of questions you can expect.

We've scoured the internet, looked at IELTS websites, responses from past test-takers, and compiled all this information — so you don't have to spend time with any more research. We've done the homework so you don't have to.

It's worth mentioning again that there are no guarantees that the following questions will appear in your IELTS Speaking exam. No two test-takers may receive the same questions. The choice of cue card question depends on your individual examiner.

These questions aim to help you practice and solidify your impromptu speaking skills. The more you practice, the more confident you will appear before the test and increase your chances of acing this question.



## Favorites

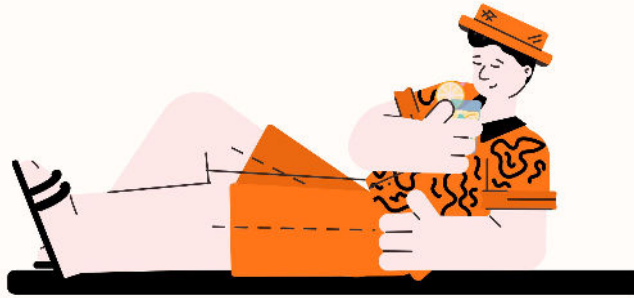


- **Discuss your favorite website.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - What is the subject?
  - How often do you use it? Why?
  
- **Discuss an animal that you admire.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - When did you see this animal?
  - Where did you see this animal?
  - Why are you fond of it?
  
- **Describe your favorite singer.**
  - What do you know about the singer?
  - What person is he/she like?
  - What do you like about him/her?

- **Talk about your favorite song.**
  - What is the story behind the song?
  - When did you first listen to the song?
  - Why do you think it's your favorite?
  
- **Describe your favorite author or writer in your own words.**
  - Who is he/she?
  - What kinds of books does he/she publish?
  - How many of his novels have you already read?
  - Why he or she is your favorite author or writer?
  
- **Talk about your favorite film.**
  - Can you tell me when and where you saw it?
  - What is the genre of this film?
  - What kind of movie was it?
  - What was the plot of the movie?
  
- **Talk about your favorite cafe or restaurant**
  - Where is it?
  - What does it look like from both inside and outside?
  - What kinds of foods did they serve?
  
- **Discuss your favorite shopping location.**
  - What makes it your favorite spot?
  - When you get there, how do you feel?
  - What are some of the items you purchased from this store?
  
- **Talk about one of your favorite sports.**
  - What is it?
  - How frequently do you play/watch it?
  - How do you play it?

- **Describe your favorite flower.**
  - Is it common in your country?
  - What is it?
  - Where is it grown?
  
- **Give a brief description of your favorite meal.**
  - What is it?
  - How is it prepared or cooked?
  - How does it taste?
  
- **Describe your favorite newspaper or magazine.**
  - What is it?
  - How often do you read them?
  - What do you enjoy the most when reading them?
  
- **Talk about your favorite clothes**
  - What does it look like?
  - How often do you wear them?
  - How do you feel wearing them?
  
- **Talk about your favorite cartoon character?**
  - What is it?
  - What does it look like?
  - Which show is it in?
  - Why do you like it?
  
- **Talk about your favorite season.**
  - What time of year is it?
  - How does that season vary from others?
  - Also, describe why this is your favorite time of year.

## Leisure/Lifestyle



- **Discuss an article on healthy living that you read online.**
  - After you've read it
  - What was it about specifically?
  - What you've taken away from it
- **Discuss a film you recently saw that you enjoyed.**
  - What was the title of the film?
  - What drew you to it?
  - Will you suggest this to a friend??
- **Describe a book you recently read.**
  - The genre of the book
  - Why did you pick to read this book?
  - After you've read it
- **Discuss a sport that you'd want to attempt in the future.**

Please say

  - Why do you like it?
  - When you first saw it
  - When were you ready to play?

- **Discuss an exercise or a technique that assists you in concentrating at home or at work.**
  - What are your responsibilities?
  - When and where do you do this function?
  - Why is concentration important for you?
  
- **Tell a tale that you are familiar with.**
  - Who related this tale to you?
  - What is the plot?
  - Why do you recall it?
  
- **Describe a performance that you've seen.**
  - What happened to it?
  - What was the nature of the performance?
  - What was your favorite part about it?
  
- **Describe a family activity that you participate in.**
  - What is it?
  - When do you do it?
  - How do you go about doing it?
  
- **Describe a fun activity you'd want to attempt near or on the water.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - What do you need to get ready?
  - What is the level of difficulty?

- **Describe how you generally spend your free time.**
  - What you're doing
  - To whom do you do it?
  - Where are you going to do it?
  
- **Describe a recreational activity you engage in after school or work.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - When do you do it, and where do you do it?
  - Whom are you going to do it with?
  - What are your thoughts about it?
  
- **Talk about a game or sport that you like.**
  - What type of sport or game is it?
  - It doesn't matter whom you play it with.
  - It does not matter where you play it.
  - Also, describe why you find it so enjoyable.
  
- **Describe a popular form of recreation in your nation.**
  - What exactly is the activity?
  - What type of people does it?
  - What is it possible to do?
  
- **Describe one of your favorite pastimes.**
  - What is the nature of the activity?
  - Why do you enjoy it so much?
  - How do you feel now after completing that activity?
  
- **Talk about your holidays.**
  - Where do you usually go for the holidays?
  - How long often do you go on holiday?
  - How long do they last?
  - Whom do you go with?

## Time-based



- **Discuss a unique, unforgettable moment.**
  - What transpired
  - What made it unique
  - Your emotional state at the moment.
  
- **Discuss a time when you were forced to alter your plans due to inclement weather.**
  - How did this occur?
  - What were you doing?
  - How was the weather?
  - Justify why you were forced to alter your plans.
  
- **Discuss a time when you were late.**
  - What was the incident for which you were late?
  - Why were you late?
  - What transpired as a result of your tardiness?
  - Your reaction to it
  
- **Describe an instance in which you were late or delayed.**
  - Could you tell me what it was?
  - What action did you take?
  - How did you arrive?

- **Describe an instance when you successfully arranged a nice occasion.**
  - What was the occasion, you should say?
  - How did you get ready for it?
  - Who assisted you in putting it together?
  - Also, why do you believe the event was a success?
  
- **Describe a moment when you tried a new meal for the first time.**
  - When did you get it?
  - Can you tell me where you ate it?
  - Could you tell me what it was?
  - How did you react to it?
  
- **Describe an instance when you successfully arranged a nice occasion.**
  - What was the occasion, you should say?
  - How did you get ready for it?
  - Who assisted you in putting it together?
  - Also, why do you believe the event was a success?
  
- **Talk about a once-in-a-lifetime experience.**
  - What took place?
  - What made it unique
  - Your mood at the moment.
  
- **Talk about a moment when you were in a busy environment.**
  - What was the location?
  - What brought you there?
  - Did you have a good time throughout your visit?
  
- **Talk about the event when you cannot use your mobile phone.**
  - When did it occur?
  - Can you tell me what happened to your phone?
  - How did you feel as a result of it?



- **Talk about an instance when you have to modify your plans due to bad weather.**
  - How long has this been going on?
  - What were you doing?
  - What type of weather did you have?
  - Why do you have to alter your plans?
  
- **Talk about an important moment in your life**
  - When did it happen?
  - What happened?
  - Why is this important for you?
  - Did this affect anyone else?
  
- **Describe an instance when you failed to remember anything crucial.**
  - When did it occur?
  - What did you forget?
  - Who were you with?
  - What happened as a consequence of your forgetfulness?
  
- **Tell me about a moment when you first used new technology equipment (e.g., a new computer or phone).**
  - What device did you start with?
  - Why did you begin using this gadget?
  - How simple or difficult was it to operate?
  
- **Describe an instance when you were bored while surrounded by others.**
  - When did it happen?
  - What happened to it?
  - What made you bored?
  - How did it make you feel?

## Person



- **Describe a person you'd want to meet in the future.**
  - Who is this individual?
  - What characteristics do you like about him/her?
  - What is unique about that individual?
  
- **Discuss your favorite comedic actor or actress.**
  - Who or what is he/she?
  - What characteristics do you like about him/her?
  - Is he/she identical in person?
  
- **Describe a sport or work team in which you are a member.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - Why did you become a member?
  - Could you please provide a short summary of your team's members?
  
- **Discuss an amazing thing your buddy did that affected you and inspired you to do the same.**
  - Could you tell me what it was?
  - When and where do you want to conduct it?
  - Why are you interested in doing it?

- **Discuss a celebrity you are familiar with.**
  - Who is the famous person?
  - How often do you see him/her?
  - How does he/she make a living?
  
- **Discuss an adolescent you are familiar with.**
  - Who or what is he/she?
  - How did you get familiar with him/her?
  - Could you please describe him/her?
  
- **Describe an incident in which you assisted or gave assistance to someone.**
  - When and where did it take place?
  - What kind of assistance did you provide?
  - To whom did you offer it?
  
- **Discuss someone you assisted with their education.**
  - Who or what was he/she?
  - How did you assist him/her?
  - How did it make you feel?
  
- **Describe a choice you made with the assistance of someone.**
  - Who made the decision?
  - When and who assisted you?
  - How did you feel once you made a choice?
  
- **Discuss a prominent comedy actor/actress in your nation.**
  - Who or what is he/she?
  - What makes him/her popular?
  - How did you become fond of him/her?
  
- **Discuss a person who speaks excessively.**
  - Who is that individual?
  - How is he/she related to you?
  - What does he/she typically discuss?

- **Describe a renowned individual who has piqued your curiosity. You should express yourself.**
  - Who is this mysterious figure?
  - What information do you have about this individual?
  - What was their life like before they got famous?
  - What made this individual famous?
  - Also, why do you like this person?
  
- **Describe anything significant that has been passed down through your family for generations. You should say something like this:**
  - What exactly is it?
  - When did it happen in your family?
  - How did it come into your family?
  - And why is it vital to you and your family?
  
- **Talk about someone you follow on social media. You should say something like this:**
  - Who is he/she?
  - What is your relationship with him/her?
  - Also, why do you follow him or her on social media?
  
- **Describe a fascinating discussion you had with a buddy.**
  - Whom did you speak with?
  - What were you doing?
  - What was the topic of discussion?
  - Also, why do you think it's interesting?
  
- **Describe an occasion when you had to tell a buddy something essential.**
  - Who is your best friend?
  - What was the truth?
  - What was your pal's reaction?
  - And why was it so vital for you to tell your buddy the truth?

## Object



- **Discuss a time when you were unable to utilize your cell phone.**
  - When did it occur?
  - What became of your phone?
  - How did it affect you?
- **Discuss anything you purchased that was first difficult to use.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - How long ago did you purchase it?
  - What purpose does it serve?
  - What was so challenging about using it for the first time?
- **Discuss something you borrowed from a friend.**
  - What do you lend?
  - When do you lend it?
  - Justification for borrowing it.
  - And when it was returned.
- **Discuss a previous uniform you wore.**
  - Explain it.
  - Where and when did it take place?
  - How did you feel about being required to wear a uniform?
- **Discuss an item that you want to replace.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - What motivates you to replace it?
  - What would you use in its place?

- **Discuss a childhood friend with whom you are still in contact.**
  - Who or what is he/she?
  - When and how did the two of you meet?
  - Is he/she your closest confidant?
- **Discuss an item that you save for special occasions.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - From whom and when did you purchase it?
  - How does it make you feel while you're wearing it?
- **Describe a time when something in your house was broken and later mended.**
  - What exactly is it, you should ask?
  - What caused it to be broken?
  - How did you get it fixed?
  - And how did you react to it?
- **Talk about a toy you enjoyed in your youth.**
  - What was the toy?
  - Who handed it to you?
  - How frequently did you play with it?
- **Talk about an object that has been with your family for a long time.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - How long has your family had it?
  - What exactly does it do?
- **Talk about an artificial intelligence-based product or application.**
  - What is it?
  - How did you hear about it?
  - How do you use it?
  - Why do you use it?

- **Describe a modern technology that you cannot live without**
  - What is it?
  - How did you hear about it?
  - How do you use it?
  - What is its importance to you?
  
- **Talk about a piece of furniture in your house.**
  - What sort of furniture is it, and what do you use it for?
  - What materials is it made of?
  - How was the item picked for your house?
  - And how you feel about it.
  
- **Describe a book that had an impact on you.**
  - What was the title of the book?
  - When did you first hear about this?
  - What is the book's central plot?
  - What is the significance of this book?
  
- **Talk about something that you want to buy**
  - What is it?
  - What is it like?
  - When do you intend to buy it?
  
- **Talk about a luxury item that you are longing to buy**
  - What is it?
  - What is it like?
  - When do you intend to buy it?
  
- **Talk about what you would buy if you were a millionaire**
  - What will be your purchases?
  - How much will you be spending?
  - When do you intend to buy it?

## Occasions



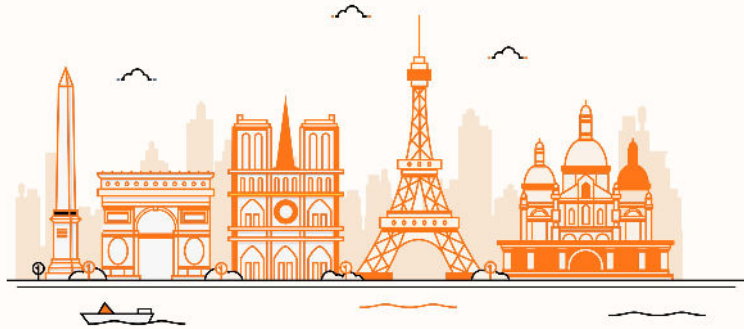
- **Describe an occasion when you got a gift of money.**
  - How did you get it?
  - How did you use it?
  - What were your thoughts about it?
  
- **Describe a time when a lot of people were smiling. You should say.**
  - When did it happen?
  - Who were you with?
  - What went wrong?
  - Also, why were so many people smiling?
  
- **Describe a unique cake you got as a gift.**
  - Can you tell me when it happened?
  - Can you tell me where it happened?
  - Where did you get the cake?
  - Also, why is this a unique cake?



- **Describe someone you've just met once but are interested in learning more about.**
  - Who is this person?
  - When did you first meet him/her?
  - Why are you interested in learning more about him/her?
  - Also, how do you feel about him/her?
  
- **Talk about a time when your car broke down while you were going.**
  - When did it happen?
  - What happened, and where did it happen?
  - Who was with you at the time?
  
- **Describe a time when a large number of people were smiling**
  - Who were the people you were with?
  - What went wrong?
  - What was the source of so many people's smiles?
  
- **Describe a moment when you wasted your time.**
  - Where did you go?
  - When was it?
  - Explain what you did and why you believe it was a waste of time.
  
- **Describe a situation in which you had to get up early in the morning.**
  - When did this happen?
  - Why did you get up so early?
  - What exactly did you do?
  
- **Talk about a situation in which someone or something created a lot of noise.**
  - Who or what was the source of the commotion?
  - What was the volume of the noise?
  - What did you do when you heard this noise?

- **Tell me about a colorful event you attended.**
  - What was the occasion?
  - When did this occurrence occur?
  - Why was it so vibrant?
  - Why do you recall this particular experience?
  
- **Describe a significant historical event that occurred in your nation.**
  - When did it happen?
  - What was the importance of it?
  - Who were the key players involved?
  
- **Talk about a life incident that stands out in your mind.**
  - When did the incident occur?
  - Where did the event occur?
  - What precisely occurred
  
- **Talk about a time when you had an interesting discussion**
  - What was it about?
  - Who did you discuss it with?
  - What are your opinions?
  
- **Describe a time a store provided you with excellent service.**
  - Who offered this service
  - When was this?
  - What kind of service did you receive?
  
- **Describe a time when you misplaced something and then found it.**
  - What you should say is: What you have lost.
  - How did you get rid of it?
  - Where did you find it, and how did it make you feel?

## Places



- **Discuss an instance when you attended a busy location.**
  - Where the location was
  - Why did you go there?
  - To whom did you go there?
  - And if you liked your stay or not.
  
- **Consider a setting that is vibrant with color.**
  - What location is this?
  - Its geographical location
  
  - What do the inhabitants do there?
  - How did you discover this location?
  
- **Discuss a dream house that you'd want to live in.**
  - What kind of dwelling would it be?
  - Why do you want to reside there?
  - To whom would you prefer to live?
  
- **Discuss a location where you go to read or write (except for your home).**
  - What location is this?
  - Where is its geographical location?
  - Who are you with?
  - How often do you visit this location?

- **Discuss the many types of indigenous cuisine available in your nation.**
  - Who or what are they?
  - Do you purchase or prepare these types of food?
  - Are these foods available in other countries?
- **Describe a city in your nation that you're interested in visiting.**
  - What is it?
  - Where is it located?
  - What many individuals do there?
  - What motivates you to go there?
- **Discuss a historic structure in your hometown that you like visiting.**
  - What is this place?
  - Where is it located?
  - Why do you like visiting that location?
  - Describe how it seems.
- **Describe a street you went to make a purchase.**
  - Where was this?
  - When do you pay a visit to it?
  - What you purchased, and?
  - How do you feel in the aftermath?
- **Give an example of a pleasant experience you had in the countryside.**
  - When and where did you go?
  - Whom did you go with?
  - What exactly did you do there?
  - Also, please describe why you found it pleasant.
- **Talk about an event that you celebrate with your loved ones.**
  - What is it?
  - When did you celebrate it?
  - How important is this occasion?

- **Talk about an instance in your life where you have struggled.**
  - When did this happen?
  - What happened?
- **Describe a spot you visited in a village.**
  - What's the location of it?
  - When did you last visit this place?
  - What exactly did you do there?
  - What are your thoughts on this location?
- **Give an example of a pleasant experience you had in the countryside.**
  - When and where did you go?
  - Whom did you go with?
  - What exactly did you do there?
  - Also, please describe why you found it pleasant.
- **Talk about an event that you celebrate with your loved ones.**
  - What is it?
  - When did you celebrate it?
  - How important is this occasion?
- **Talk about an instance in your life where you have struggled.**
  - When did this happen?
  - What happened?
  - How challenging is this event to you?
- **Describe an occasion when you traveled to a new location.**
  - Where is the new location?
  - When did you go there?
  - Why did you go there?
  - How do you feel about the location?

## Work/Study



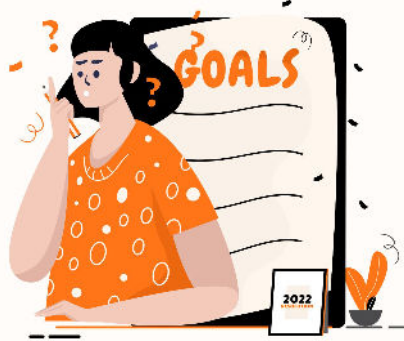
- **Discuss a recent complaint you made to a firm and were satisfied with the outcome.**
  - What was the grievance?
  - What action did you want of them?
  - Why were you satisfied with the outcome?
  
- **Discuss a language you'd want to learn in addition to English.**
  - What exactly is it?
  - Why are you interested in learning it?
  - What are the advantages of studying it?
  
- **Describe a profession that interests you.**
  - What is your position?
  - What abilities are required for this position?
  - What makes it unique?
  
- **Talk about a successful little business that you are familiar with.**
  - How did you learn about this business?
  - Have you known them for a lengthy period of time?
  - What do you believe accounts for their success?

- **Talk about a piece of work that you did with someone.**
  - What is it?
  - What project did you do?
  - Why did you choose the person to work with?
  
- **Describe a website that is really useful to you in your career or study.**
  - What is the website about?
  - How often do you visit the site?
  - What information is provided by the website?
  
- **Talk about an example of your ideal job.**
  - What is your ideal occupation?
  - Do you currently hold this position?
  - What are the requirements for this position? Is it challenging?
  
- **Talk about a profession or job that makes the world a better place.**
  - What job is it?
  - How did you learn about it?
  - Why do you think it helps so much?
  
- **Discuss a career or employment that contributes to making the world a better place.**
  - What is the nature of your work?
  - What sources did you use to learn about it?
  - Why do you believe it is so beneficial?
  
- **Describe a life plan that isn't tied to employment or school.**
  - What exactly is it about?
  - Why did you make this decision?
  - What is the first step you should take?
  - How you'll feel if it's a success?

- **Describe a piece of advice you got when it came to deciding on a degree or a professional path.**
  - What was the advice?
  - When you first get it?
  - Who was the source of the advice?
  
- **Describe a really trying day at work.**
  - How did the day begin?
  - What went wrong?
  - Whom were the individuals engaged?
  
- **Discuss your study space.**
  - What does it seem to be like?
  - How long do you stay in this room?
  - What should a perfect room look like?
  
- **Describe a time when you did anything to learn a new language.**
  - What was the first language you learned?
  - What did you do?
  - How did it assist you in learning the language?
  - What were your thoughts on it?
  
- **Talk about a volunteering experience you have**
  - What is it?
  - When did this happen?
  - How do you feel about it?
  - What impact does it have on you?



## Emotions/Aspirations



- **Discuss a life goal you've accomplished.**
  - What was the objective?
  - How long ago did you set it?
  - How was this accomplished?
  - How did you feel afterward?
- **Discuss a difficulty you faced.**
  - What was the obstacle?
  - When and where was the issue at hand?
  - How did you triumph over it?
  - What endeared it to you?
- **Describe an instance in which someone expressed regret to you.**
  - Who or what was it?
  - What year was it?
  - What did the individual say?
  - What made this particular occurrence noteworthy for you?
- **Discuss an instance when you were content.**
  - What brought you joy
  - Your location
  - Who accompanied you?
  - And why you were ecstatic about it.

- **Discuss a goal you established for yourself and the steps you took to attain it.**
  - What was the objective?
  - How did you accomplish it?
  - What was the toughest part of the process for you?
  
- **Describe a goal you haven't yet accomplished.**
  - What exactly is it, you should ask?
  - Why haven't you done it yet?
  - What did you do?
  - And how did you react to it?
  
- **Talk about a moment when you were ecstatic.**
  - Tell me about anything that made you joyful.
  - Where did you go?
  - Were you accompanied by anyone?
  - And why did this make you happy?
  
- **Talk about the time when you got upset.**
  - What happened?
  - To whom or what are you upset about?
  - How did you manage your emotions?
  
- **Describe a time when you have to make a difficult decision**
  - What happened?
  - What problem do you have to decide on?
  - Why is it important?
  
- **Describe a long-term goal that you've had.**
  - What is it?
  - How do you plan to achieve it?
  - When do you aim to achieve it?

# How to Structure Your Answers for the IELTS Cue Cards?

To tackle the Speaking cue card questions more effectively, you need a host of skills and strategies to employ, including thinking on your feet. Since the examiner will not ask you questions, at least in the first part of IELTS Speaking Part 2, you must structure your speech so that the examiner will find what they are looking for.

Avoid using simple sentences and, as much as possible, use the different conjunctions and connectors to come up with compound and complex sentences. Talk about everything necessary there is to know about the topic you have been given by following the structures below.

**Here are the strategies that you need to keep in mind in structuring your IELTS Speaking Cue Cards section (Part 2):**

- **Think quickly:**

There is a chance that you will get cue cards with difficult-to-discuss topics. In such circumstances, do not overthink things; instead, go with your first instinct and make up the details as needed.

For example, if you are asked to speak about someone you admire the most, do not strive to respond honestly.

Simply choose the first person who comes to mind or invent such a person. Bear in mind that you only have a minute to prepare; spend it wisely.

- **Utilize the one-minute preparation period:**

Make the most of your one minute by immediately brainstorming ideas for the topic you will be speaking about.

Make a list of any relevant terms that come to mind. This is an opportunity for you to consider the subject you would like to speak about, and as a result, it is a way for you to develop your speech as you prepare.

If you utilize the one minute well, you will speak more clearly and for longer periods.

- **Keep in mind the 5Ws and 1H:**

The 5Ws ('who,' 'what,' 'where,' 'when,' and 'why') and 1H ('how') are addressed in the IELTS Speaking Cue Cards section (Part 2).

Most candidates usually do not have problems answering the 'who,' 'what,' 'where,' and 'when' questions, but when it comes to the 'why' and 'how' questions, they struggle and are left with nothing to say.

Thus, their marks are affected. Improve your skills with these question types beforehand so explaining and expressing your ideas will go smoothly.

- **Organize your thoughts:**

Spending your time wisely during the one-minute preparation period does not only mean being able to write down your ideas within the time frame given. What you wrote means nothing if it will not help you in your two-minute speech. With this, make sure that the things you wrote are organized and understandable.

Write down your ideas in a way that you will have a solid grasp on whatever it is that you have to say. Having the words in bullets might help.

- **Start with a good opener:**

You are advised to have a strong opening statement in mind before you start working on the cue card topic. We recommend memorizing a powerful opener because initiating a conversation in such a high-pressure situation might be challenging. Have an opening that is both catchy and engaging.

Do not use the usual and overused '*I want to talk about...*' and instead, try something like '*Well, I actually have a lot of people in mind, but I'd rather talk about....*' This will earn you an excellent first impression with the examiner.

- **Share your story, do not narrate:**

The Cue Card section, though in the form of a monologue, is not a story-telling test. It is still part of your informal interview with the examiner, and as such, you should strive to keep the same level of comfort as you have in **Part 1 or Task 1**.

Some candidates forget this and, in turn, fail to engage the examiner in the conversation. Imagine the examiner as a friend with whom you are having a casual conversation. Employ facial expressions, friendly body language, and hand gestures.

- **Maintain your fluency, do not rush:**

Fluency does not imply speaking quickly. It is about giving yourself time to consider and then speaking clearly.

Speak at a natural pace while ensuring that the examiner still understands every word you say. It will not only help you get a higher band score, but it will also allow you to speak for longer than two minutes. Avoid talking too slowly, too, as this may lower your fluency and coherence scores.

# EXAMPLES – How to Structure Your Cue Card Answers

Now, let's see how to put the tips and ideas from the previous sections into practice. Here are a few cue card topics, and how to answer them properly.

**Topic/Question:** *Describe the person you always turn to for advice*

**Guidelines to answer the question:**

- Who that person is
- What your relationship with that person is
- How long you have known each other
- Why do you trust that person (explanation)

**Wrong Answer:**

*"Her name is Cindy. She is my best friend. We have known each other since we were in pre-school. I trust her because she is a logical and smart person. She is concerned about me. She always looks after me."*

**Correct Answer:**

*"The person I want to talk to you about is my best friend, Cindy. She's a very dear friend of mine and would you believe we have known each other since we were in pre-school?"*

*Yes, that's how long we've been friends. I always turn to her for advice because she is a very logical and smart person.*

*She always knows what to do, and besides, I know she is concerned for my well-being and won't make me do something I will regret."*

**Topic/Question:** *Describe your favorite movie*

**Guidelines to answer the question:**

- *What the title and plot of the movie is*
- *Who stars in it*
- *When you first watch it and how do you know about the movie*
- *Why do you like it so much (explanation)*

**Wrong Answer:**

*"My favorite movie is 'A Few Good Men'. It is a drama movie about lawyers. It stars Tom Cruise, Demi Moore, and Jack Nicholson. I watched it when I was in secondary school. My friend told me to watch it. I like it so much because the actors are good."*

**Correct Answer:**

*"Well, there are many movies I could talk about because I'm a movie geek and I love watching great movies, but I prefer to talk about the movie 'A Few Good Men'.*

*It is an old movie as I remember watching it when I was in secondary school. It stars Tom Cruise, Demi Moore, and Jack Nicholson, among others.*

*It is a movie about lawyers – how a new and upcoming lawyer was able to win a case by tackling the honesty and integrity of the US Marines.*

*I love this movie so much that until now, I still watch it from time to time. I just love how good the plot and the actors in it are, and Jack Nicholson, in particular, was amazing in that court scene."*

**Topic/Question:** *Describe a place in your hometown that you frequent.*

**Guidelines to answer the question:**

- *Where it is and what it is*
- *How you learn about this place*
- *Whom you go with to this place*
- *Why do you go to this place often (explanation)*

**Wrong Answer:**

*"The place in my town that I frequent is the city park. I learned about this place because my parents used to bring me there when I was a kid. My siblings and I usually go to the park. I love going there because it brings childhood memories."*

**Correct Answer:**

*"Let me tell you about the city park in my hometown. It is one of the places that I go to often. It is located in the city's center and is just a hundred meters away from the church. A lot of people go there, especially on Sundays.*

*As a child, my parents would bring us there, after going to church, and we would play for about two to three hours. I have so many fond memories of that place.*

*As a child, we used to go there, my parents, my siblings and I, but now that I am older, I go with just my siblings and sometimes, with my friends. We do not play there anymore like we used to, but I enjoy seeing other families and children doing what my family and I used to do."*

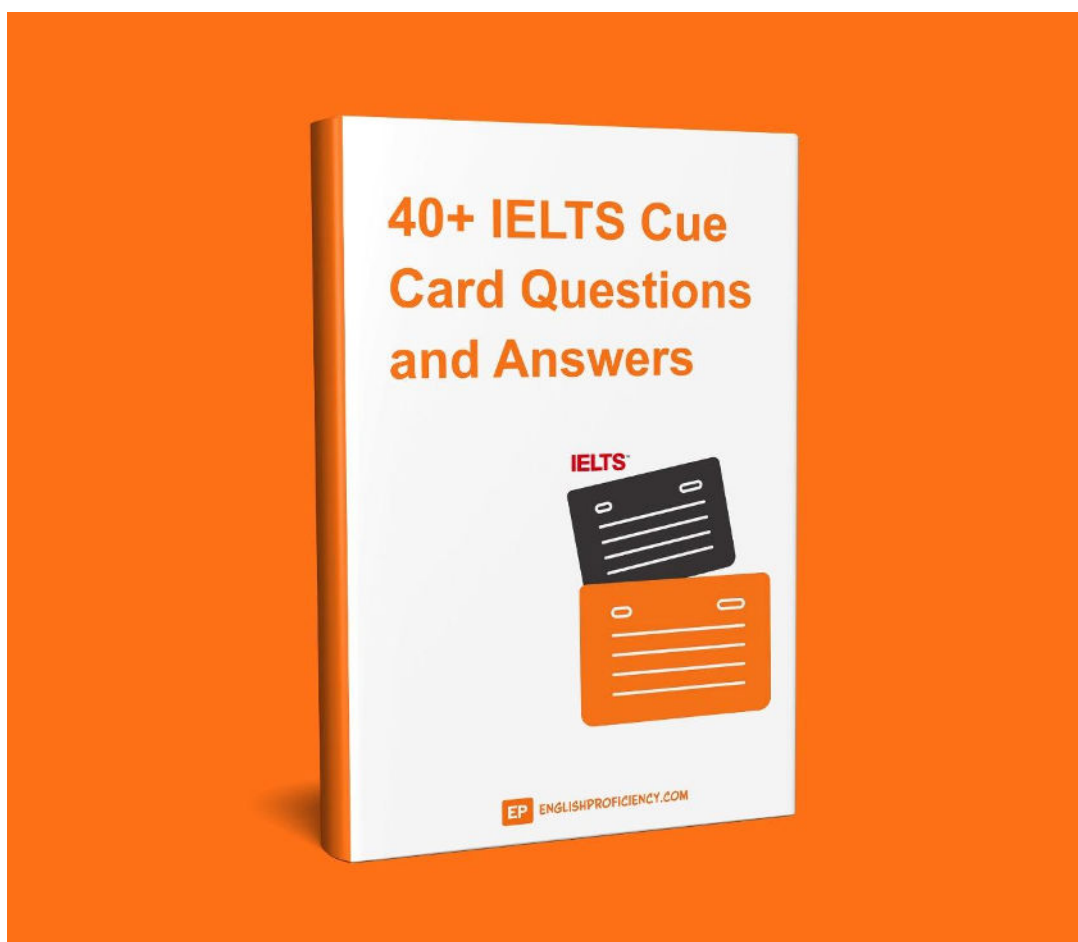


# 40+ IELTS Speaking Test Cue Card Questions with Sample Responses

To increase your chances of acing the Cue Card Speaking questions on the IELTS Test, and to increase your score – we've created this Ebook that includes **40+ Sample Cue Cards Questions with Answers**.

These sample responses/answers will give you an idea of how to structure your responses. They will give you the extra and useful information to improve your chances of answering these test questions with confidence.

We wanted to make this Ebook universally affordable with the hopes of helping more and more test-takers. Hence, we have reduced the price of this Ebook (**40+ IELTS Speaking Test Cue Card Questions with Answers**) at a special discounted price of **USD 12.49**.



**Click [here](#)** to learn more about the Ebook and how you can benefit from using it to prepare for your test.

## Final Thoughts

The cue card questions in Part 2 of the IELTS Speaking Test. vary for each test-taker. Though there are common themes amongst test-takers and sometimes a particular examiner might ask the same question — it is almost impossible to provide the exact cue card questions that will show up on your test.

However, with any test, the more you practice your skills, the better you can improve your chances of scoring a higher IELTS band score. That was precisely what our goal was with this guide.

We hope that the sample responses/answers gave you an idea of how to answer these questions. They are meant to guide you to prepare the responses yourself in your own words, based on your own life experiences.

Once you practice the questions available in this guide, you can and will improve your speaking skills. With practice comes certainty in your skills, which will help you stay calm during the test and answer these questions clearly and confidently.

We wish you all the best in your IELTS Speaking Test preparation, and we hope you ace these questions.

**To your success,**

**The EnglishProficiency.com Team**

