

Part 3 Speaking Practice: A Guide

Discussing Topics and Sub-topics

Instructions:

- Choose a topic or subtopic
- Ask your partner one of the three questions below
- Give them a maximum of 30 seconds to speak
- Take it in turns to ask and answer
- Make a note of interesting collocations or expressions you have each used



The 3 questions:

1. What do you think about _____?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of _____?
3. How do you think _____ will change in the future?

The Topics and Subtopics

Animals

Wild animals, hunting and extinction, zoos, pets, animals in research

Art

Exhibitions, modern art, role of art at school, museums, digital art, art at home, graffiti

Books

Reading for pleasure, novels, digital books, online book shops, books and learning

Buildings

Public buildings, historical buildings, conservation, architecture, smart buildings

Childhood

Play, games, toys, behaviour, obeying parents, study

Cities

Traffic, city planning, city versus countryside, advantages, pollution, noise pollution, green spaces

Clothes

Fashion, buying online clothes, clothes industry, brand names

Comedy

TV shows, comedians, telling jokes, humour in different countries

Companies / Business

Local versus multinational, starting a business, entrepreneurs, market research, customers, selling, company culture

Decision-making

Important decisions in life, decisions at work, delegation, deadlines, leadership

Environment

Global warming, pollution, animals becoming extinct, wildlife protection, deforestation, companies responsibility, individual versus government role

Family

Family structure and size, role of grandparents, care of the elderly, relationships, extended family

Food

Restaurants, diets, fast food, healthy eating, obesity, food and children, GM food, supermarkets

Friends

Friendship, relationships, men and women, friends versus family, making friends, online friends

Health

Exercise, diet, gyms, routines, obesity, disease, corona virus, stress

Helping / Charity

Helping others, charities, fund-raising, skills needed, helping poor countries, international aid

History

Ancient versus modern, lessons learnt, education, historical buildings, historical people

Home

Buying and renting homes, types of accommodation, children leaving home, decorating homes, local community

Jobs

Popular jobs, future jobs, atmosphere at work, motivation, training

Music

Modern versus traditional, national anthems, style and genres, live concerts, listening to music, being a musician

News

Local versus international, online news, newspapers, reliability, fake news, getting news, family news, journalism

Photography

Taking photos, storing photos, photos as an art form, photos at home, professional photos, selfies

School

Teachers, learning, online learning, preparing for work, skills, universities, sciences versus humanities

Science

Branches of science, science in everyday life, disease, research, food science, nuclear power, space exploration, the planet

Shopping

Real shops versus online shopping, payments, men and women shopping, habits, fashion, local shops versus shopping malls

Skills

Preparing for work, soft skills, hard skills, teaching and coaching, life skills

Sport

Fitness, gyms, benefits, equipment, extreme sports, Olympic Games, international competitions

Technology

Artificial Intelligence, the Internet, safety, computers, mobile phones, stress, robots, social media

Teamwork

Benefits, challenges, competition, children, teamwork at work, international competition in trade

Traditions

Benefits, marriage, festivals, generation gap, change, attitudes

Travel

Forms of transport, global warming, holidays, tourism, eco-tourism, travel abroad versus in-country, safety

Weather

Global warming, seasons, extreme weather, impact on life, weather forecasts

Work

Popular jobs, jobs for the future, robots, salaries, men-women equality, work-life balance