



Live Lesson Notes

News



Study with me to get a Band 7 or above on
IELTS Speaking
with my Udemy online course

[IELTS Speaking Success - Get a Band 7+](#)

Some useful Links

Great website for teachers and students with new lessons about breaking news every week.

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com>

Study the news and the language of the news with the BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/lingohack>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!

<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Collect my free materials here

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-free-live-lessons/>

Follow me on **social media**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeithIELTSMastermind/>

https://www.instagram.com/keith_speaking_academy/

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA=>

General Vocabulary

Avoid this common mistake!

I heard a news yesterday X

You should say -

I've got some/little news 😊

I haven't got any/much news 😊

So, remember - News is uncountable!

How to make it singular?

A piece of news!

(remember the spelling by thinking of PIEce of PIE!)

An **item** of news

Tons of news, a bit of news, a plethora of news

COLLOCATIONS

Adjectives

Breaking news / latest news / urgent news

Updated news / out-dated news

Good news / great news / tremendous news

Unwelcome news / devastating news / traumatic news

Fake news

Verbs

To get / receive news

To hear some news

To catch up on the news

I want to catch up on all your latest news

=*get up to date*

Great **source of collocations** is
<http://www.ozdic.com/collocation-dictionary/news>

More examples

1. I heard some _gloomy, happy, **breaking (=brand new)** ____ news yesterday
2. Have you _seen, heard, read, caught up on____ the latest news?
3. The news is _spreading____ like wildfire!
4. This is __breaking, brand new ____ news, it has just been released!

Kinds of news

International or foreign
National or domestic
Local

Personal news (news about your family, friends, neighbours...)

Think of the typical greeting cards to get ideas of personal news.
(marriage, birthday, pass exams, funeral, new born baby....)

Have you heard, Tom has passed his IELTS test?
I heard that Tom is getting married?
I've just found out Alice is pregnant
They have just had a new baby boy!
They have invited me to the christening

Websites to study the topic of NEWS

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/lingohack>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/news-report>

Part 2

Tell me about some news you heard about recently

Many IELTS speaking questions are deliberately open!

You can talk about national, domestic, local or even personal news.

So long as you talk about some NEWS, and it is something you HEARD and it was RECENT (so not in your childhood!).

Don't worry too much about right and wrong answers.

1 minute preparation tips

1. Get the first idea (good enough)
2. Get 2 or 3 main points
3. If time think of an Idiom or some Collocations

Watch the video to see my give an example

Will the examiner give bad band score for pauses?

No, but be clear about the difference between pause and hesitation.

Pause 😊

A pause is where you stop talking to think of ideas. This is good!

Hesitation 😞

A hesitation is where you errr and umm, whilst trying to find the correct word. This will bring down your fluency score.

I have a series of 6 videos explaining approaches to all different categories of PART 2 questions. Check it out on YOUTUBE.

IELTS Speaking Part 2

Band 9

TEMPLATES



Do you believe everything you read?

“No I don’t of course - some of them can be economical with the truth or lie through their teeth.”

To be **economical with the truth**
= *not tell the whole truth*

You can also say (meaning the same)

This story is **stretching the truth**

To **lie through one’s teeth**
- *to clearly lie without trying to hide it*

You can also say (meaning the same)

They are **telling blatant lies**

They are **telling outright lies**

“No, I don’t. Due to the reason that some articles available online aren’t reliable. Some are fake news.”

Reliable (adj.) = trustworthy, credible, dependable

“I tend to check everything from some alternative sources”

Some information is misleading, so we have to be careful

I am always wary of (=cautious about, careful with) stories that paint things black and white (=say things are simple)

A rule of thumb (*informal rule*) is to be suspicious of (=wary of) stories shared on social media like Facebook

It's hard to know for sure, because everyone has their own agenda
(=have your own objective/goal)

Generally yes, if the sources are really reliable - credible enough.

It depends on the source of the news and how authentic they are.

If it's convincing enough but I would like to discover some reliable evidence first.

No, I don't. It seems good journalism is vanishing these days.

No, because some news agencies are altering the real stories.

Many media platforms tell lies.

Irrespective of the truth, I just enjoy news.

You can express uncertainty by saying...

I have mixed feelings about it.

I am on the fence.

I am in in two minds about it.

A great source of questions and answers is the **Quora** forum. Good for language. It is an open forum, so the facts may not be always correct.

<https://www.quora.com/Do-you-believe-everything-that-you-read>

Model Answers

Tip

When speaking, we often **personalise** our speech.

We may use expressions as below to do this.

“to be honest, I know, you know, the way I see it, I think, my take is...”

SPOKEN

I know some people say that clothes represent your identity and its a way of expressing your personality, **but to be honest, for me, I take** a much more pragmatic (=realistic) approach.

WRITTEN

It is said some people say that clothes represent your identity and its a way of expressing your personality, **however my approach** is much more pragmatic

TIP:

If you write your answers out in perfect sentences, it will not sound natural, it will sound like you are a book!

Don't write your answer out first,

Speak your answer first, then record it, then write it out.

Q1. Do you think newspapers will be replaced by computers someday?

A1.

It's an interesting question. **To some extent**, I think, newspapers have already been replaced by computers.

I think we are living in a **digital world** where more and more people are **accessing information online**

and so they would rather **get the latest news** through social media, like Facebook, or **through newspapers** websites on the internet.

So, I said to some extent, because **what's also happening at the same time**, is that the newspapers and the **media outlets** are moving from the paper to the digital source.

So, papers still exist and I think they will always exist.

I don't think **it's black and white** (=very simple). I don't think we have to choose from one or the other. I think it will be **a blend of** (=a mix of) paper, physical newspapers and online newspapers.

Yes, so, to be honest, I don't think it's a question of replacing one by the other.

I think both will continue to exist but people are **more likely to access the news** through the computer, in the future.

Q2. Do you think getting updated news is important?

A2.

To be honest, for me, I think, getting updated news is **overrated** (*=not as good as people think*)

I think we have been pushed into this society where the **breaking news** or the **latest gossip** is the most important and the most valuable,

but I think it's **nonsense**.

I think the most valuable information is not necessarily the latest or the most updated, and it just pushes us to **follow fashions** and **trends** all the time.

So, I am actually **an advocate** (*= a person in favour of*) of not following the latest news.

I think you can **pick out** (*=choose*) pieces of news or items of news that are relevant and useful for you,

but I don't think we should be **dragged along with this current** (*here I am just using a metaphor of a river*) of always chasing of the latest news.

It's just **media hype** that is there, to try and get us to buy newspapers or information.