



CARD 1

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE A

Preparation time: **3 minutes**
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

TOPIC: HEALTH
Junk food

You read the following text in a news editorial:

In the continuing effort to fight obesity in the U.S., the Food and Drug Administration is reviewing its nutrition labeling guidelines. However, what motivates people to buy junk food varies so much based on context — the purchasing environment, their socio-economic status, their emotional state, their hunger —so a label is unlikely to “interrupt” the purchasing decision except in a small number of cases.

(adapted from www.nytimes.com)

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the main issues to be addressed when dealing with healthy eating habits.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.



CARD 1

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE B

Preparation time: **3 minutes**
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

**TOPIC: WORK
Unemployment**

You read the following text in a news editorial:

The employment problems of older workers do not seem to be substantially worse than those of other workers. In fact, for much of the past two decades older workers have had faster employment growth than other age groups. However, while the job displacement rate of older workers is not unusually high compared to other workers, once displaced, older workers do have more difficulty returning to employment.

(adapted from www.nytimes.com)

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the main challenges faced by job seekers these days.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.



CARD 1

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE A

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 4-5 MINUTES

TOPIC: FAMILY

Consider the statements below on the topic of *parenting*.

1. Talk to each other about how these statements represent different aspects of *raising children these days*.
2. Then decide together which of the statements best reflects *the most important challenge that modern-day parents face*.

- Parents in Western countries are raising smaller broods because of the skyrocketing costs of raising a child.
- For your child, having a phone offers the same kind of security it does for you. -- knowing that you're just a call or text away. They also may see having a phone as part of fitting in with their friends. But there are also some potential downsides to consider.
- Overparented children typically face not just a heavy academic schedule but also a strenuous program of extracurricular activities—tennis lessons, Mandarin classes, ballet. After-school activities, at the same time, keep kids off the street.

Remember you must both talk about all the three statements.

You needn't come to an agreement, but you have to support your point.



CARD 1

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE B

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 4-5 MINUTES

TOPIC: FAMILY

Consider the statements below on the topic of *parenting*.

1. Talk to each other about how these statements represent different aspects of *raising children these days*.
2. Then decide together which of the statements best reflects *the most important challenge that modern-day parents face*.

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CARD 10

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE A

Preparation time: **3 minutes**
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

TOPIC: WORK
Working abroad

You read the following text in a news article:

The General Medical Council (GMC) says some overseas doctors come to the National Health Service with "little or no preparation" for working in the UK. It says those trained under different cultural and professional standards need more support. The GMC is planning a basic induction programme for all doctors to help them understand how healthcare is practised in the UK.

(adapted from *www.bbc.co.uk*)

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the potential advantages and disadvantages of getting a job in a foreign country.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.

CARD 10

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE B

Preparation time: **3 minutes**
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

TOPIC: FAMILY
Parenting

You read the following text in a news editorial:

The term “discipline” now implies an abuse of power. And punishment of children is frequently represented as a violation of human rights. Mums and dads are continually warned to negotiate with their children instead of punishing them. Parents who punish their children’s misbehaviour are made to feel the moral inferiors of those who rely on negotiation. The main outcome of this crusade is to undermine the capacity of parents to control their youngsters.

(adapted from *www.independent.co.uk*)

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the main challenges that parents face these days when it comes to their children’s upbringing.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.



CARD 10

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE C

Preparation time: **3 minutes**
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

TOPIC: EDUCATION
Higher education

You read the following text in a news article:

There are countless numbers of graduate degree holders who have gone on to accomplish great things, and who are afforded the respect and recognition they deserve and have earned. Unquestionably, an advanced degree makes a difference on a résumé. It says something about who you are and the dedication you have to your chosen field.

(adapted from *www.usnews.com*)

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of pursuing a university degree.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.



CARD 10

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE A

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 5-6 MINUTES

TOPIC: TRAVEL

Consider the statements below on the topic of travel.

1. Talk to each other about how these statements represent different aspects of holidaymaking.
2. Then decide together which of the statements best reflects *the most important challenge that holidaymakers face at present*.

- The lead up to a holiday should be an exciting time, but for over a quarter of holidaymakers the planning, booking and preparation is a source of great stress.
- Traditional travel agents are getting increasingly nervous as more and more of us choose to book our travel services through independent websites. Customers have discovered that huge savings can be made using both comparison or alternative travel websites.
- Almost a quarter of holidaymakers surveyed admit to using their gadgets on holiday to keep on top of Facebook and Twitter conversations and trends, proving that even though a break is meant to be a time for switching off, people can't resist a quick status update.

Remember you must talk about all the three statements.

You needn't come to an agreement, but you have to support your point.



CARD 10

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE B

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 5-6 MINUTES

TOPIC: TRAVEL

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CARD 10

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE C

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 5-6 MINUTES

TOPIC: TRAVEL

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