

SET 1 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

THE MEDIA CIRCUS



- Trivialisation of serious issues
- The reality TV political debate
- Being critical enough with what we see and hear
- The most trustworthy media

SET 1 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner.
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

You have been following a controversy in the media over the Government's decision to close down a satirical magazine for its stridently irreverent tone. You support the measure. You start the conversation.



- Satire no longer funny when offensive
- Respect for public institutions undermined
- Government intervention necessary to prevent disorder
- Need for more emphasis on promoting positive values

SET 1 CANDIDATE B

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|---|---|
| <p>TASK 1 MONOLOGUE</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.• Use at least 3 of the ideas below. You may add your own ideas.• Talk for about 3.30-4 minutes. |
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| <p>A SOCIETY UNDER CONTINUAL SURVEILLANCE</p> | |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Big Google is watching us": no big deal?• Biometric identification: another invasion of privacy?• Nothing to hide, nothing to worry about?• More security but less freedom |

SET 1 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

You have been following a controversy in the media over the Government's decision to close down a satirical magazine for its stridently irreverent tone. You oppose the measure. Your partner starts the conversation.



- Irreverence and subversion: the whole point of satire
- An ability to see the funny side is a sign of a healthy society.
- Satire a way of identifying and righting what's wrong with society
- Existence of conflicting values within the same society

SET 2 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

MIGRATION



- Migration: a constant in human history
- Problems and benefits for host countries
- Migrants are not all the same, are they?
- The challenge of integration

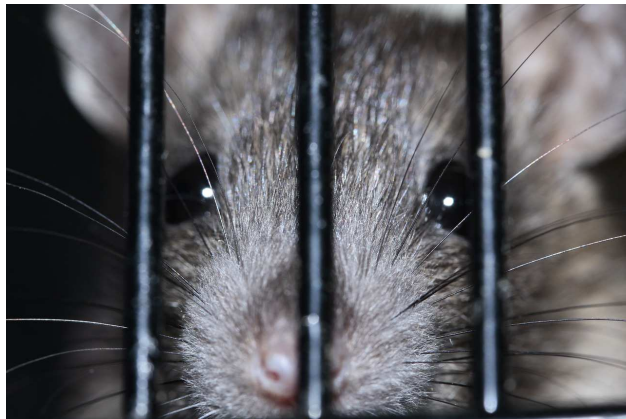
SET 2 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

ANIMAL RESEARCH

You have just seen a documentary on animal testing in laboratories. You and your partner are going to discuss the topic. You are against. You start the conversation.



- Unnecessarily cruel and mostly ineffective
- Much research for unessential products
- Need to develop more humane ways of testing
- No control over funding of laboratories

SET 2 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

CRISIS OF CREATIVITY?



- Remakes, spin-offs and never-ending sequels
- The rage for talent shows
- Is creativity neglected in our education system?
- Tapping into the creative minds out there

SET 2 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

ANIMAL RESEARCH

You have just seen a documentary on animal testing in laboratories. You and your partner are going to discuss the topic. You are in favour. Your partner starts the conversation.



- Human well-being is more important.
- Market for non-tested cosmetic products
- Creation of direct and indirect jobs
- Scientific advances thanks to animal testing

SET 3 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

CITIZEN MOVEMENTS



- Need to act directly in pressing social issues
- Following the herd instinct
- The role of social networks in citizen action
- Citizen platforms as an alternative to political parties

SET 3 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

SHOULD THERE BE A TAX ON JUNK FOOD?

You have recently heard about a proposal to put a tax on junk food and fatty snacks. You and your partner are going to discuss whether it is a good idea. You are against. You start the conversation.



- Simply outrageous to even consider taxing food
- Concern for health is just a pretext for raising revenue
- Why pick on fast food when all food is processed?
- Convenient for people with little time for cooking

SET 3 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

NEW MALE TRENDS



- What's on? Hipsters, metrosexuals, dad bod...
- The new man and the cosmetic industry
- Keeping in touch with their feminine side
- Housework and stay-at-home fathers

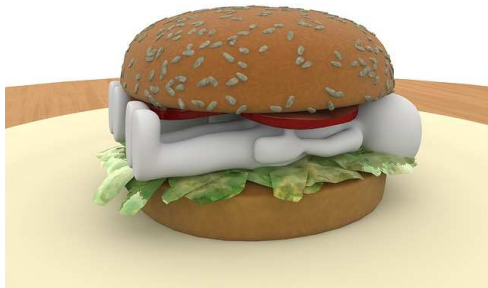
SET 3 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

SHOULD THERE BE A TAX ON JUNK FOOD?

You and your partner are going to discuss whether or not the government place a tax on junk food and fatty snacks. You are in favour. Your partner starts the conversation.



- Junk food is equivalent to alcohol and tobacco
- Junk food tax: an inducement to healthy eating
- Economic benefits of eating local products
- The pleasures of learning to cook

SET 4 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

GLOBALISATION



- Pros and cons of living in a globalised world
- The unrestricted movement of people and goods
- Ways in which globalization is being resisted locally
- The dissolution of traditional certainties

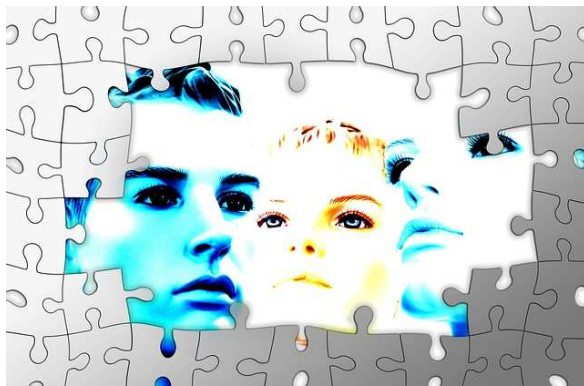
SET 4 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

CONSPIRACY THEORIES

You have seen a documentary ("Elvis is Alive and Well, and Lives in Faura") on conspiracy theories that question the official versions of notorious events. You are convinced. You start the conversation.



- Persistence of conspiracy theories proof of their veracity
- Cover-up of inconvenient truths to maintain the status quo
- Official versions too implausible to be given credit to
- Need for being opened-minded to alternative versions

SET 4 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

FOREVER YOUNG



- "Adult-lescence": how affected are we by the Peter Pan syndrome?
- Means of retarding the effects of ageing
- Attitude to aging according to gender
- Growing old: a drawback in the labour market?

SET 4 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

CONSPIRACY THEORIES

You have seen a documentary ("Elvis is Alive and Well, and Lives in Faura") on conspiracy theories that question the official versions of notorious events. You are sceptical. Your partner starts the conversation.



- Sheer impossibility of so many people keeping a secret for so long
- Conspiracy theories too implausible to be given credit to
- All a matter of conspiracy theorists having overripe imaginations
- Belief in conspiracy theories simply a way of looking clever

SET 5 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

CONSUMERISM



- Consume and be happy
- Sustainability of the existing economic system
- Programmed obsolescence: a rip-off?
- Responsible consumers (fair trade, charity shops, gift economy...)

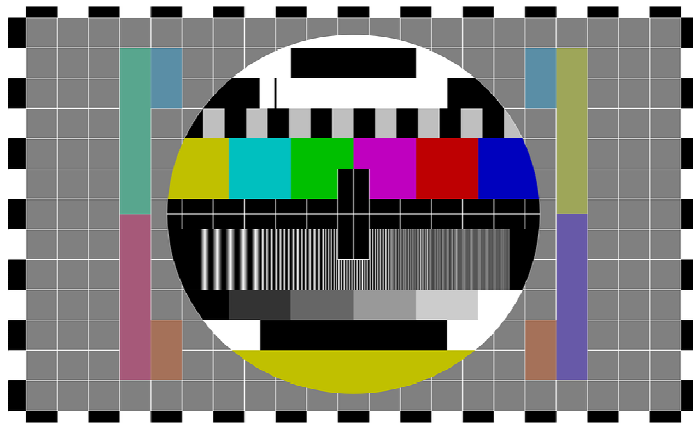
SET 5 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

PUBLIC TV: FOR AND AGAINST

You and your partner have to do a presentation for your English class on the issue of privatizing state television. You wish to include the points below. You start the discussion.



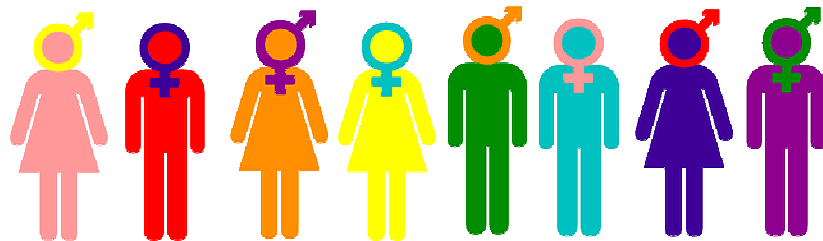
- A waste of taxpayers' money
- Demand already covered by private TV channels
- Manipulated by the government in office
- Ever-decreasing audiences

SET 5 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

SEXISM



- Breaking out from gender roles
- The glass ceiling for female professionals
- Positive discrimination and parity
- "Big boys don't cry" ... or can they?

SET 5 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7** minutes.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

PUBLIC TV: FOR AND AGAINST

You and your partner have to do a presentation for your English class on the issue of privatizing state television. You wish to include the points below. Your partner will start the discussion.



- State TV: a public service like health or education
- Private TV in the hands of media conglomerates
- Sponsorship of the arts and national culture
- Jobs in the entertainment industry are at stake

SET 6 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

A SOCIETY UNDER CONTINUAL SURVEILLANCE



- “Big Google is watching us”: no big deal?
- Biometric identification: another invasion of privacy?
- Nothing to hide, nothing to worry about?
- More security but less freedom

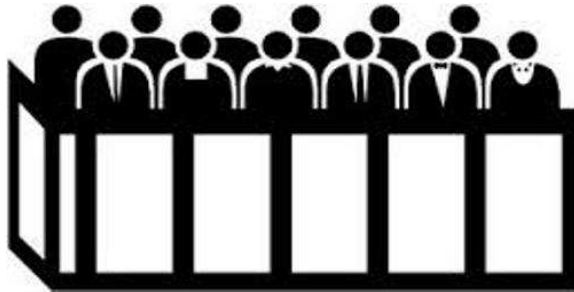
SET 6 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

ARE JURIES A WASTE OF TIME?

Your classmate and you have to give a class presentation on judicial systems which make use of jury service. You think the jury system is the optimal solution. You wish to include the points below. You start the conversation.



- Fairer hearings ensured by different perspectives
- Greater community involvement in our justice system
- A good check against corruption in the judiciary
- More emphasis on ensuring justice than following legal formalities

SET 6 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

CRISIS OF CREATIVITY?



- Remakes, spin-offs and never-ending sequels
- The rage for talent shows
- Is creativity neglected in our education system?
- Tapping into the creative minds out there

SET 6 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

ARE JURIES A WASTE OF TIME?

Your classmate and you have to give a class presentation on judicial systems which make use of jury service. You wish to include the points below. Your partner starts the conversation.



- No legal training or sensitivity to legal complexities
- Absenteeism resulting from being called for jury duty
- Risk of prejudiced juries easily swayed by media coverage
- Greater exposure to blackmail and higher risk of leaking information

SET 7 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

CITIZEN MOVEMENTS



- Need to act directly in pressing social issues
- Following the herd instinct
- The role of social networks in citizen action
- Citizen platforms as an alternative to political parties

SET 7 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

GOING FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

You and your partner have been doing some research on different school systems. You want to hold a class debate to discuss which one is the best. You have read about an alternative school called "Freedom" where learning is based on practical experience in an outdoor environment. You think that would be the best option. You begin the discussion.



- Teaching methodology geared to children's strengths
- Approach based on learning rather than simply passing exams
- Enrichment of social and learning skills through mixed-aged groups
- Creativity enhanced by free timetables and non-dependence on textbooks

SET 7 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

NEW MALE TRENDS



- What's on? Hipsters, metrosexuals, dad bod...
- The new man and the cosmetic industry
- Keeping in touch with their feminine side
- Housework and stay-at-home fathers

SET 7 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **6-7 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partner
- Your partner's information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

GOING FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

You and your partner have been doing some research on different school systems. You want to hold a class debate to discuss which one is the best. You have read about a German bilingual school called "Lerndorf" with very high academic standards. You think that would be the best option. Your partner begins the discussion.



- Acquisition of second-language proficiency in a multilingual environment
- Streaming students on the basis of academic achievement
- Students groomed for places in the most prestigious universities
- Academic success guaranteed by highly qualified teaching staff

SET 8 CANDIDATE A

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

FOREVER YOUNG



- "Adult-lescence": how affected are we by the Peter Pan syndrome?
- Ways of retarding the effects of ageing
- Attitude to aging according to gender
- Growing old: a drawback in the labour market

SET 8 CANDIDATE A

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **9-10.30 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partners.
- Your partners' information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

INVESTING MONEY

You are a member of the Town Council. The Council has some extra money that they can invest. You propose spending it on making the local festivities grander. You start the conversation.



- Support for local festivities
- Right of the townsfolk to have some fun
- Need to preserve local identity and traditions
- A boost for the local economy

SET 8 CANDIDATE B

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
- **Use at least 3 of the ideas below.** You may add your own ideas.
- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

MIGRATION



- Migration: a constant in human history
- Problems and benefits for host countries
- Migrants are not all the same, are they?
- The challenge of integration

SET 8 CANDIDATE B

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **9-10.30 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partners.
- Your partners' information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

INVESTING MONEY

You are a member of the Town Council. The Council has some extra money that they can invest. You propose spending it on promoting the local arts and crafts. Use the arguments below to support your proposal. Use the arguments below to support your proposal. One of your partners starts the conversation.



- Creation of an arts centre to help local talent
- A means of subsidising retail outlets and artisan fairs
- Encouragement for the townsfolk to develop their creative potential
- Long-term benefits of attracting tourists through our arts and crafts

SET 8 CANDIDATE C

TASK 1 MONOLOGUE

- Read the introduction to the topic and the suggestions.
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- Talk for about **3.30-4 minutes**.

THE MEDIA CIRCUS



- The trivialisation of serious issues
- The reality TV political debate
- Being critical enough with what we see and hear
- The most trustworthy media

SET 8 CANDIDATE C

TASK 2 DIALOGUE

- Your conversation should last about **9-10.30 minutes**.
- Avoid short answers, take part and speak and listen to your partners.
- Your partners' information is different from yours.
- If possible, try to reach an agreement at the end of the conversation.

INVESTING MONEY

You are a member of the Town Council. The Council has some extra money that they can invest. You propose spending it on creating a food bank. Use the arguments below to support your proposal. One of your partners starts the conversation.



- Increase in unemployment and poverty
- Fostering a spirit of solidarity among townfolk
- Priority over vanity projects
- Risk of running into debt through costly projects