



Cambridge English: Key for Schools Speaking

Sample test with examiner's comments

This document explains the *Cambridge English: Key (KET) for Schools* Speaking test. It goes together with [this video](#), where you can see Sharissa and Jannis from Germany take a Speaking test. Both these candidates do quite well in the tasks in the test.

Contents:

[About the Cambridge English: Key for Schools Speaking test](#)

[How the examiners assess your speaking](#)

Comments on the test video:

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

[Overall](#)



About the Cambridge English: Key for Schools Speaking test

The Speaking test lasts 8 to 10 minutes. You will take the test with another student. There are two examiners, but only one of them will talk to you. The examiner will ask you questions and ask you to talk to your partner.

Part 1 (5–6 minutes)

The examiner will ask you and your partner some questions. These questions will be about your daily life, past experience and future plans. For example, you may have to speak about your school, job, hobbies or home town.

Part 2 (3–4 minutes)

You and your partner will speak to each other. You will ask and answer questions. The examiner will give you a card with some information on it. The examiner will give your partner a card with some words on it. Your partner will use the words on the card to ask you questions about the information you have. Then you will change roles.



How the examiners assess your speaking

There are two examiners in the room. The **interlocutor** speaks to you, and the **assessor** just listens.

As you do the test, the **assessor** listens to you and thinks about:

Grammar and Vocabulary

How well you can use grammar and vocabulary in the tasks.

Pronunciation

How clear your pronunciation of English is and how easy it is to understand you.

Interactive Communication

How well you communicate with the examiner and your partner by asking and answering questions.

The **interlocutor** focuses on your **Global Achievement**. This is about your speaking in general: how well you can communicate in everyday situations and how clear you are.

When your test is complete, the examiners give you marks for each of these things: Grammar and Vocabulary, Pronunciation, Interactive Communication and Global Achievement. The marks are for what you do over the whole Speaking test, not for each part of the test. The examiners give you marks for your own performance – they don't compare you with the other candidate.



Comments on the test video

Part 1	
<p>Sharissa</p> <p>Sharissa gives good, clear answers to the questions about herself and school, and what she does in the evenings.</p> <p>In the final section 'Tell me something about what you do at weekends' Sharissa gives a good, long answer. In this section it is good to give an answer which is about this length.</p> <p>Generally her grammar and vocabulary are accurate, but there are a few errors, for example 'at Saturday morning' (should be 'on Saturday morning'), 'physic, chemie' (should be 'physics, chemistry').</p> <p>Her pronunciation is clear.</p>	<p>Jannis</p> <p>Jannis answers all the questions easily and adds more to his answers when the examiner asks. For example, he adds more to the answer 'Sport is my favourite subject' when the examiner asks why. He often gives longer answers, which it is good to do, for example '...sometimes I make a big chocolate cake and eat it'.</p> <p>In the final section 'Tell me something about a TV programme you like' he gives a good answer with a lot of information.</p> <p>His grammar and vocabulary are generally accurate, with only a few errors. He sometimes corrects himself, and it is fine to do this if you realise you have made a mistake.</p> <p>His pronunciation is very clear except for a few words, for example 'biology', 'Latin'.</p>
<p>Part 1 tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise giving information about yourself (your name, where you come from). • Try to answer with more than one word, for example add more information or a reason. • Practise giving longer answers about your daily life, your interests, etc. 	

Part 2	
<p>Sharissa</p> <p>Sharissa's questions are always clear in meaning and her grammar is usually accurate, for example 'What's the name of the magazine?', 'When can I buy it?'. There are a few grammatical errors in her questions, such as 'What's does it cost?' (should be 'How much does it cost?').</p> <p>Her answers are all accurate, but short. When you are answering the questions in this part of the test, it is fine to give short answers, but if you use full sentences you can show the examiner more of the English you know.</p>	<p>Jannis</p> <p>Jannis's questions are clear and his grammar is sometimes accurate, for example 'How many players can play the computer games?'. There are some errors, for example 'What called the computer game?' (should be 'What is the computer game called?').</p> <p>His answers are easy to understand and sometimes accurate.</p> <p>He communicates easily in this task and his pronunciation is mostly very clear.</p>

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Her pronunciation is clear and she has no difficulty in communicating in this task.

Part 2 tips

- Practise by looking at a picture or some information and asking questions about it.
- Practise making questions with how/when/what/where.
- Don't forget that questions can start with a verb (is/are/can etc.) if the answer is yes/no.
- Give full sentences for your answers if you can.

Overall

Sharissa

Grammar and Vocabulary

Sharissa's grammar and vocabulary are generally accurate and although there are a few errors, what she says is clear.

Pronunciation

Sharissa is easy to understand at all times.

Interactive Communication

Sharissa answers all the questions well without needing any help; she also has no difficulty asking her questions in Part 2.

Global Achievement

Sharissa communicates well in both parts of the test without any hesitation.

Jannis

Grammar and Vocabulary

Jannis makes some grammatical errors but these do not make his language unclear.

Pronunciation

Jannis's pronunciation is usually very clear, but he has difficulty with a few words.

Interactive Communication

Jannis asks and answers his questions easily and does not need any help from his partner or the examiner.

Global Achievement

Jannis communicates well in all the tasks.