

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

March – June 2025

Time 22–23 minutes (total), which includes 10 minutes' preparation time and 12–13 minutes' examination time

Paper reference

4WES4/01

English as a Second Language

UNIT 4: Speaking

General instructions to the teacher/examiner

You do not need any other materials.

Instructions

- The examination is made up of Tasks 1, 2 and 3.
- The tasks must be conducted in consecutive order.
- Recording continues without pause or interruption into each task.
- The total examination time is 22–23 minutes. Timings for each section are given below.
- Candidates have 10 minutes in total to prepare for the role play and picture-based conversation.
- The test time should be divided between an unassessed initial warm-up conversation (1 minute); Task 1 (1–2 minutes); Task 2 (5 minutes); Task 3 (5 minutes).
- Candidates must **not** use a dictionary or any other resources at any time.

Information

- The total mark for this unit is 50.

Turn over ►

P82254A

©2025 Pearson Education Ltd.
T:1/1/1/1



P 8 2 2 5 4 A


Pearson

Overview of tasks

- The examination is made up of **three** assessed tasks and a non-assessed warm-up activity.
- The tasks must be conducted in the following order: warm-up, role play, topic talk, picture-based conversation.
- The total examination is between 12 and 13 minutes, including the non-assessed warm-up activity.

Preparation time

- Teachers/examiners choose 1 of 8 role plays to conduct. The randomisation grid is used to determine the task card for each candidate.
- Teachers/examiners select 1 of 8 picture-based conversations to conduct. The randomisation grid is used to determine the task card for each candidate.
- Teachers/examiners give the candidate the selected role play and picture-based conversation cards.
- Teachers/examiners take in the candidate's pre-prepared topic talk notes (these will be returned at the relevant time in the assessment).
- Candidates must be allowed 10 minutes' preparation time under supervised conditions to prepare for the role play and the picture-based conversation.
- Candidates must not write on the role play or picture stimuli.
- Candidates can make notes in English of up to a maximum of one side of A4 paper for each task.
- Candidates must not have access to a dictionary or any other resource, including a mobile phone, during the preparation and examination time.
- Candidates must return all their notes and the stimuli after completing the examination.
- All notes must be kept by the centre until the relevant post-results deadline for the series in which the assessment is completed, after which time they should be securely destroyed.



Speaking unit assessment randomisation grid:

Candidate order	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3
	Pearson allocated	Candidate selected	Teacher selected
	Role play	Topic talk	Picture-based conversation
Candidate 1	RP6 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT3 (Topic 2)
Candidate 2	RP8 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT4 (Topic 2)
Candidate 3	RP1 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT6 (Topic 3)
Candidate 4	RP5 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT1 (Topic 1)
Candidate 5	RP2 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT8 (Topic 4)
Candidate 6	RP8 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT3 (Topic 2)
Candidate 7	RP1 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT6 (Topic 3)
Candidate 8	RP5 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT2 (Topic 1)
Candidate 9	RP1 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT5 (Topic 3)
Candidate 10	RP2 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT7 (Topic 4)
Candidate 11	RP6 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT3 (Topic 2)
Candidate 12	RP8 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT1 (Topic 1)
Candidate 13	RP3 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT2 (Topic 1)
Candidate 14	RP3 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT1 (Topic 1)
Candidate 15	RP7 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT4 (Topic 2)
Candidate 16	RP4 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT7 (Topic 4)
Candidate 17	RP1 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT5 (Topic 3)
Candidate 18	RP6 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT7 (Topic 4)
Candidate 19	RP4 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT8 (Topic 4)
Candidate 20	RP3 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT6 (Topic 3)
Candidate 21	RP4 (Topic 2)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT8 (Topic 4)
Candidate 22	RP2 (Topic 1)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT4 (Topic 2)
Candidate 23	RP7 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT5 (Topic 3)
Candidate 24	RP5 (Topic 3)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT2 (Topic 1)
Candidate 25	RP7 (Topic 4)	Candidate selected (Topic 5)	PT6 (Topic 3)

Task 1 – Role play

- This task should last between 1 and 2 minutes.
- Each role-play scenario consists of two cards, one for the teacher/examiner and one for the candidate.
- The teacher/examiner cards contain instructions on how to conduct the role play and the exact questions to ask. Teachers/examiners read the role-play scenario in English before asking the first question.
- The candidate cards include prompts as a guide and highlight where the candidate needs to ask a question (indicated by the symbol '?') and where an unseen question is posed to them by the teacher/examiner (indicated by the symbol '!').
- Candidates have five opportunities to speak – each worth 2 marks. There is a maximum of 10 marks available for this task.

Task 2 – Topic talk

- The total time allowed for this task is 5 minutes, consisting of 2 minutes for the topic talk and 3 minutes for the follow-up discussion.
- In preparation for the exam, candidates must independently choose an aspect of the Topic 5 (optional subtopic) they have studied and must independently prepare a short topic talk of up to 2 minutes covering this area.
- Candidates are permitted to refer to bullet-point notes on a single-side of A4 during this task. Notes should be prepared before the day of the exam. Notes may be handwritten or typed. If typed, the font size should be at least 12pt. Notes must not include full sentences.
- Candidates must hand their notes to the teacher/examiner at the start of the exam. At the start of the topic talk task, the teacher/examiner hands the candidate their notes, which must then be returned to the teacher/examiner once the candidate has delivered their topic talk.
- The topic talk is followed by a short interaction (up to 3 minutes) where the teacher/examiner asks some pertinent questions to prompt further discussion of the area the candidate has given their topic talk on.
- Prompt questions are provided for the teacher/examiner (to be adapted by the teacher/examiner). The questions are listed in order of challenge. It is important to ensure that candidates are given sufficient opportunity to demonstrate their command of language.
- There is a maximum of 20 marks available for this task.



Task 3 – Picture-based conversation

- The time allowed for this task is 5 minutes.
- Each picture card consists of two cards, one for the teacher/examiner and one for the candidate.
- The teacher/examiner cards contain instructions on how to conduct the task and the exact questions to ask. The teacher/examiner reads the instructions in English out loud to each candidate before asking the first question.
- The task begins with a picture stimulus linked to the topic area – the first part of the task is for the candidate to describe the picture.
- Then the teacher/examiner leads the candidate in a broader discussion based on the topic area given by the stimulus.
- The candidate cards include prompts as a guide and highlight that the candidate should ask a question (indicated by the symbol '?') at any point during the conversation.
- There is a maximum of 20 marks available for this task.

Introduction

Instructions to the teacher/examiner:

Start the examination by reading the following:

**This is the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in English as a Second Language
[state the series e.g. June 2025].**

Teacher/examiner name: [state your name]

Centre number: [state your centre number]

Candidate name: [state the candidate's name]

Candidate number: [state the candidate's number]

Warm-up activity:

Please read the following:

Before we begin the test, we are going to do a warm-up activity with some non-test questions that will not be marked.

Use the prompts below. Do not ask any additional questions.

- **How is your day going?**
- **What do you think of the weather today?**
- **What did you do before the test today?**
- **What are you going to do after the test today?**

Keep the warm-up time under one minute so you do not get off schedule.

Clearly bring the warm-up to a close and state:

Thank you. Now we will begin the test.



Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

March – June 2025

Time 22–23 minutes (total), which includes 10 minutes' preparation time and 12–13 minutes' examination time

**Paper
reference**

4WES4/01

English as a Second Language

UNIT 4: Speaking

Task 2: Topic talk

Instructions to the teacher/examiner

You do not need any other materials.

Instructions

- You should start the task with the introduction provided.
- You must return the candidate's A4 sheet of notes at the beginning of this task.
- The topic talk element is intended to last no more than 2 minutes.
- The follow-on questions and answers are recommended to last up to a maximum of 3 minutes.
- You should use the list of set questions to choose follow-on questions to ask the candidate.
- You may use up to **two** of your own questions to supplement those from the list.
- Questions may be repeated but no more than twice.
- Candidates must be allowed to develop their responses as well as they are able.

Turn over ►

P82254A

©2025 Pearson Education Ltd.
T:1/1/1/1




Pearson

Task 2 (teacher/examiner card)

Topic talk

Instructions to teacher/examiner:

Begin the topic talk task with the following introduction:

We are now going to complete Task 2. This task is the topic talk on the topic you have chosen. You will have 2 minutes to speak. When you have finished, I will ask you some questions about your topic talk.

Hand the candidate their pre-prepared notes.

You may start now.

Allow the candidate to speak for 2 minutes. If the candidate's topic talk does not come to an end before the end of 2 minutes, stop them with the following:

Thank you. You have been speaking for 2 minutes. I will now ask you some follow-up questions.

*Now ask the candidate some questions from the list below (adapt according to what the candidate has spoken about). The questions listed below become progressively more challenging – it is important to ensure that candidates are given sufficient opportunity to demonstrate their command of language. You may ask no more than **2** of your own questions.*

- Tell me more about
- Where did you find the information about ... ?
- What do you think about ... ?
- What could be done about ... ?
- What is the most important thing that people should understand about your topic?
- Some people argue that Do you agree?
- You said Why do you think some people disagree?
- What question would you ask an expert on this topic?
- You talked about What changes do you think there will be in the future?
- How could you encourage other people to ... ?
- What advice would you give someone about ... ?
- Explain why you are optimistic or pessimistic about the future of this issue.

At an appropriate point for the candidate, or at the end of a further 3 minutes, end Task 2 with the following:

Thank you. That is the end of Task 2.

Ask the candidate to give you their pre-prepared notes.

