

NOCN ESOL INTERNATIONAL SPEAKING

- **DURATION**
 - B1 9 minutes
 - B2 9 minutes

 - C1 13 minutes
 - C2 13 minutes
- **PARTS:** 3
- **: MARKS** 33 (17/33 = 51% pass)

- **ONE CANDIDATE – ONE EXAMINER** (S/he is both the interlocutor and the assessor)

CONTENT

PART 1 :

5 QUESTIONS on personal everyday information

+ express opinions on contemporary topics / issues

MARKS: 9

TIMING: 1½ minutes for B1 – B2 2 minutes for C1 – C2

Questions vary from “What’s your favourite food?” at B1 to “What’s your favourite food, and how do you prepare it?” at B2. Some questions may ask the candidate to provide three things, e.g. “describe three members of your family.” or “Tell me three things you do in your free time” or “Tell me three ways to stay healthy.”

IT IS IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE THE THREE THINGS ASKED AS ONLY THEN WILL THREE MARKS BE AWARDED FOR THE ANSWER.

PART 2 :

2 SITUATIONS/SCENARIOS on real-life situations

MARKS: 12 in total - 3 marks maximum for each:

Register – Accuracy – Pronunciation – Effective Communication

TIMING: 3 minutes for B1 – B2 4-6 minutes for C1 – C2

PROMPT SHEET A prompt sheet is available for the candidates to refer to during this stage.

ROLE OF CANDIDATE Always himself/herself.

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SENTENCES

B1 minimum 3 sentences with at least one complex sentence

B2 – C1 – C2 minimum 4 sentences with at least one complex sentence

EXAMPLE B1 “You want to go to a concert next month. You want your friend to come with you. What would you say?”

ANSWER “Hi, Mary. I’m thinking of going to a concert next month. Would you like to come with me? The group Acid Death are coming to our town. They are fantastic. We’ll have a lot of fun. How about it?”

The examiner may ask additional questions to probe the candidate’s answers, e.g. price of tickets, type of music, venue, etc.

THIS IS NOT A ROLE PLAY – EACH CANDIDATE HAS TWO SUCH SCENARIOS IN THIS PART

PART 3

1 SCENARIO FOR DISCUSSION

MARKS 12 in total - 3 marks maximum for each:

**Use of Vocabulary – Accuracy and Grammar – Pronunciation –
Listening and Responding**

TIMING 4 minutes for B1 – B2 5 – 6 minutes for C1 – C2

PROMPT SHEET A prompt sheet is available for the candidates to refer to during this stage.

PREPARATION TIME Up to **2 minutes** are allowed to prepare for this **ROLE PLAY – DISCUSSION**. Paper and pencil are provided so candidates can make notes.

ROLE OF CANDIDATE Always himself/herself.

NUMBER OF EXCHANGES B1 Minimum of 5 exchanges are expected
B2 6 exchanges C1 – C2 8 exchanges

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE Justify – challenge – persuade – express or elicit opinions – give or receive information on social or contemporary issues – co-operate to reach agreement

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- Interlocutors may repeat or rephrase questions, or even explain any vocabulary that poses difficulty, e.g. (B1) leisure centre. Interlocutors may also give an example if it is clear that the candidate is struggling to think of ideas. Moreover, interlocutors may ask additional questions to probe the candidate’s answers, e.g. ask for reasons, justification.
 - Pencils and paper will be provided for candidates for Part 3 to make notes.
 - Some interviews will be recorded to monitor examiners’ performance. Inform candidates accordingly.
 - Please refer to the audio and printed sample material for interview questions, scenarios, assessment criteria, etc.

GOOD LUCK WITH THE NOCN EXAMINATIONS