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### ~ Speaking Model ~

~ IELTS Speaking Exam / Part One / “Local Shops - Going Out - Secondary School” ~

This tutorial will provide an example of Part 1 of the IELTS Speaking Test. It includes:

- Twelve sample questions and candidate responses.
- Comments on candidate answers.

Topics covered are:

- Local Shops
- Going Out
- Secondary School

### Question & Response 1

**"Let's talk about shopping."**

**"Are there a lot of shops near where you live?"**

**"No, not a lot. However, there is a small shopping centre close to my house."**

*This is an acceptable response. This type of question could have been answered with a simple "Yes" or "No", but the candidate has provided more details.*

*However, the candidate, Joe, could have added approximately how many shops and how far they are from his home.*

### Question & Response 2

**"Do you use the local shops often?"**

**"No."**

**"Why not?"**

**"I only go to the local shops if I need something quickly. They are too expensive. Mostly I do my shopping at a large shopping centre further away, because it is cheaper and has more variety of things to buy."**

*Note that at first Joe did not explain why he didn't use the local shops often - only answering "No" - so the examiner asks "Why not"\*.*

*Joe's second response is very good.*

*\*The examiner may also ask "Why" to get more information.*

### Question & Response 3

**"When do you prefer to go shopping?"**

**"I went shopping on Friday night with my brother, but only bought some food"**

*Joe has not answered the question that Tom asked. He only says that he went shopping on Friday night. He should have said something like:*

- *"Fridays nights are best because they are more lively."*
- *"I like shopping during the weekday mornings, because it is not so busy then."*
- *"I have no preference when I go shopping. I love shopping all the time."*

#### Question & Response 4

"Is there any new type of shop you would like to see in your area?"

"A large supermarket would be convenient. I have to travel a long way to do supermarket shopping at the moment, so it would save me a lot of time and money spent on petrol for my car."

*This is a good response. Joe also says why a local supermarket would be useful for him.*

*Note that Joe uses the word "convenient", rather than "good" or "useful" - the examiner is looking for a wide range of vocabulary in the candidate's responses.*

#### Question & Response 5

"We'll talk about going out now."

"What types of places do you go for entertainment or enjoyment?"

"Usually I go to the cinema. Sometimes I go to parties."

*This response is OK. The examiner only asked "what types of places". He did not ask for specific details. His following questions might do that.*

#### Question & Response 6

"Do you go out often?"

"I go to the cinema one or two times a week, because I like movies. Next week I will go to a party at my friend's house"

*The first part of the response is OK, but the second part does not directly answer the question. Joe would have needed to say something like:*

*"Next week I will go to a party at my friend's house, but that will be my first party for a long time. I usually only go to three or four parties a year."*

### Question & Response 7

"Is there anywhere different you would like to go in the future?"

**"I watch football on the television. I like watching football. In the future I will watch football in a stadium."**

*Although Joe answers the question, his use of repetitive language would have lost him marks - "I watch football", "I like watching football" and "I will watch football". A better response would be:*

*"I enjoy watching football on the television, but have never been to a game. One day I would like to go to see it played at the football stadium."*

### Question & Response 8

"Do you think you need to spend a lot of money to have a good time?"

**"Yes. I need to spend a lot of money to have a good time. Going to the movies is expensive. Playing a sport in the park with my friends is fun, but cost no money."**

*There are a couple of things wrong in this answer. In the first part Joe repeats the words of Tom's question "...need to spend a lot of money to have a good time". In the second part Joe makes no connection with the ideas expressed in the first part. A better response might be:*

*"No, not always. Going to the movies is enjoyable, but can be expensive. On the other hand, playing sport with my friends in the park is also fun, even though it cost me nothing."*

### Question & Response 9

"Now we'll look at school." "What did you like most about secondary or high school?"

**"I like to play sport, especially football. Sport is my favourite activity at school."**

*The main thing wrong with this response is the wrong tense use. The question was "What did you like...", but Joe answers in the present tense - "I like to..." and "Sport is...". His response should be:*

*"I liked to play sport, especially football. Sport was my favourite activity\* at school."*

*\*The use of the word "activity" is accurate, though.*

### Question & Response 10

"Was there anything you disliked about secondary school?"

"I didn't like studying mathematics. I found the subject and the teacher boring.

I wish I had been more interested in it now, as I need to know it for my university course."

*This is good. The first paragraph directly responds to the question, while the second paragraph adds a comment. The comment is useful because it shows the examiner that Joe can connect information about the past to his present situation.*

### Question & Response 11

"What was your favourite subject at school?"

"Geology was my best subject. I liked to learn about all the countries and their cultures."

*Joe has obviously confused the word "geography" with "geology". The examiner will note a weakness in Joe's vocabulary, and perhaps mark him down because of it.*

### Question & Response 12

"Do you still have many friends from your school?"

"Yes, I still have a lot of friends from my school, but they are back in my country. I see them whenever I go back home for a holiday, and keep in touch with them over the internet."

*This is a good response to the question.*

*Note that Joe has used the expression "keep in touch", instead of, for example, "communicate". The use of expressions like this is not so common among English language learners, despite being common with native speakers. It shows a flexible vocabulary range. The use of these terms can help achieve a higher band score.*