

A2 Key for Schools Speaking test

Watch **the video of Luca and Federica** doing an A2 Key for Schools Speaking test and read the examiner comments below.

The Speaking test lasts 8 to 10 minutes. You will take the test with another student. There are two examiners.

Part 1 (3–4 minutes)

The examiner will ask you and your partner some questions. These questions will be about your daily life, free-time activities, likes and dislikes, past experience and future plans. For example, you may have to speak about your school, family, hobbies or home. The examiner will also ask you a 'Tell me something about ...' question (for example, 'Tell me something about the food you like'), and you should give a longer answer (say two or three things about the topic) with some detail if you can.

Part 2 (5–6 minutes)

In Part 2, Phase 1, you and your partner will talk to each other. The examiner will give you a task with five pictures on it related to one particular topic and will ask you to discuss these activities, things or places. You and your partner should talk about the different activities, things or places, saying what you like or don't like about them, and giving reasons for your opinions. You can also ask and answer questions of each other. Then the examiner will ask you one or more questions about the activities, things or places.

In Part 2, Phase 2, the examiner will ask two more questions on the same topic that you talked about in Phase 1.

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	
Luca	Federica
<p>Luca gives good, clear answers to all the questions he is asked. His answers are almost all complete sentences, for example: <i>'My favourite subject is English because I very like all the languages but English is the best because I very like America.'</i></p> <p>He does make some mistakes but his meaning is clear (<i>'I very like'</i> should be <i>'I really like'</i>).</p> <p>When the examiner asks, <i>'Please tell me something about the homework you have to do'</i> he gives a good, clear answer, with a few mistakes, but he is easy to understand: <i>'All the day I have to do my homework, and there are a lot of homework about math, Italian and English.'</i></p> <p>Although there are some words which are not pronounced correctly (<i>'ave'</i> should be <i>'have'</i>), his pronunciation is generally clear.</p>	<p>Federica gives complete answers to everything she is asked: <i>'I live in Buccinasco, a little town near Milano.'</i> <i>'I eat pasta or meat or fish.'</i></p> <p>When the examiner asks, <i>'Please tell me what you like doing at home'</i> Federica gives a good answer: <i>'I like listen music, sing and watch TV'</i> but she could say a bit more about what she does at home.</p> <p>Although she does make some mistakes (<i>'listen music'</i> should be <i>'listening to music'</i>, <i>'sing'</i> should be <i>'singing'</i> and <i>'watch'</i> should be <i>'watching'</i>), her message is clear.</p> <p>Her pronunciation is clear.</p>
<p>Part 1 tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise giving information about yourself (your name, where you come from). • Practise giving longer answers about your daily life, your interests, etc. • Try to answer the examiner's questions with more than one word. • You can give short answers, but it is good to give some longer answers too. • When answering the 'Tell me something about' question, try to add more information or give reasons. Imagine you have been asked 'Why?' 	

Part 2	
Luca	Federica
<p>Luca answers his partner's initial question and then he asks and answers questions with ease about the different hobbies in the pictures. He uses some</p>	<p>Federica gives some information about a hobby she likes and then asks and answers questions easily.</p>

<p>longer sentences to do this. This is good, as he shows the examiner that he knows how to have a conversation with his partner or the examiner.</p>	<p>Her questions are generally grammatically correct. She gives complete answers to the examiner's questions during this part of the test, explaining her reasons for liking reading and computer games. This is good; she shows the examiner how much English she knows.</p>
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Part 2 tips

- Think about why you like certain food, places, music etc.
- Practise by asking your friends and family what they like, and why, about a range of familiar topics.
- Remember the examiner does not know how much English you know, so you have to show him or her by speaking a lot.

Overall	
Luca	Federica
<p>Grammar and Vocabulary</p> <p>Luca's grammar and vocabulary are sometimes correct and although there are a few errors, what he says is generally clear.</p> <p>Pronunciation</p> <p>Luca speaks clearly and is generally easy to understand.</p> <p>Interactive Communication</p> <p>Luca interacts well throughout the test with both his partner and the examiner. He has no difficulty and requires no support at all.</p> <p>Global Achievement</p> <p>Luca communicates well during the whole test using questions and long sentences, without hesitation.</p>	<p>Grammar and Vocabulary</p> <p>Federica can talk easily and give her ideas about different things. She doesn't make many mistakes with her grammar or vocabulary.</p> <p>Pronunciation</p> <p>Federica speaks clearly and is easy to understand all the time.</p> <p>Interactive Communication</p> <p>Federica interacts very well, asking questions and answering her partner's questions. She also interacts very well with the examiner.</p> <p>Global Achievement</p> <p>Federica communicates well using complete sentences during the whole test.</p>

Scores

	Luca	Federica
Grammar and Vocabulary	4	4
Pronunciation	4.5	5
Interactive Communication	5	5
Global Achievement	5	5