

Cambridge Proficiency Speaking Part Three on relationships Updated 19 Dec 2017 CPE Speaking Part Three Examiner's script

"Now, in this part of the test you're each going to talk on your own for about two minutes. You need to listen while your partner is speaking because you'll be asked to comment afterwards.

So, *(name of Candidate A)* I'm going to give you a card with a question written on it and I'd like you to tell us what you think. There are also some ideas on the card for you to use if you like.

All right? Here is your card, and a copy for you *(name of Candidate B)*.

Remember, you have about two minutes to talk before we join in."

(After two minutes) "Thank you."

"(Name of Candidate B) wh.../ how/ do/ are/ is/ should...?" (question about what Candidate A just said)

(Name of Candidate A) "What do you think?"/ "Do you agree?"/ "How about you?"

(After about one minute) "Thank you" (taking back the cards)

"Now, *(name of Candidate B)*, it's your turn to be given a question. Here is your card, and a copy for you *(name of Candidate A)*.

Remember *(name of Candidate B)*, you have about two minutes to tell us what you think, and there are some ideas on the card for you to use if you like. All right?"

(After two minutes) "Thank you."

"(Name of Candidate A) wh.../ how/ do/ are/ is/ should...?" (question about what Candidate B just said)

(Name of Candidate B) "What do you think?"/ "Do you agree?"/ "How about you?"

(After about one minute) "Thank you" (taking back the cards)

"Now, to finish the test, we are going to talk about 'relationships' in general."

CPE Speaking Part Three prompt cards on relationships
Based on real CPE Speaking exam tasks

What helps people to make new friends?

- personality
- good tactics
- bad tactics

How important is it to keep in touch with old friends?

- business
- social life
- personal support

Is it better to get married as soon as possible or to have a few romantic relationships first?

- relationship skills
- expectations
- the best time of life for marriage

What are the advantages and disadvantages of living with your extended family?

- relationships
- money
- space

What can be gained by relationship counselling such as marriage therapy?

- differences to just speaking to each other
- improving relationships
- limits of what you can achieve

How easy is it to have a good relationship with teenage children?

- communication
- doing things together
- differences with smaller children

What part does socialising together play in good working relationships?

- conversation topics
- openness
- shared experiences

What are the most important qualities needed to be a good friend?

- character
- actions
- communication

What helps people to sustain a relationship in the long term?

- actions
- feelings
- words

How important is it to have things in common with a romantic partner?

- personality
- hobbies
- values

Is it better to spend your time with one or two very close friends or to socialise with a large variety of people?

- social skills
- difficult times
- networking

What are the advantages and disadvantages of meeting new people online?

- things in common
- honest communication
- checking what people say

What can be gained by living together before you marry someone?

- compatibility
- finances
- commitment

How easy is it to know someone is a real friend?

- what they do
- what they say
- their relationships with other people

What part does money play in modern relationships?

- the kinds of people you meet
- social class
- doing things together

What are the most important qualities needed to be a good grandparent?

- things you do
- things you say
- similarities and differences to parenting

Write more tasks like those above, on the same or different topics, for example:

Major life events

The future

Nature

Food and drink

Consumerism

Music

then test your partner or another group with them.

Ask each other questions about relationships from the list below.

- At what age...?
- Do ... need to...?
- Do you think it is true that...?
- Do you think men and women...?
- How can people...?
- How do... benefit from...?
- How important do you think... is?
- In a global world, should...?
- In the past,... Is this a good thing do you think?
- In what ways do people need to...?
- Is it better to... or...?
- Is it easier to... or...?
- Is it more important for children to... or...?
- Is it more important for... to... or...?
- Is it natural for... to...?
- Is it sometimes good to...?
- Should (all) children be expected to...?
- Some people say that... What do you think?
- Sometimes... What do you think about that?
- Today,... Is this a good thing in your view?
- What can... learn from...?
- What do you think is the best... for...?
- What is the appeal of...?
- What is the best way to...?
- What makes some people...?
- What role does... play in...?
- What... has had the greatest impact on...?
- Why are so many people interested in...?
- Why can...?
- Why do some people prefer not to...?
- Would... be better if...?

Ask about any questions above which you couldn't understand, couldn't make questions out of, or couldn't answer.

Ask each other questions about relationships from the list below.

- At what age would you let your children start dating?
- Do people need training in how to be a good parent?
- Do you think it is true that families are less important to people than they used to be?
- Do you think men and women have different kinds of relationships with their friends?
- How can people improve their social skills?
- How do children benefit from spending time with their extended family?
- How important do you think having siblings is?
- In a global world, should people ignore cultural background when deciding who to marry?
- In the past, children had much more freedom to run around without their parents. Is this a good thing do you think?
- In what ways do people need to build relationships with their colleagues?
- Is it better to carry on a relationship at a distance as long as you can or should you just make a clean break and maybe try to get back together later?
- Is it easier to make friends nowadays, or was it easier in the past?
- Is it more important for children to spend time with their friends or their siblings?
- Is it more important for young children to be taught good manners at school or for them to start studying academic subjects as soon as possible?
- Is it natural for teenagers to have a crush on their teacher?
- Is it sometimes good to control who your children are friends with?
- Should all children be expected to play team sports?
- Some people say that the best way to make friends and influence people is just to be honest and be yourself. What do you think?
- Sometimes people read self-help books on how to improve their relationships. What do you think about that?
- Today, young people commonly have hundreds of online friends. Is this a good thing in your view?
- What can children learn from their grandparents?
- What do you think is the best advice for someone who is in their thirties and not in a long-term relationship?
- What is the appeal of websites that help people find romantic partners?
- What is the best way to make a good relationship with business contacts?
- What makes some people avoid social contact with other people?
- What role does technology play in modern bullying?
- What technology has had the greatest impact on people's relationships?
- Why are so many people interested in finding out about their ancestors?
- Why do some people prefer not to live together before getting married?
- Would the internet be better if people communicated more with a wider group of people rather than just people they already have things in common with?

Ask about any questions above which you can't understand or couldn't answer.

Useful phrases for Cambridge Proficiency Speaking Part Three

Brainstorm language that you could have used in the speaking above for these functions:

Strong opinions

Weak opinions

Strongly agreeing

Weakly agreeing

Strongly disagreeing

Weakly disagreeing/ Politely disagreeing

Referring to the card (changing the sub-topic, etc)

**Supporting your opinions
Giving examples**

Giving reasons

Speaking while thinking/ Filling silence