

Part 1

Thinking and Speaking

- **Chapter 1** Independent Speaking:
Organizing Speech
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Synthesizing Information
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Chapter 1

Independent Speaking: Organizing Speech

Necessary Skills

- Describing a personal experience or expressing a personal preference
- Organizing ideas
- Expressing a clear topic statement and supporting points
- Speaking clearly and accurately with knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation

Strategies

Though preparation time is limited in the speaking portion of the test, it is nevertheless important to use this time to plan the organization of your response. This way, your response will be more relevant and coherent. An organizational process for preparing your speech is detailed below. In each step, there are certain things to keep in mind.

| Process | Strategy |
|--|---|
| Read the prompt and understand the task. | Be sure that you understand the question and what it requires you to do. |
| Identify the main idea and create a topic statement. | Decide on the main idea or choose a position. Use the relevant parts of the prompt in making your topic statement. |
| Brainstorm and select supporting ideas. | Quickly think of supporting ideas from your own experiences. Choose ideas that most clearly support your topic statement. |
| Organize the ideas. | Arrange your ideas, putting them in order from most important to least important. |

Q1

Practice 1 – Personal Experience

► Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

Describe a city you visited in your past that you found fascinating. Why did you enjoy your visit so much? Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

A fascinating city that I visited in my past was _____

Reason 1: I enjoyed visiting there because _____

Reason 2: Another reason I enjoyed visiting there is _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

city:

town, metropolis, settlement, _____, _____

visit:

stay, vacation, experience, _____, _____

fascinating:

captivating, charming, incredible, _____, _____

enjoy:

esteem, fancy, appreciate, _____, _____

originate:

to begin to exist for the first time

ancestor:

someone related to you who lived a long time ago

firsthand:

obtained directly by doing something oneself

date back:

to have begun at a certain time in the past

captivate:

to interest someone very much

Q1

Practice 2 – Personal Experience

► Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

What type of work would you like to choose as a career? Why would you make this choice? Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The job that I would like to choose as a career is _____

Reason 1: _____

Reason 2: _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

type:

kind, sort, category, _____, _____

job:

career, occupation, profession, _____, _____

choose:

decide, pick, prefer, _____, _____

enable:

allow, cause, make possible, _____, _____

photographer:
someone who takes
photographs

enable:
to give someone the
opportunity to do
something

remote:
far away from cities or
towns

diverse:
different from each other

habitat:
the place where a certain
animal normally lives

Q1

Practice 3 – Personal Experience

► Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

Often a bad situation teaches us an important life lesson. Describe an important lesson that you learned from a bad situation. Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

One bad situation in my past that taught me an important life lesson was _____

I feel that this situation helped me learn an important life lesson because _____

Reason 1: _____

Example: _____

Reason 2: _____

Example: _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

bad:

awful, negative, dreadful, _____, _____

situation:

occurrence, state, condition, _____, _____

important:

vital, crucial, key, _____, _____

lesson:

message, skill, warning, _____, _____

obtain:

to get something

goal:

something that one hopes to achieve

summit:

the top of a mountain

blizzard:

a storm with lots of snow and high winds

exhausted:

very tired

Q2

Practice 1 – Personal Preference

▶ Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

Would you prefer to live in the mountains or near the ocean? Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I would rather _____

Reason 1: _____

Example: _____

Reason 2: _____

Example: _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

prefer:

like better, rather, desire, _____, _____

live:

dwell, occupy, abide, _____, _____

mountain:

alpine, peak, cliff, _____, _____

water sports:

sailing, diving, water skiing, _____, _____

skiing:

a winter sport where a person slides over the snow on thin objects called skis

drift:

to be pushed along slowly by the water's movement

endure:

to suffer something that is difficult or unpleasant

maritime:

near the ocean

alpine:

relating to mountains

▶ Step 2

🎧 Listen to two sample responses. Write down any useful expressions. **Track 155**

Notes

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▶ Step 3

Now create your own response using words and expressions from Steps 1 and 2. Use the prompts below to help you.

I would prefer to live somewhere that is near _____ . Then _____

_____. It is very _____ . In addition, _____

and _____

▶ Step 4

Read the response you wrote above out loud. Try to read slowly and clearly. Practice saying the whole response several times. Then close your book and say the response without looking at the words.

Q2

Practice 2 – Personal Preference

► Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

Some people enjoy having many friends. Others prefer to have a few close friends. Which would you prefer? Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I prefer to have _____

Reason 1: _____

Example: _____

Reason 2: _____

Example: _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

friends:

playmates, comrades, acquaintances, _____, _____

relationship:

association, friendship, link, _____, _____

difficult:

complicated, tricky, challenging, _____, _____

support:

encourage, maintain, help, _____, _____

overwhelming:

emotionally overpowering

divide:

to separate into different parts

consult:

to ask for information

isolated:

lonely or separate from other people

reach out:

to offer help to someone

Q2

Practice 3 – Personal Preference

► Step 1

Read the prompt below. Write down your answer and related key points in the blanks.

Some students like to work and earn money during the summer. Others like to have the summer off. Which would you prefer? Include specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I prefer to spend my summer _____

Reason 1: _____

Example: _____

Reason 2: _____

Example: _____

Read the related ideas and expressions below. Add at least two of your own.

Related Ideas and Expressions

money:

cash, funds, capital, _____, _____

summer vacation:

time off, holiday, leave, _____, _____

busy:

full of activity, tiring, diligent, _____, _____

boring:

uninteresting, nothing to do, tedious, _____, _____

remarkable:

unusual in a surprising way

afford:

having enough money to pay for something

recuperate:

to recover or restore

hang out:

to spend time with other people in a casual situation

novel:

a long written work of fiction

