

Speaking part 2

Cue Cards:

Here are **IELTS Speaking Part 2 Cue Cards** with **long Band 8 sample responses**, designed to demonstrate fluency and provide detailed answers.

1. Describe a person who inspires you

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How you know this person
- What they do
- And explain why they inspire you

One person who inspires me greatly is Malala Yousafzai. She's an activist for female education and the youngest-ever Nobel Prize laureate. I first learned about her when I saw a documentary about her life and her efforts to promote education for girls in regions where access to education is limited.

Malala grew up in Pakistan, where she faced immense challenges in pursuing education due to cultural and political restrictions. What stands out about her is her extraordinary courage. At just 15 years old, she survived a horrific attack by extremists who were opposed to her advocating for girls' education. Instead of being silenced by fear, she turned her experience into a powerful global movement.

Her story is incredibly inspiring to me because it shows how determination and a sense of purpose can overcome even the most daunting obstacles. What I admire most is her humility and her unwavering commitment to her cause. Despite her fame, she remains focused on her mission of ensuring education for all. Her resilience reminds me that even one voice can bring about significant change in the world, which motivates me to stand up for what I believe in, no matter the challenges.

2. Describe a place you visited that you would like to go to again

You should say:

- Where the place is
- When you went there
- What you did there
- And explain why you want to go back

One place I would love to visit again is Santorini, a picturesque island in Greece. I travelled there three years ago during the summer, and it was one of the most memorable trips of my life.

Santorini is famous for its whitewashed buildings, blue-domed churches, and stunning sunsets over the Aegean Sea. During my visit, I explored the charming villages of Oia and Fira, walked along the volcanic caldera, and enjoyed delicious Greek food, like moussaka and baklava, at local tavernas. One of the highlights of the trip was taking a boat tour to the nearby volcanic islands, where I swam in natural hot springs.

What makes me want to return is the island's unique combination of natural beauty and cultural richness. Although I saw many of the iconic sights, there were still areas I didn't get to explore, like the archaeological site of Akrotiri. Additionally, the peaceful atmosphere and the breath-taking views make it an ideal place to relax and unwind. I also want to experience the island in a different season, as I've heard that springtime offers a completely different perspective with fewer tourists and blooming flowers.

3. Describe an activity you do to stay healthy

You should say:

- What the activity is
- When and where you do it
- How often you do it
- And explain how it helps you stay healthy

One activity I regularly do to stay healthy is jogging. I started jogging about two years ago when I realized that I needed to incorporate more physical activity into my daily routine. Now, it has become a habit that I truly enjoy.

I usually jog early in the morning, right after I wake up. There's a beautiful park near my house with well-maintained jogging trails, and it's the perfect spot for exercise. I try to jog for at least 30 minutes, covering about 3 to 4 kilometers, and I do this around five to six times a week. On weekends, I often extend my run to explore new routes or enjoy nature.

Jogging has helped me in many ways. Physically, it has improved my stamina and keeps me in shape. I've noticed that I feel more energetic and less fatigued throughout the day. Mentally, it's an excellent stress reliever. Running in the fresh air, especially in the early morning when everything is quiet, clears my mind and sets a positive tone for the day. Over time, I've also developed a sense of discipline and consistency, which has benefited other areas of my life as well.

4. Describe a skill you would like to learn in the future

You should say:

- What the skill is
- Why you want to learn it
- How you would learn it
- And explain how it would help you

One skill I would really like to learn in the future is coding. With technology advancing so rapidly, coding has become an essential skill in many fields, and I believe it would open up countless opportunities for me.

I've always been interested in how websites, apps, and software are created, and coding seems like the foundation for all of these. Additionally, I think learning to code can help me stay relevant in a competitive job market and allow me to work on innovative projects. For example, I've always wanted to create a personal website or develop a simple mobile app, and having coding knowledge would make that possible.

To learn this skill, I would start by taking online courses on platforms like Coursera or Udemy, which offer structured lessons for beginners. I'd focus on learning a popular programming language like Python or JavaScript, as these are versatile and beginner-friendly. Additionally, I'd practice by working on small projects and joining coding communities to learn from others and stay motivated.

I believe coding would not only enhance my technical abilities but also improve my problem-solving and logical thinking skills. It's a skill that offers creative freedom, as I could build almost anything I imagine. Plus, in today's digital world, coding knowledge is highly valuable, whether for personal projects or career advancement.

5. Describe a piece of technology you use often

You should say:

- What the technology is
- How you use it
- How often you use it
- And explain why it is important to you

One piece of technology that I use almost every day is my laptop. It's a lightweight, high-performance device that has become an integral part of both my personal and professional life. I purchased it about three years ago when I started my university studies, and since then, it has been incredibly reliable.

I primarily use my laptop for academic purposes, such as writing assignments, conducting research, and attending online lectures. Additionally, I use it for entertainment, like watching movies, listening to music, and playing casual games. Socially, it's a great tool for staying connected with friends and family through video calls and social media platforms. I've also

recently started using it to learn new skills, such as coding and graphic design, by enrolling in online courses.

I use my laptop almost every day, sometimes for several hours at a stretch, depending on how much work or study I need to complete. It's important to me because it serves multiple purposes and helps me stay productive. I can't imagine managing my tasks without it, especially in today's digital age where technology plays such a vital role in our day-to-day activities.

6. Describe a special gift you received

You should say:

- What the gift was
- Who gave it to you
- When you received it
- And explain why it was special

One of the most meaningful gifts I've ever received was a handmade photo album from my best friend. She gave it to me on my 18th birthday, which made the occasion even more memorable.

The photo album was a collection of our shared memories over the years, starting from when we first became friends in middle school. Each page was creatively designed with photos, colourful decorations, and little notes about the moments captured in the pictures. What touched me the most was the effort and thought she put into making it. It wasn't just a gift—it was a way of celebrating our friendship and all the wonderful times we'd shared.

This gift is special to me because it's deeply personal and unique. Every time I look through the album, it brings back happy memories and reminds me how lucky I am to have such a thoughtful friend. Unlike material gifts, this one has sentimental value, and I'll cherish it forever.

7. Describe a book you have read recently

You should say:

- What the book is
- Who wrote it
- What it is about
- And explain why you enjoyed reading it

A book I read recently and thoroughly enjoyed is *Atomic Habits* by James Clear. It's a self-help book that focuses on building good habits and breaking bad ones through small, incremental changes.

The book provides practical strategies to improve various aspects of life, such as productivity, health, and relationships, by understanding the psychology behind habit formation. It emphasizes the idea that small, consistent actions can lead to significant improvements over time. For example, Clear explains how tracking your habits or making your environment more conducive to good behaviour can yield great results.

I enjoyed reading this book because it was not only informative but also highly relatable. The examples and real-life anecdotes made the concepts easy to understand, and I found myself applying many of the techniques in my own life. It's the kind of book that inspires you to take immediate action, and I'm already seeing positive changes as a result.

8. Describe a time when you were proud of yourself

You should say:

- When it happened
- What you did
- Why you were proud
- And explain how you felt about it

One time I felt really proud of myself was when I successfully organized a charity event for my local community. This happened about a year ago when I was part of a youth volunteer group, and we decided to raise funds for underprivileged children.

My role was to coordinate the event, which included arranging a venue, managing a team of volunteers, and promoting the cause through social media. It was a challenging task because I had never handled something this big before, and there were several unexpected hurdles, like last-minute cancellations and budget constraints. However, I stayed focused, worked closely with my team, and found creative solutions to overcome these issues.

The event turned out to be a huge success. We raised more money than we had anticipated and received a lot of positive feedback from the attendees. I was incredibly proud because I had stepped out of my comfort zone and accomplished something that made a real difference in people's lives. It boosted my confidence and taught me the value of perseverance and teamwork.

9. Describe an interesting tradition in your country

You should say:

- What the tradition is
- How it is celebrated
- What makes it interesting
- And explain why it is important

An interesting tradition in my country is the festival of Diwali, which is also known as the Festival of Lights. It's one of the most widely celebrated festivals in India and holds great cultural and religious significance.

Diwali is typically celebrated in October or November, depending on the lunar calendar. The celebration involves decorating homes with oil lamps, candles, and colourful Rangoli patterns. People wear new clothes, exchange gifts, and prepare traditional sweets. The festival is also marked by fireworks and prayers to honour Goddess Lakshmi, the deity of wealth and prosperity.

What makes this tradition fascinating is its vibrant and joyful atmosphere. It's not just a religious event but also a time for families and communities to come together. The sight of entire neighbourhoods lit up with lamps is truly magical. Diwali also carries a deeper meaning, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

This tradition is important because it strengthens social bonds and brings positivity and hope. It's a celebration that transcends barriers and unites people in a spirit of happiness and generosity.

10. Describe a time when you helped someone

You should say:

- Who you helped
- How you helped them
- Why you helped them
- And explain how you felt about it

A memorable time when I helped someone was a few months ago when my neighbour's car broke down, and she needed assistance getting to an important appointment.

It happened on a weekday morning when I was getting ready for work. My neighbour, who is an elderly woman, knocked on my door and explained her situation. She was visibly stressed because she had a doctor's appointment that she couldn't miss. Without hesitation, I offered to drive her there.

On the way, we had a pleasant conversation, and I could tell that she was grateful for the help. I waited at the clinic until her appointment was over and then drove her back home. It wasn't a big effort for me, but it meant a lot to her.

I felt a deep sense of satisfaction afterward because I knew I had made her day a little easier. It reminded me of the importance of being kind and helping others whenever we can. Small gestures like this can have a big impact.

