



### SPEAKING PRACTICE

# Speaking Bank 1

Public Places and Services | libraries and parks | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## Part 1: Interview

Take turns asking and answering. Each person should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes in total.

Question	Strategy
<b>Personal / present</b> Which public place do you enjoy using?	Use place and purpose: <i>I enjoy using... / I go there to... / It is valuable because...</i>
<b>Past experience</b> Can you tell me about a visit to a library, park or similar place?	Describe activity and impression: <i>I visited... / While I was there... / I liked the fact that...</i>
<b>Opinion / public value</b> Are libraries still necessary when information is online?	Compare roles: <i>Online information is... / Libraries also provide... / They remain important for...</i>

## Part 2: Short talk

Prepare for 1 minute. Then speak on your own for up to 2 minutes.

### Improving a local public space

Your local council wants more young people to use a public space. You are considering these options:

- modernising the library with study and media areas
- improving the park with seating and activity spaces

**Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Say which option you would prefer, and why.**

### Strategy: plan your short talk

**Open:** Briefly introduce the situation:  
*There are two possible public-space improvements...*

**Compare:** Give one advantage and one disadvantage for each option. Do not ignore either option.

**Choose:** Finish clearly:  
*I would prefer... because...*

## Part 3: Discussion

Discuss the questions. Each person should give reasons and examples, not just short answers.

### Follow-up questions

1. Why should governments provide public places?
2. Should people be allowed to use parks for any legal activity?
3. How can public spaces reduce loneliness?
4. What will libraries and parks need to offer in the future?

### Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

**Answer:** Give a direct view:  
*Public places are important because... / I think people should... / The main purpose is...*

**Example:** Show how it works in practice:  
*For example... / A local park can... / A library may provide...*

**Future:** Speculate carefully: *In the future... / These places may need to... / They are likely to...*



## SPEAKING PRACTICE

# Speaking Bank 2

Public Places and Services | public transport services | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## Part 1: Interview

Take turns asking and answering. Each person should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes in total.

Question	Strategy
<b>Personal / present</b> How useful is public transport in your area?	Use evaluation and evidence: <i>It is useful for...</i> / <i>The service is...</i> / <i>One problem is...</i>
<b>Past experience</b> Can you tell me about a public transport journey you remember?	Describe journey and quality: <i>I travelled by...</i> / <i>The journey was...</i> / <i>I remember it because...</i>
<b>Opinion / access</b> Should public transport be free for young people?	Discuss benefit and cost: <i>Free travel would...</i> / <i>However, the service costs...</i> / <i>A reduced fare might...</i>

## Part 2: Short talk

Prepare for 1 minute. Then speak on your own for up to 2 minutes.

**Improving a local bus service**  
 Your local bus service wants to attract more young passengers. You are considering these options:

- adding more evening and weekend buses
- offering a low-cost student travel pass

**Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Say which option you would prefer, and why.**

Strategy: plan your short talk		
<b>Open:</b> Briefly introduce the situation: <i>There are two possible ways to improve the bus service for young people...</i>	<b>Compare:</b> Give one advantage and one disadvantage for each option. Do not ignore either option.	<b>Choose:</b> Finish clearly: <i>I would prefer... because...</i>

## Part 3: Discussion

Discuss the questions. Each person should give reasons and examples, not just short answers.

Follow-up questions
1. Why is reliable public transport important for a community?
2. Should rural areas receive transport services even when few people use them?
3. How can public transport compete with private cars?
4. Who should pay for major improvements to transport services?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3		
<b>Point:</b> State one clear benefit: <i>Reliable transport allows... / The main advantage is... / It is essential for...</i>	<b>Reason:</b> Explain why the point matters: <i>This is because... / Without it... / As a result...</i>	<b>Balance:</b> Add cost or limitation: <i>However... / The difficulty is... / A reasonable compromise would...</i>



## SPEAKING PRACTICE

# Speaking Bank 3

Public Places and Services | healthcare and local support | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## Part 1: Interview

Take turns asking and answering. Each person should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes in total.

Question	Strategy
<b>Personal / present</b> What local service helps people stay healthy?	Use service and function: <i>The local area has... / It provides... / People use it when...</i>
<b>Past experience</b> Can you tell me about a time when a public service was helpful?	Describe need and response: <i>We needed... / The staff... / This helped because...</i>
<b>Opinion / priority</b> Which healthcare services should receive the most funding?	Set a reasoned priority: <i>Priority should go to... / This affects many people because... / However, funding is also needed for...</i>

## Part 2: Short talk

Prepare for 1 minute. Then speak on your own for up to 2 minutes.

### Sharing local health support

A health centre wants young people to know more about its services. You are considering these options:

- holding a health-information day at school
- creating a simple website and confidential question service

**Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Say which option you would prefer, and why.**

### Strategy: plan your short talk

**Open:** Briefly introduce the situation:  
*There are two possible ways to explain local health services...*

**Compare:** Give one advantage and one disadvantage for each option. Do not ignore either option.

**Choose:** Finish clearly:  
*I would prefer... because...*

## Part 3: Discussion

Discuss the questions. Each person should give reasons and examples, not just short answers.

### Follow-up questions

1. Why do some people delay asking for medical help?
2. Should healthcare always be free when people need it?
3. How can health services reach people in remote areas?
4. Will online healthcare improve services or create new problems?

### Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

**Cause:** Explain possible reasons:  
*Some people delay because... / They may worry about... / Another reason is...*

**Compare:** Contrast two sides:  
*Online care makes it easier to... / In-person care allows... / Both may be needed when...*

**Judge:** Give an overall assessment:  
*On balance... / The benefits are greater if... / Overall, I would say...*



## SPEAKING PRACTICE

# Speaking Bank 4

Public Places and Services | community centres and shared spaces | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## Part 1: Interview

Take turns asking and answering. Each person should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes in total.

Question	Strategy
<b>Personal / present</b> What activities bring people together in your area?	Use community examples: <i>People come together for... / The activity is organised by... / It helps residents...</i>
<b>Past experience</b> Can you tell me about an event held in a shared public place?	Describe place and participation: <i>The event took place... / Different people... / It was successful because...</i>
<b>Opinion / inclusion</b> How can public places include people of different ages?	Suggest inclusive features: <i>The space should offer... / Older people may need... / Young people would benefit from...</i>

## Part 2: Short talk

Prepare for 1 minute. Then speak on your own for up to 2 minutes.

### Creating a community centre programme

A community centre wants to offer one new programme. You are considering these options:

- running activities that bring different age groups together
- providing practical classes and advice for young people

**Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Say which option you would prefer, and why.**

### Strategy: plan your short talk

**Open:** Briefly introduce the situation:  
*There are two possible programmes for the community centre...*

**Compare:** Give one advantage and one disadvantage for each option. Do not ignore either option.

**Choose:** Finish clearly:  
*I would prefer... because...*

## Part 3: Discussion

Discuss the questions. Each person should give reasons and examples, not just short answers.

### Follow-up questions

1. What makes a community centre successful?
2. Should public spaces try to serve everyone or focus on particular groups?
3. How can community activities improve trust between people?
4. Are shared public spaces becoming more or less important?

### Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

**Define:** Explain what success means:  
*A successful centre should... / It needs to provide... / People will use it if...*

**Develop:** Add a social effect:  
*This gives people a chance to... / As they meet regularly... / It can build trust by...*

**Trend:** Discuss change over time:  
*Nowadays... / They may become more important because... / On the other hand...*



## SPEAKING PRACTICE

# Speaking Bank 5

Public Places and Services | accessibility and digital public services | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## Part 1: Interview

Take turns asking and answering. Each person should aim to speak for 2-3 minutes in total.

Question	Strategy
<b>Personal / present</b> Which public services can people use online in your area?	Use service and access: <i>People can use... / The online service allows... / It is helpful for...</i>
<b>Past experience</b> Can you tell me about a service that was difficult to access?	Describe barrier and effect: <i>The difficulty was... / This meant that... / It would have been easier if...</i>
<b>Opinion / accessibility</b> Should every public service have a non-digital option?	Discuss inclusion: <i>A non-digital option is needed for... / Online services are convenient, but... / No one should be excluded because...</i>

## Part 2: Short talk

Prepare for 1 minute. Then speak on your own for up to 2 minutes.

### Making council services easier to use

Your local council wants residents to find help and information more easily. You are considering these options:

- developing one simple app for council services
- opening a walk-in help desk in the town centre

**Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Say which option you would prefer, and why.**

### Strategy: plan your short talk

**Open:** Briefly introduce the situation:  
*There are two possible ways to make council services easier to use...*

**Compare:** Give one advantage and one disadvantage for each option. Do not ignore either option.

**Choose:** Finish clearly:  
*I would prefer... because...*

## Part 3: Discussion

Discuss the questions. Each person should give reasons and examples, not just short answers.

### Follow-up questions

1. Who is most likely to be excluded by digital-only services?
2. Should convenience be more important than privacy in public services?
3. How can public buildings become more accessible to everyone?
4. Will technology make public services fairer in the future?

### Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

**Identify:** Name the affected group or issue:  
*People who may be excluded include... / The main barrier is... / This particularly affects...*

**Trade-off:** Weigh two priorities:  
*Convenience allows... / However, privacy matters because... / A balanced system would...*

**Speculate:** Make a careful future claim:  
*Technology could make services... / This will depend on... / There is also a risk that...*