



SPEAKING PRACTICE

Speaking Bank 1

Shopping and Consumer Life | online shopping and local shops | 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
Personal / present Where do you or your family usually shop?	Use place and reasons: <i>We usually shop... / It is convenient because... / For some items...</i>
Past experience Can you tell me about something you bought that was a good choice?	Describe decision and value: <i>I chose... / I compared... / It was a good choice because...</i>
Opinion / comparison Is online shopping better than shopping in stores?	Compare convenience and experience: <i>Online shopping allows... / In a store, customers can... / I prefer...</i>

Part 2: Short talk

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

Buying an important item

You need to buy an important item for school. You are considering these options:

- ordering it from a large online shop
- buying it from a local store

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 buy the item...

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 people sometimes buy things they do not need?
2. Should people support local shops even when prices are higher?
3. What problems can result from the growth of online shopping?
4. Will physical shops disappear in the future? Why? Why not?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

Convenience: Explain practical benefit:
Online shopping saves... / Customers can... / This is useful when...

Community: Consider local impact:
Local shops provide... / Money spent locally... / Without them...

Future: Make a balanced prediction:
Some shops may... / However, customers will still... / A likely change is...



SPEAKING PRACTICE

Speaking Bank 2

Shopping and Consumer Life | budgets, prices and value | 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
Personal / present How do you decide whether something is worth buying?	Use decision criteria: <i>I consider...</i> / <i>I compare...</i> / <i>It is worth buying if...</i>
Past experience Can you tell me about a time when you saved money for something?	Describe goal and effort: <i>I wanted to buy...</i> / <i>I saved by...</i> / <i>Eventually...</i>
Opinion / money Should teenagers learn more about managing money?	Explain financial learning: <i>Teenagers need to understand...</i> / <i>This would help them...</i> / <i>Schools could teach...</i>

Part 2: Short talk

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

Spending a limited budget

You have a limited amount of money for a class celebration. You are considering these options:

- spending most of it on food for everyone
- spending it on one memorable group activity

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 use the class budget...

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 find it difficult to follow a budget?
2. Is the cheapest product usually the best value?
3. Should young people receive regular pocket money? Why? Why not?
4. How does a society's attitude to money affect people's choices?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

Value: Separate price from value:
A low price does not always... / Good value means... / It may be worth paying more for...

Habit: Explain spending behaviour:
People may overspend when... / A budget helps by... / One useful habit is...

Society: Broaden the discussion:
In some communities... / Advertising encourages... / People may feel pressure to...



SPEAKING PRACTICE

Speaking Bank 3

Shopping and Consumer Life | advertising and influencers | 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
Personal / present Where do you notice advertisements most often?	Use media and frequency: <i>I often see adverts... / They usually promote... / I notice them when...</i>
Past experience Can you tell me about an advertisement you remember?	Describe technique and reaction: <i>The advert showed... / It used... / I remembered it because...</i>
Opinion / influence Do influencers have too much effect on what young people buy?	Evaluate influence: <i>Influencers can make products... / Young people may trust... / However, buyers should...</i>

Part 2: Short talk

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

Promoting a student event

Your class wants many students to attend a charity sale. You are considering these options:

- making short promotional videos for social media
- putting colourful posters around the school

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 advertise the charity sale...

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. How does advertising persuade people to buy products?
2. Should advertisements aimed at children be restricted?
3. Is it acceptable for influencers to promote products they do not use?
4. Can consumers ever completely avoid the influence of advertising?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

Technique: Identify persuasive methods:
Advertisers use... / They try to make people feel... / This creates the impression that...

Ethics: Judge honest promotion:
It is misleading if... / Influencers should clearly... / Consumers have a right to...

Limit: Avoid an absolute claim:
It is difficult to avoid... / However, people can... / Awareness may reduce...



SPEAKING PRACTICE

Speaking Bank 4

Shopping and Consumer Life | second-hand goods and sustainable shopping | 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
Personal / present Would you buy second-hand clothes or equipment?	Use willingness and conditions: <i>I would buy... if... / I would be less willing to... / The advantage is...</i>
Past experience Can you tell me about something that you reused, repaired or gave away?	Describe action and reason: <i>I no longer needed... / Instead of throwing it away... / This meant that...</i>
Opinion / sustainability Should people be encouraged to buy fewer new products?	Discuss consumption: <i>Buying less would... / However, people need... / A more sustainable choice is...</i>

Part 2: Short talk

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

Organising a reuse event

Your school wants students to reuse more items. You are considering these options:

- holding a clothes and books swap
- running a repair workshop for broken items

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 reuse events the school could organise...

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 has second-hand shopping become more popular?
2. Should companies be required to make products easier to repair?
3. Is buying environmentally friendly products enough to solve overconsumption?
4. How can society make reusing goods more normal?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

Benefit: Explain environmental value:
Reusing reduces... / It keeps items... / This saves...

Responsibility: Compare consumer and company duties: *Consumers can... / Manufacturers should... / Governments could require...*

Culture: Discuss changing attitudes:
People may see used goods as... / Campaigns could show... / It becomes normal when...



SPEAKING PRACTICE

Speaking Bank 5

Shopping and Consumer Life | reviews, quality and consumer rights | 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
Personal / present Do you read reviews before buying something?	Use habits and trust: <i>I usually check...</i> / <i>I trust reviews when...</i> / <i>I also compare...</i>
Past experience Can you tell me about a product or service that disappointed you?	Describe expectation and problem: <i>I expected...</i> / <i>The problem was...</i> / <i>I decided to...</i>
Opinion / fairness What should customers be able to do when a product is poor quality?	Use rights and solutions: <i>Customers should be allowed to...</i> / <i>The company ought to...</i> / <i>This is fair because...</i>

Part 2: Short talk

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

Choosing between two products

You need to choose a reliable product for a school project. You are considering these options:

- buying a well-known brand with mixed reviews
- buying a less familiar product with excellent reviews

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 products to choose between...

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. How reliable are online customer reviews?
2. Should companies be punished for making products that do not last?
3. Is a famous brand name a sign of quality? Why? Why not?
4. How can consumers protect themselves from dishonest sellers?

Strategy: develop your ideas in Part 3

Reliability: Question the evidence:
A review is more reliable when... / *Some reviews may be...* / *Customers should check...*

Rights: Explain fair treatment:
Consumers have a right to... / *Sellers should provide...* / *A fair outcome would be...*

Protect: Suggest careful action:
Before buying... / *Customers can verify...* / *They should avoid...*