

## IELTS SPEAKING TEST EXAMINER COMMENTS

Student's name: Hugo

### 1. Fluency and Coherence

- Generally quite fluent and ideas are coherently developed with some good use of connecting devices.
- Sometimes speech is hesitant and doesn't flow very naturally. e.g. Q5 'I only buy what I really need to use' has a slight pause after almost every word. Try to create a good balance of accuracy and fluency.
- Responses are well developed and mostly coherent

### 2. Lexical Resource

- Quite a good range of vocabulary, especially in places, though some lack of precision and variety and you tend to overuse some words (convenient) etc.
- Try to include more paraphrasing and more colloquial and idiomatic expressions.
- Avoid overusing 'I think' as your starting phrase. Use appropriate alternatives: 'In my opinion . . .' 'I would have to say' 'For me' etc.
- Make sure to explain any foreign words you use e.g. Q7 - 'they usually serve 'raman?' give a brief explanation of what this is.

- Q1 - 'very suitable place' - suitable is not quite appropriate here. Try 'enjoyable' 'pleasant' or a different phrase like 'it has many amenities'
  
- Q3 - 'in weekend' should be 'on the weekends'
  
- Q4 - supermarket is not always used correctly here. It refers to a large shop for buying mostly foodstuffs. The kind of shop where you buy clothes and other items might be a department store (where you have many different departments often on different floors), or maybe a megastore (which is where you can buy all kinds of things and they are often very large, usually on one floor)
  
- Q7 - 'it brings me surprise' - is not quite accurate, try 'it always surprises me' or 'there is always something surprising to experience each time'
  
- Q8 - 'the elder generation' should be 'the older generation' - 'the elderly' usually refers to very old people with a suggestion that they need care and special treatment
  
- Q9 'they order their food from outside restaurant home' should be simply 'they order takeaway food'
  
- Q10 - 'strongly suggest' is not very precise 'can accurately show' or 'can completely prove' would be better

### 3. Grammatical Range and Accuracy

Good range of grammatical structures including complex ones. Usually accurate. Watch out for use of plurals which is a regular error e.g Q4 'they go to supermarket' or 'they go to movie theatre' - both should be either in the plural form OR with 'the' - 'they go to the supermarket'. This use of the definite article is an alternative to the plural form and means the same

Q1 - 'a little town that in the north of Tai Pei' - should be 'a little town that is to the north of Tai Pei'

Q3 - 'cold in the mountain' - should be 'cold in the mountains'

Q5 - 'if my shoes is broken' should be 'if my shoes are broken' or 'if my shoes are worn out'

Q6 - 'I think that woman is more patient' should be 'I think that women are more patient'

Q8 - 'it symbolise' - should be 'it symbolises'

Q8 - 'care from the elderly' is a little confusing since we expect 'care for the elderly' though I don't think this is what you are trying to say. Do you mean that food symbolises the care of parents for the young?

Q8 - 'they ask us if we already eat something' should be 'they ask us if we have already eaten anything'

Q9 - 'food culture changed a lot' should be 'food culture has changed a lot' because you are talking about the outcome as the focus, not the action of changing

### 4. Pronunciation

Mostly there are few pronunciation issues that cause lack of comprehension and some good strategies are used. However, stress and intonation need to be more natural and fluent. Stress is not always put in the right place. Some words are over stressed.

Also, make sure to clearly enunciate 'l' sounds 'cultural role' etc.

Avoid pronouncing 'think' as 'sink', pay attention to the 'th' sound.

Q1 - 'live IN' - you stress the 'in' but it is more usual to stress the 'live'

- 'buy SOMething' - you stress the 'some' but should stress the 'buy' (in fact it would be better to use 'go shopping' or 'do our shopping')

## Marking

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Fluency and Coherence                | 5        |
| Lexical Resource                     | 6        |
| Grammatical Range and Accuracy       | 6        |
| Pronunciation                        | 6        |
| <b>Estimated IELTS Speaking Band</b> | <b>6</b> |

### Well done on the following:

- well-developed answers to each question
- good range of mostly accurate grammar
- quite a good range of vocabulary
- clear pronunciation

### Suggestions for improvement:

- try to develop a more varied and precise vocabulary
- try to speak more fluently with fewer hesitations
- try to put the stress in the correct places to make your speech sound more natural

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