

Pearson Test of English General

Practice Test 1: Spoken Test

Level 5
Proficient



July 2011

Please check the table below for the total time given to complete the spoken test at this level. Instructions and materials for interlocutors and test takers are provided in this document.

Sections	Level A1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
10	5 minutes		7 minutes			8 minutes
11	not at this level					
12						
13						

The spoken test is scored out of **25 points** in total at all levels. Please see the *Guide to PTE General* at this level for further information.

Please note: The design of the practice tests is not identical to actual PTE General tests.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INTERLOCUTORS

[Start the test with the following]

Good morning/afternoon. My name's.....

Could you tell me your name, please?

[Begin test]



SECTION 10 (2 minutes)

[Put one of the main prompts to the test taker and allow them to speak continuously for up to 1.5 minutes. Use the related follow-up prompts to encourage them to continue talking]

Now I'd like you to speak on your own for about 1.5 minutes.

- Main prompt 1:**
- Describe the sort of films which are most popular with young people these days and the reasons why.
- Follow-up prompts:**
- Is it necessary for film makers to spend a lot of money in order to produce a successful film?
 - Is there too much unnecessary violence in films?
 - Are there sufficient age restrictions on films?
 - How do you think cinemas will change in the future?
- Main prompt 2:**
- What are the main characteristics of your personality?
- Follow-up prompts**
- Is it possible to change a major characteristic of your personality if you try?
 - If you could change any aspect of your personality what would it be?
 - How has your personality changed since you were younger?
 - What personality traits do you consider to be important in a good friend?
- Main prompt 3:**
- To what extent do you think it is important to have local or national festivals?
- Follow-up prompts**
- Do people nowadays understand the origins of festivals?
 - Is it only the older generation who are interested in festivals?
 - How has the celebration of festivals changed over the years?
 - Have festivals become too commercialized now?
- Main prompt 4:**
- Describe a leisure activity you enjoy doing. What can you say to persuade me to start doing this activity too?
- Follow-up prompts**
- If you had more free time what new hobby or activity would you take up and why?
 - What benefits can people gain from personal interests and hobbies?
 - Do you agree that people don't have sufficient free time these days? Why/Why not?
 - In what ways do people spend their leisure time differently now compared to the past?



SECTION 11 (2 minutes)

Now, we are going to discuss something together. The question is:

“Many people believe zoos are cruel and unnecessary.”

What do you think?

[Use the following arguments as appropriate to take an opposing view to that of the test taker]

For zoos

- They are educational
- They are fun and entertaining
- They provide protection and a safe place for animals
e.g protection from illegal hunting
- They provide an opportunity for breeding therefore helping to preserve endangered species e.g pandas

Against zoos

- Animals are kept in a smaller and more confined space than in the wild
- They are always exposed to people’s scrutiny and noise
- Unnatural environment e.g not mixed with other species, fed at specific times
- No freedom



SECTION 12 (2 minutes)

Now, here are two pictures showing people dealing with money. These pictures are being considered for an illustration of an article called “People and Money”. Please tell me what you can see in the pictures.

[Hand the pictures to the test taker]

[Allow the test taker to speak for about 1 minute, then put this secondary prompt]

Which of these pictures would you choose for the article “People and Money” and why?

[Retrieve the pictures]



SECTION 13 (2 minutes)

Now we are going to take part in a role play. Here is a card with the situation on it.

[Hand the card to the test taker]

[Allow up to 15 seconds to study the card]

Test taker's card

The situation: You are in a shop trying to pay for something by credit card but there is a problem with your card.

Your goal: Find a way of paying for what you have bought.

Interlocutor's script

You are in a shop trying to pay for something by credit card but there is a problem with your card. I am the shop assistant.

Alright? You start.

I'm sorry but the machine won't accept your card.

- *Have you had trouble paying with this card before?*
- *Are you sure you entered your PIN number correctly?*
- *I've tried it twice now but it's still not working.*
- *Do you have any alternative means of payment?*

[Retrieve the card]

Thank you. That is the end of the test.



MATERIALS FOR TEST TAKERS

Pictures



Card

The situation:

You are in a shop trying to pay for something by credit card but there is a problem with your card.

Your goal:

Find a way of paying for what you have bought.



