

---

**ECPE NEW SPEAKING TEST (JUNE 2009): SAMPLE SPEAKING TEST**

**Candidate 1 Information Sheet**

Hiring an Animal Caretaker for the City Zoo

**Judy Baker**

The following is a list of Mrs. Baker's personal characteristics and comments made by her previous employer.

- Has one year experience as a Pet Sitter in a top Pet Care company
- Has worked as a volunteer at an Animal Shelter for 5 months
- Experience in feeding, cleaning and socializing of animals
- Interested in the well being of animals
- Hardworking and reliable
- Bachelor degree in Graphic Design

.....  
**Leslie Ross**

The following is a list of Mrs. Ross' personal characteristics and comments made by her previous employer and coworkers.

- Two years voluntary experience in SPCA (Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals)
- Was responsible for keeping the employees completing their duties
- Accustomed to hard physical labor under varying weather conditions
- Loves spending time with animals
- Education level: high school
- Not very popular with other employees (described as "too bossy")

**Candidate 2 Information Sheet**

Hiring an Animal Caretaker for the city zoo

**Kathleen Turner**

The following is a list of Mrs. Turner's personal characteristics and comments made the people whose animals she took care of.

- Three years experience as a pet sitter and dog walker
- Good reputation in the area where she worked
- Provider of animal massage therapy
- Animal lover
- Took an introductory course to veterinary science
- Unable to complete the course

.....  
**Rebecca Evans**

The following is a list of Mrs. Evans personal characteristics and comments made by her previous employers.

- Over ten years experience working with animals in Animal Care Centres
- Experience with basic care of animals, training, medication and assisting with medical procedures.
- Experience with all animal groups and numerous species
- Passionate about animals
- Degree in Animal Sciences
- Once an animal escaped from the Animal Care Centre where she worked and she was held responsible

**Examiner's script:**

**Examiner 1:** The task you will be asked to do today is about hiring an Animal Caretaker, so, in stage 1, I'll ask you a few questions concerning animals.

- Do you like taking care of animals?
- Would you rather have a cat or a dog?
- Do you think that zoos can play a role in the conservation of endangered animals?
- Do you find the zoos or the Animal Centers you have visited satisfactory?
- What would you do if you saw someone abusing an animal?

**Examiner 1:** Now lets go on to Stage 2.

Imagine that you are members of the selection committee for the recruitment of a new Animal Caretaker for the City Zoo. Here is some information about four candidates for the post. You each have information about two different candidates.

You will have 2-3 minutes to look at the information.

When you are ready, one of you will present to the other the information about the two candidates in your paper.

The other will listen and then give your opinion about which candidate you think is best for the post.

Then you will switch roles.

**Examiner 1:** Now you will have one or two minutes to decide **silently** which of your two candidates is best suitable for the post of the Animal Caretaker. (Examiner 1 remains silent while the two examinees think)

**Examiner 1:** Now, let's move to stage 3. I'd like you to take turns presenting to each other the candidate you have chosen.

Then you will have to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each option and come to an agreement as to which candidate is best.

**Examiner 1:** Now let's move to stage 4. I'd like you both to present your choice to the personnel manager of the City Zoo (Examiner 1 introduces Examiner 2 in the role of the personnel manager).

You have 2-3 minutes to prepare and plan what you are going to say. You must each present two different reasons to justify your choice.

When you have finished with your presentation, the personnel manager will ask you some further questions.

**Examiner 2:** (stage 5) I'd like to ask you a few questions in order for me to understand the reasons for making your choice.

(let's say that candidate Rebecca was chosen)

-Don't you think that being held responsible for the escape of an animal is a serious negative point for someone taking care of animals in a zoo?

- Working in a zoo requires a lot of physical effort. Wouldn't Mrs. Ross be more a more appropriate candidate for this reason? Etc..