

Interlocutor's instructions

CHECK THAT THE TAPE RECORDER IS ON AND WORKING

Test time: 15 minutes

I = Interlocutor C = Candidate

PART 1 (3 minutes)

I: City & Guilds International Spoken ESOL Test, Mastery level, (*give today's date*).
(NB This introduction only needs to be recorded before the first candidate's test begins, not for subsequent candidates.)

(Give candidate's name.) Test begins.

Hello. My name's (*give full name*). Can you spell your family name for me, please?

C: (*Spells family name.*)

I: Thank you. Where are you from?

C: (*Responds.*)

I: Thank you. Now, in the first part of the test I'm going to ask you some questions about yourself and your ideas. All right? (*Choose **up to five** questions, one from each of the different topic areas, as time allows. Name the topic; eg 'Now, The cinema'.*)

Topics

The cinema

- How important is the cinema in your life?
- In what ways can cinema contribute to society?
- Tell me about the different genres of cinema. Which is your favourite and why?
- Some people only watch films on television or DVDs at home. Are they missing anything by not going to the cinema?

The press

- How do you keep up-to-date with world news?
- Do you think the daily newspaper has a future in this technological world?
- Do you think journalists play an important role in modern life? Why?
- How do you think news reporting has changed over the last decade?

(continued)

World Events: The Olympic Games

- 'The Olympic Games are about a lot more than sport'? To what extent do you agree with this statement?
- What do you feel about the huge amounts of money spent on the Olympic Games?
- What positive and negative aspects can the Olympic Games bring to the host city?
- Would you like your capital city to host the Olympic Games? Why/Why not?

Climate and weather

- Do you believe reports that the world climate is changing because of global warming?
- How can science and technology contribute towards stabilising the climate?
- What are the worst weather conditions you have ever experienced?
- What would be the result of higher temperatures throughout the world?

Extreme sports

- Do you think there should be laws to regulate extreme sports?
- Why do you think some people are attracted by extreme sports if they are so dangerous?
- Do you think extreme sports people are irresponsible to their families?
- What is your reaction when extreme sports people have to be rescued at great expense and danger to the rescuers?

C: *(Responds.)*

I: *(Interlocutor makes **brief** responses and/or comments.)*

I: Thank you.

PART 2 (3 minutes)

I: Now, Part Two. I'm going to read some situations. I want you to start or respond as necessary. First situation (*choose one situation from A*).

A

- I'm your work colleague. I start.
Guess what. I can't believe this. Our boss has resigned. As from today! What do you think about that?
- I'm your boss. I've just described a big piece of work that needs doing. I start.
Now, are you sure you will be able to do this? If you have any doubts you must tell me now.
- I'm your friend. I went to this exhibition at the museum yesterday. I start.
I went to this fantastic exhibition at the museum yesterday. I'm sure you would like it.
- I am a work colleague. I start.
I've had enough of all this extra work the manager keeps giving us. I'm going to go into his office right now and tell him exactly what I think.

C: (*Responds.*)

I: (*Role-play the situation with the candidate – approximately two turns each.*)

I: Second situation (*choose one situation from B*).

B

- I'm a work colleague. I haven't started a piece of work that I have to finish today. Remind me. You start.
- We're friends. A few days ago you invited me to the theatre next week. I said I would think about it. I still haven't responded. You start.
- We're friends and we meet in the street. You have heard from another friend that I have just got a really good job. You start.
- I'm your friend. You have been given a book as a gift; but you already have a copy of the same book. Offer it to me. You start.

C: (*Initiates.*)

I: (*Role-play the situation with the candidate – approximately two turns each.*)

I: (*Role-play a third situation from A or B if time allows.*)

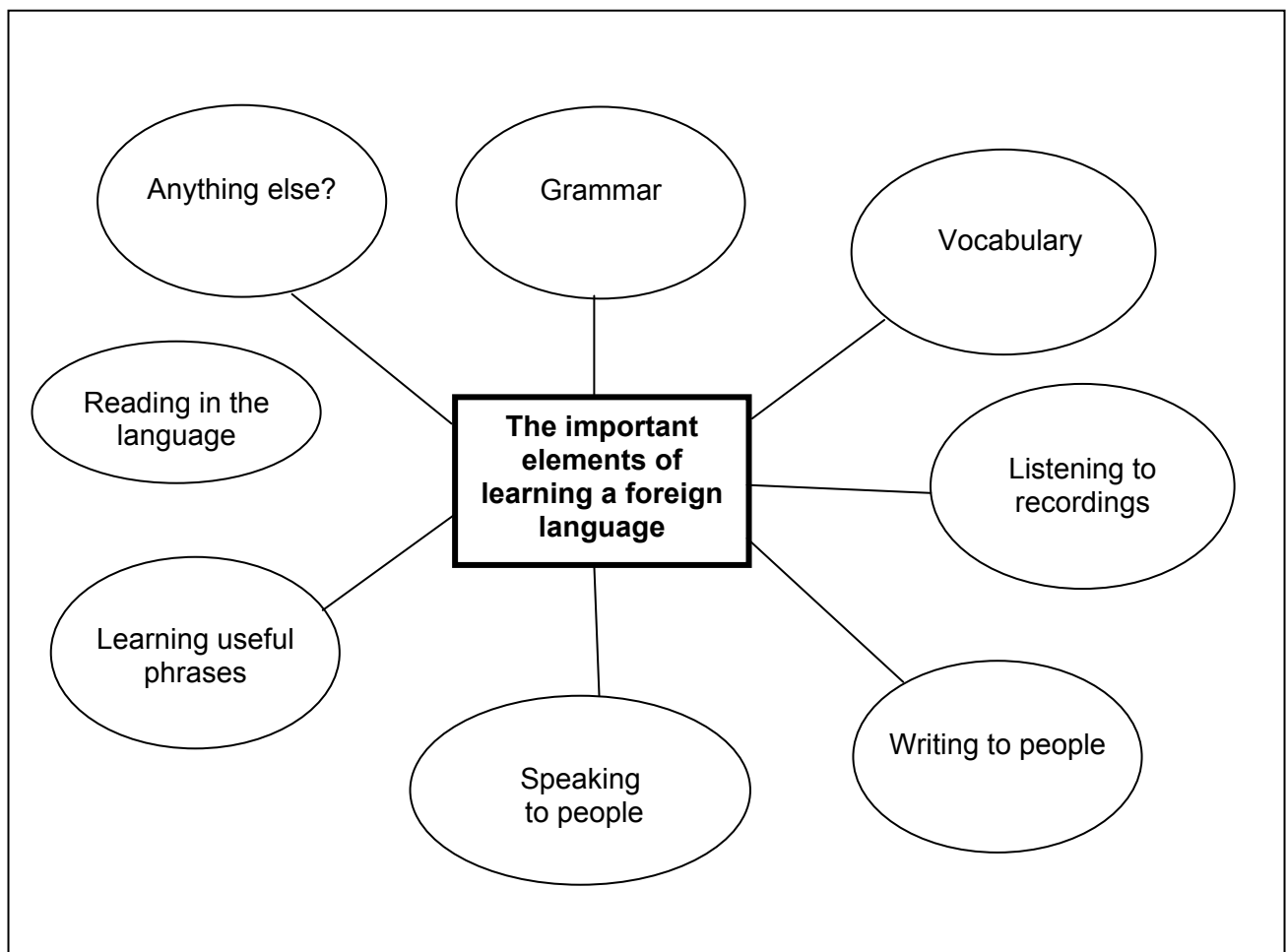
I: Thank you.

PART 3 (4 minutes)

Now, Part Three. In this part of the test we're going to discuss something together. All right? I'm going to give you a task sheet with some information on it and you will have twenty seconds to think about what to say. All right? *(Slight pause to check that the candidate is following.)*

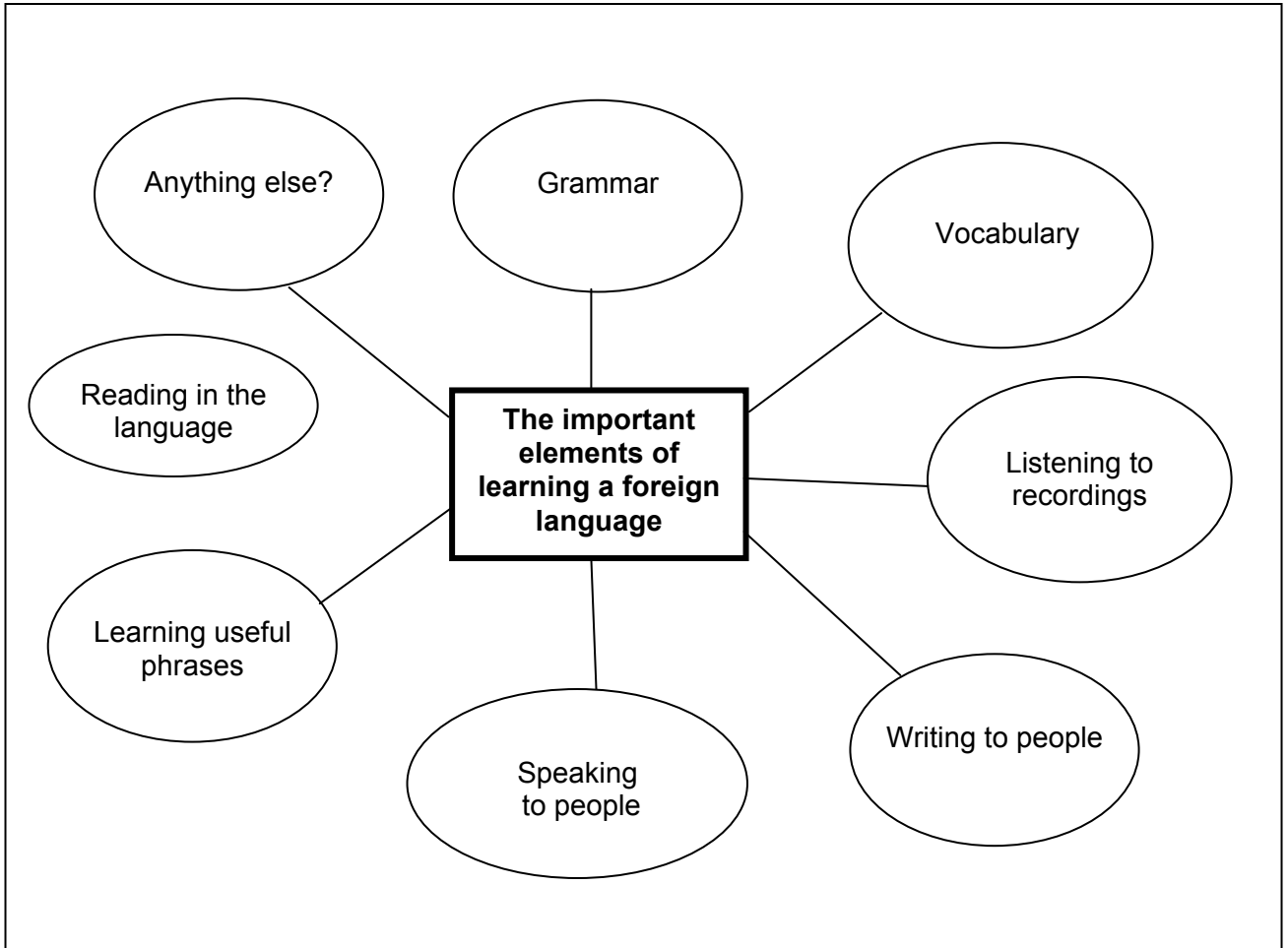
Here is a list of some of the factors which might be important in learning a foreign language. I have the same list. Let's discuss the importance of these elements and which others should be included. *(Hand over candidate's copy of the task sheet.)* Take twenty seconds to think about what you want to say. *(20 seconds.)* Why don't you start?

Interlocutor's Task Sheet



I: Thank you. *(Retrieve candidate's task sheet.)*

Candidate's Task Sheet (Interlocutor's copy)



PART 4 (5 minutes)

I: In Part Four you are going to talk on your own for about three minutes. Your topic is *(choose topic for candidate)*.

Topics

A What are the best conditions for studying?

B The importance of literature to society.

C Are telephone call centres helpful or confusing?

I: First, think about it for thirty seconds and make some notes if you want. *(Hand over piece of paper and pen/pencil.)* So your topic is *(repeat topic)*. All right? *(Withdraw eye contact for thirty seconds. Leave tape/CD running.)*

I: *(Candidate's name)*, please start.

C: *(Talks for about three minutes.)*

I: *(Choose follow-up questions if time allows.)*

Follow-up questions

What are the best conditions for studying?

- What conditions are essential for you to study effectively?
- How easily are you distracted when you are studying and what do you do to counter this?
- Why do many people find it difficult to study?
- Describe modern 'aids' which have made studying easier in recent years?

The importance of literature in society?

- How would you define 'great literature'?
- How can literature reflect elements of society?
- Is the age of great literature now at an end? Why/Why not?
- What works of 'great literature' do you know?

Are telephone call centres helpful or confusing?

- Have you ever had to talk to someone at a call centre when you wanted something? Describe the experience.
- Do you think recorded instructions for the various options can be confusing?
- For economic reasons, some companies put their call centres in far-away countries. How do you think many customers feel about this?
- 'In the old days you simply phoned up and immediately spoke to a real person.' Why do you think things have changed?

I: Thank you. That is the end of the test. *(Give candidate's name.)* End of test.

Candidate's Task Sheet for Part Three (Candidate's copy)

