

PART 3

Exercise 1

- 1 in print format
- 2 15
- 3 two
- 4 minute
- 5 follows on logically from
- 6 two candidates
- 7 won't

Exercise 2

Why people might choose to spend their free time on the five activities (prompts) mentioned.

Exercise 3

No. They do not discuss 'keeping in touch with friends' as they run out time and the examiner interrupts them. Candidates should try to cover all the prompts in the time, but will not be excessively penalised if they do not manage to do so.

Track 12

Naomi: OK, where shall we start? What about volunteering for a charity? How might people benefit from doing that, do you think?

Gabriel: Well, I suppose it might make them feel good, you know, to be doing something helpful for the community or a particular cause. What do you reckon, Naomi?

Naomi: Yes, I'd go along with that. In addition, doing volunteer work can also be useful as a way of getting a paid job later on. It looks good on university applications, too. Shall we move on?

Gabriel: Yes, let's talk about learning something new. What do you think about learning something new?

Naomi: Well, it depends what it is, doesn't it? We all benefit in different ways from learning different things.

Gabriel: Of course. I'm learning to drive at the moment and if I pass my test, I won't have to wait for the bus in the rain anymore!

Naomi: Oh, good luck with that! But I was thinking of other benefits. It keeps your brain active, for one thing.

Gabriel: Which is important for everyone. What about club-based activities?

Naomi: Well, again, I'd say it depends on what kind of club but generally, you get to meet like-minded people and share ideas about whatever it is you're all interested in.

Gabriel: Yes, and for younger people, like voluntary work, being a member of a club can look good on your CV, especially if you hold a position of responsibility.

Naomi: Yes, I suppose that's true. Let's talk about home improvements and gardening. Obviously, the main benefit is living in a nice house and looking at a beautiful garden. Would you agree?

Gabriel: Well, only to a limited extent. Where I come from, having a nice garden is more about showing off to the neighbours. Personally, I have never really understood that or why people care so much about their gardens. But I guess it makes them happy, right?

Examiner: Thank you.

Exercise 4

- 1 Ruby
- 2 Oliver
- 3 Ruby

Track 13

Oliver: Okay, let's start with family members. The main reason I think is that they genuinely care about the well-being of their relatives. So, for example, when it comes to relationships, our parents want us to be happy and not make stupid mistakes.

Ruby: That's not true at all. I don't think it's a good idea to ask family members for relationship advice. OK, what about friends?

Oliver: Obviously, most people will ask their friends for advice. That's because it is easy – young people probably meet their friends almost every day. Nevertheless, I don't think it's a good idea to rely on friends for advice. The reason I say that is they don't have any more experience than we do. They can support us, maybe, but not advise us.

Ruby: You're wrong about that. I would say friends are one of the best people to advise us. I'm not sure why people would ask teachers for advice, unless it is about their studies.

Oliver: I think it's quite clear why people would seek advice from professional advisors. They have the experience and knowledge to guide people towards the right decision for them.

Ruby: Possibly, in certain circumstances. But, you have to be careful of some so-called professional advisors.

Oliver: Well, let's go on to talk about the internet. There are some brilliant websites that can be really helpful but there is also some terrible advice out there.

Ruby: But how are people supposed to know the difference? That's the problem, wouldn't you say?

Oliver: Yes and no. The internet is so easy to use and almost everyone has access to it nowadays ... [fade]

Exercise 5

Pair A reach an agreement; Pair B do not reach an agreement.

Track 14

Narrator: Pair A

Male: So, I'd say professional advisers are definitely the most useful. I mean, they have to follow certain guidelines and can't give bad advice. Do you agree?

Female: Well, in most cases, that's true, but not really if it's personal decisions like getting married or something like that.

Male: Well, possibly, but shall we go with it?

Female: I suppose so and what about the internet for the second one?

Male: Mm, I'd hesitate to choose the internet. Although it can be useful, it can also do more harm than good if you get on the wrong site.

Female: That's true. So, what should we choose?

Male: Let's go with family, because they are not going to do us any harm.

Female: OK, I'll go along with that.

Narrator: Pair B

Female: Right, what do you think? How about teachers?

Male: Well, as I said earlier, I think that teachers are good for study advice but there are so many things people may need advice about.

Female: Well, in my experience, teachers, some teachers, anyway, can advise students about all kinds of things. So, professionals then?

Male: Yes, definitely. The only downside is you may have to pay them but they can generally be relied on for good advice.

Female: Good, we agree on that but what about a second one? The internet, maybe?

Male: No, definitely not. As I said before, getting advice online can do more harm than good. Family or friends?

Female: Not really because they are too close to you to give impartial advice. No, I'm sticking with teachers.

Male: Well, for me, family comes before teachers ...
[fade]

Exercise 6

- 1 I don't
- 2 ✓
- 3 Let's
- 4 agree; disagree
- 5 Shall
- 6 choosing
- 7 absolutely
- 8 at all
- 9 along
- 10 ✓

Exercise 7

Suggested answers

- 1 would/'d
- 2 Let's
- 3 True/Absolutely/OK/Maybe
- 4 point
- 5 suppose/guess
- 6 don't
- 7 personal/own/humble
- 8 agree
- 9 much/way/far
- 10 minds

Exercise 8

Track 15

Female: Okay, shall we start with changing jobs? You'd really need to consider the salary. I mean, you might choose to accept lower pay for a job you found more interesting, but you still need enough to live on.

Male: I agree, and I'd add job security. It's not worth giving up a stable job for one that might not last very long.

Female: That's true, and you'd also need to consider the likelihood of being promoted and developing your career. Shall we talk about buying a home?

Male: OK. Well, that's a big decision, isn't it? I think you need to think about how long the house will suit you, so if your family is going to grow, don't buy a small house, that kind of thing. What do you think?

Female: Yes, and whether your work might take you away from the area. But also, you need to consider the housing market. Is the house you buy likely to increase or decrease in value in the next few years?

Male: That's a really good point and relates to the next decision, investing money. You have to look at predictions of how your investment will grow in the future, don't you?

Female: Absolutely! And I think with this one, it's a good idea to seek advice from experts, because most people haven't got a clue where to invest their money.

Male: Totally, and it also depends how much money you're talking about, doesn't it?

Female: Of course. Shall we move on to choosing what to study? In my opinion, the most important factor is what you're interested in. You have to love the subject or there's no point.

Male: I'm afraid I can't agree with you there. The most important thing to consider is whether the subject you study will lead to a job at the end of it. That's what you're studying for, after all.

Female: I think we'll have to agree to disagree on that one. Shall we discuss starting a family? What do you think about that?

Male: The main thing is that you can afford to support any children you decide to have and also that you are mature enough to be a parent.

Female: I can't argue with that. You need a stable home and ideally a reasonable income so you need to consider whether that is in place. That's my opinion, anyway.

Male: Mm, I tend to agree with you about that.

Examiner: Now you have about one minute to say for which of the things it is most important to make the right decisions.

Male: Well, they are all important decisions, aren't they? But we have to choose two of them. How about investing money? If you get that wrong, it will affect everything else in your life.

Female: It could do, potentially, but you don't invest money you can't afford to lose, do you? I don't think it is the most important. The same goes for buying a house. If you get it wrong, you could always sell it again or rent it to someone else. Would you agree?

Male: Yes, I suppose so. How about starting a family? Surely that has to be one of the most important.

Female: Definitely. That has to be one of our choices because it involves children, who will get affected badly if their parents are not mature enough to care for them properly or can't afford to.

Male: Right, so let's choose a second one. Either choosing what to study or changing jobs. What do you think?

Female: Shall we go with choosing what to study? I mean, you spend three or four years studying, whereas if you change jobs and it doesn't work out, you can always make another change.

Male: Yes, I'd have to agree with you there.