

# ESOL Skills for Life

## Speaking & Listening E3 (Practice Set 1)

MAXIMUM TIME ALLOWED FOR THIS TEST IS:  
PART 1 - 8 MINUTES      PART 2 - 7 MINUTES

advancing learning, changing lives

Practice Set 1

# Speaking & Listening (E3)

PRACTICE



*(Interlocutor speech is in bold).*

**I am going to tell you a little bit about myself. I am then going to ask you a few questions.**

Hello, my name's \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from \_\_\_\_\_.  
I live in \_\_\_\_\_ and work in \_\_\_\_\_. I am a \_\_\_\_\_.  
I am/am not married. I have a son/daughter/I don't have any children. I like \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Now I'm going to ask you some questions.**

*(The interlocutor should ask these questions of both candidates).*

**What is your name?**

**Where are you from?**

**Now I would like you to ask some questions to find out three things about your partner.**

*Candidate A and Candidate B ask questions in turn, e.g.*

- *Are you married?*
- *Where do you live?*
- *Do you watch television?*
- *How old are you?*
- *How many children do you have?*
- *Do you have a job?*

*Interlocutor (to Candidate A and B in turn).*

**What did you find out about your partner?**

*Candidates tell the interlocutor what they found out about their partners.*

PRACTICE

Text 1 (for Candidate A)

8 minutes

Candidate A (*use name*): I am going to read something to you. You will hear this twice. The first time you hear it I want you to answer this question: is it mostly about living in hot countries, how animals become extinct or how climate change is affecting the natural world? I will ask the question again after you have listened to the passage. Listen carefully.

(Read the text)

A study into the effects of higher temperatures on the natural world has been completed. Climate change over the next 50 years is expected to make a quarter of animals and plants extinct. The scale of the disaster facing the planet shocked the researchers. They think that more than 1 million species will be lost by 2050. Much of that loss is irreversible because of the extra global warming gases already released into the atmosphere. But the scientists say that action to limit greenhouse gases now could save many more species from the same fate.

(Adapted from The Guardian 08.01.2004)

Is it mostly about living in hot countries, how animals become extinct or how climate change is affecting the natural world?

CANDIDATE A - RESPONSES

I am now going to read this again. I will ask you to tell me three things about what you hear.

(Read the text again)

Can you tell me three things you remember?

(Candidate recalls three points)

CANDIDATE A - RESPONSES

Text 1 - main points

- There has been a study into the effects of higher temperatures on the natural world
- Climate change could make a quarter of species extinct over the next 50 years
- Researchers were shocked by the scale of the disaster
- They think that more than 1 million species will be lost by 2050
- Extra global warming gases in the atmosphere mean that much of the loss is irreversible
- Action now could save many more species from the same fate

ADDITIONAL POINTS

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(Interlocutor records candidate responses and then asks further question)

Can you remember anything else about how climate change is affecting the natural world?

Text 2 (for Candidate B)

Candidate B (*use name*): I am going to read something to you. You will hear this twice. The first time you hear it I want you to answer this question: is it mostly about working for the Co-op supermarket, research on bee populations or the production of honey? I will ask the question again after you have listened to the passage. Listen carefully.

(Read the text)

Last year, around a third of the honey bees in UK hives died. Although no one knows for sure why so many honey bees are dying, researchers believe that pesticides, poor weather, parasites, disease and starvation are part of the problem. The Co-op Group has started a fund to research and record locations of the rare, hardy British black bee. They want to develop a breeding programme to increase the number of bees. A spokesman for the Co-op, said: "The black honey bee has had a bad reputation but it may be the answer to saving the UK's honey bee population."

(Adapted from The Guardian 18.05.2009)

Is it mostly about working for the Co-op supermarket, research into bee populations or the production of honey?

#### CANDIDATE B - RESPONSES

I am now going to read this again. I will ask you to tell me three things about what you hear.

(Read the text again)

Can you tell me three things you remember?

(Candidate recalls three points)

#### CANDIDATE B - RESPONSES

Text 2 - main points

- |  |                          |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| ● Around a third of the honey bees in UK hives died last year  | <input type="checkbox"/> | ● The Co-op has started a fund to record locations of the hardy British black bee. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ● No one knows why so many honey bees are dying  | <input type="checkbox"/> | ● They want to develop a breeding programme.                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ● Researchers think that pesticides, poor weather, parasites, disease and starvation are part of the problem | <input type="checkbox"/> | ● The black honey bee may be the answer to saving the UK's honey bee population    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

ADDITIONAL POINTS

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(Interlocutor records candidate responses and then asks further question)

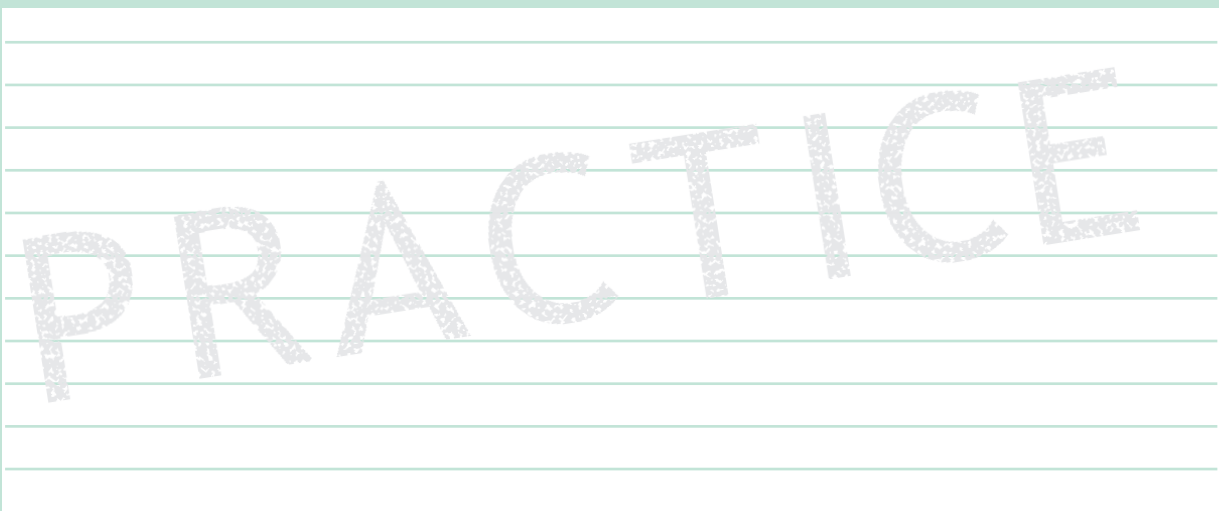
Can you remember anything else about research on bee populations?

7 minutes

Candidate A and Candidate B (*use names*): Do you think it is important to protect the natural world? What sort of things could people do to help? Discuss this with your partner now. Give your opinion on whether or not the natural world is important.

*Possible points:*

- *We have a responsibility to protect the natural world*
- *We should use less energy in our homes*
- *Everyone should recycle as much as possible*
- *It's too late so there's no point changing our lifestyles*
- *Small changes won't make any difference*
- *Creatures will adapt to survive*

**CANDIDATE A - RESPONSES****CANDIDATE B - RESPONSES**

THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST