

**Simply B1 Preliminary
for Schools**

Speaking Tutor





Part 4

It is important to give reasons for your answers and not just say 'yes' or 'no' or give one-word answers, here.

Questions

Are you a member of any club?

local drama/youth/sports/art club, learn new skills, practise activities, share common interests with people, make new friends, have fun together

Do you do anything to protect the environment? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: recycle, use public transport, carefully throwing out of litter/waste, walk/cycle to school, not waste water/food.

No: not thought about it much, parents do some things, too busy studying, not old enough to worry about it, don't think it's a big problem

Do you think we should all be doing more environmental activities? (Why?)

Yes: Everyone can help/is responsible. Governments can't do everything. Save world for future generations. Everyday little changes make a difference.

No: Governments need to do everything. Too late to save the world. I don't do anything to harm the environment anyway.

What do you think is the biggest environmental problem nowadays? (Why?)

Transport causing air, sea, land pollution and noise pollution. Rubbish in sea/rivers, land is killing wildlife and plant life.

Do you think children learn enough about the environment at school? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: more aware than ever before, information from governments/school/media, children growing up with the threat of global warming – want to do something about it

No: There is a need to be educated from very young age. Schools and parents need to teach them. It should become second nature for them to protect the environment. They are the next world leaders, scientists, environmentalists etc.

TEST 5

Part 2

Describing a photo: Making travel arrangements / Training

Useful Phrases

He/she seems to be (verb) + ing while the others are

They look as if they are.....

They appear to be

I may be wrong but I think they

I get the impression that

1 Talking about a person / what someone looks like

Photo 1A

Three people, probably mother and children

Woman: *probably in her thirties, fairly slim, long dark wavy hair, pale skin/complexion (colour of skin), nice white teeth, wearing jeans/striped top/casual clothes*

Children: *young, cute, casual clothes, girl older than boy, girl about 9, boy about 4. Girl: long straight fair hair like her mother, laughing. Boy: blond curly hair, wearing a hat*

Photo 1B

Four boys are playing football all with their faces out of sight. They seem to be young teenagers. They're wearing football kits with numbers, part of two different teams. Three boys are in blue; maybe they're on the same team.

2 Talking about a place / things you can see

Photo 1A

must be their living room at home; sofa, house plant in background; boy not wearing shoes, so not outside somewhere or public place

Photo 1B

football pitch, in city/town - cars, trees, buildings in background - no leaves on trees, so autumn/winter - dry and sunny day - enjoying the game/match

3 Other

Describe what the person is / the people are doing and why you think this. Describe how they feel.

Photo 1A

The girl is hugging her mother tightly while the boy has his arms wide open; maybe he is going to hug his mother later on. The woman is holding a map. Maybe they are planning a trip/holiday as the boy sitting on a suitcase. They are all very happy/excited.

Photo 1B

Maybe they are in a training session. The boy in foreground is waiting to get the ball. The boy in white is chasing the ball. The boy on the right is about to kick the ball



Part 3

Vocabulary for part-time summer jobs

waiter/waitress	pizza delivery person
ice cream seller	childminder/babysitter
server in a fast food restaurant	shop assistant (IT/electrical goods/gadgets/smart phones /laptops/tablets)
dog walker	

Useful Phrases

This job requires/is whereas/but/ on the other hand

I think this job could be.....

In order to do this job well....

This job involves

This would be the perfect job for someone who

You couldn't do this job unless

You would be well suited to this job because

Saying about the good and bad things for each idea

waiter/waitress:

Good idea: meet lots of people, get tips as well as wages, free food/drinks at work

Bad idea: get tired, feet ache, wages not very good

ice cream seller:

Good idea: chat to customers, eat ice cream, easy work

Bad idea: boring, on your own, only busy in nice weather

server in a fast food restaurant:

Good idea: busy/lots to do, not boring, chat to customers, free food at work, ok if weather bad

Bad idea: too busy, feet ache, feel tired, unhealthy food

dog walker:

Good idea: outside in fresh air, lots of exercise, play with dogs, no boss to tell you what to do

Bad idea: not nice in bad weather, dog might be unfriendly, get tired after one walk

pizza delivery person:

Good idea: out and about, not stuck in one place, get tips, get free food

Bad idea: not nice in bad weather, traffic make you late, difficult to find right house/address

childminder/babysitter:

Good idea: have fun with children, play a lot, in a nice house, no adults to tell you what to do

Bad idea: children might be naughty, get sick, be unfriendly, miss their parents, cry

shop assistant:

Good idea: work in nice environment, sell things you are interested in, learn about different gadgets, get discount on products, doesn't matter what the weather is like

Bad idea: need to know a lot about products, on your feet all day, tiring, just wages/salary – no tips

Saying which you think is the most suitable/best idea

In my opinion / I think is most suitable for him/her as he/she likes/is good at

Also it's really important that

Part 4

It is important to give reasons for your answers and not just say 'yes' or 'no' or give one-word answers, here.

Useful Phrases

One advantage of

The good thing about.....

There are advantages and disadvantages to

The benefits of are

I prefer..... to

On the whole/Generally I think that is better than

Questions

Do you think it's a good idea for students to get a summer job? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: learn a skill, gain work experience, earn money, become more independent from parents, make new friends, gain confidence

No: too tiring, stressful, need a rest/holiday, too young to work

Would you like to be your own boss one day? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: do whatever you want, no one to tell you what to do, employ people you like, work from home, keep all the earnings

No: responsible for everything/everyone, lots of stress, pay all the bills, deal with all the problems, problem when sick

What would you like to do in ten years from today?

job satisfaction, earn good money, work with nice people, something creative, not too stressful, work abroad

Do you think it's better to work in a team or alone? (Why?)

Team: have nice colleagues, work together, get a promotion, help each other out, learn from each other.

Alone: self-employed, run your own business, responsible for everything, too stressful, freedom to work when you want / do what you want to do, peaceful work environment, work from home

Would you rather work outside or indoors? (Why?)

Outside: fresh air, healthy, not stuck inside - not nice in bad weather, sometimes uncomfortable or tiring.

Inside: nice work environment, warm and comfortable, doesn't matter about the weather - sometimes too hot/noisy/busy, stuck with people you don't like

TEST 6



Part 2

Describing a photo: Spending time outdoors / On holiday

1 Talking about a person / what someone looks like

Photo 1A

group of people of different ages, children and adults, look Asian, dark hair and quite dark complexion/skin, could be mother and children, winter coats, casual clothes, trainers

Photo 1B

probably family photo on holiday, maybe father is the photographer, mother, son and daughter look similar/alike, blond hair, fair complexion/skin

2 Talking about a place / things you can see

Photo 1A

maybe in a park or some other public place, lots of trees and an old building in background

Photo 1B

holiday on an island, at the sea, sitting on jet ski in the water, relaxed and happy

3 Other

Describe what the person is / what the people are wearing /holding. What you think they are doing and why you think this. Describe the weather.

Photo 1A

playing games, blowing bubbles and running around, all wearing warm clothes so must be winter

Photo 1B

all smiling, having a good time, wearing summer clothes/swimming costumes and life jackets, bare feet

Expressions describing someone's physical appearance.

She has the same eyes as her mother.

She looks (just) like her sister.

He takes after his father.

Mother and daughter look alike.

She looks very similar to her cousin.

They are identical twins. You can't tell them apart.

Words to describe how someone is dressed.

formal	untidy	fashionable
informal	smart	trendy
casual	eccentric	glamorous
worn	old-fashioned	stylish

Part 3

Vocabulary for a trip to London

theme park	bus tour	museums
restaurant	art gallery	
sightseeing	shopping	

Useful Phrases and Expressions

Personally I'd prefer to/I'd rather

I suggest that we

I'm not keen on ...

I'm not a great fan of

Why don't we

..... doesn't really appeal to me.

How about

I'd very much like to

I'm not really into

Saying the good and bad things for each idea

theme park: Good things: exciting, lots to do, have fun

Bad things: expensive, some people don't like the rides, could go to a theme park in any city, not unique to London

restaurant: Good things: fish and chips are traditional, nice to eat, very tasty, not too expensive

Bad things: not everyone likes fish, not healthy food, limited menu (for vegetarians, vegan etc)

sightseeing: Good things: lots to see and do, visit famous places, get to know London, guided tour **Bad things:** very expensive entrance tickets, feel exhausted, too much walking, can't see everything you want to see, crowded places

bus tour: Good things: easy way to see lots of places, can't get lost, can jump on and off the bus, not too expensive, not tiring, good view from top of bus, sit downstairs if weather bad, listen to guide **Bad things:** see things very quickly, no time at each place, get stuck in traffic, buses very crowded

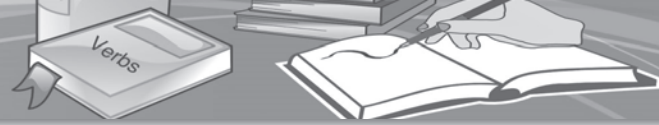
art gallery: Good things: interesting exhibitions, permanent collection, temporary exhibition, fine art, sculpture, paintings, ceramics, good in bad weather **Bad things:** boring for some people, depends on exhibition/works of art on show, some galleries are expensive to go into

shopping: Good things: have fun buying things, different shops to the ones you are used to, famous department stores and shops, buy souvenirs/presents, sales/bargains **Bad things:** need lots of money, crowds, boring for some people, can shop at any time

museums: Good things: see, interesting objects, interactive displays, unusual objects/artefacts, good in bad weather, have lunch in the cafe, buy things in the museum shop, educational **Bad things:** boring for some people, the entrance fee might be expensive, can be too noisy if large group of you

Saying which you think is the most interesting thing to do on your London trip

In my opinion / I think is most interesting because ...



Part 4

It is important to give reasons for your answers and not just say 'yes' or 'no' or give one-word answers, here.

Questions

Do you like visiting new places? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: good to explore, unexpected discoveries, research before visit, see famous places, experience things for the first time, different culture, food etc. get away from it all

No: don't like the unexpected, get lost easily, not sure if safe, don't know anyone, miss home comforts

What is the most interesting place you have visited?

talk about a place that impressed you, mention the culture, buildings of interest, natural beauty of a place, interesting things to see and do, what the local people were like, the weather/climate, accommodation, restaurants and bars, atmosphere of place, busy and exciting, quiet, calm and beautiful, the best thing about it

Would you rather go on a cruise or a road trip? (Why?)

Cruise: Good things: relaxing, slow pace of life, everything you need on board, meet new people/passengers, entertainment/food in evening, all inclusive, see lots of places, safe

Bad things: stormy/rough weather, seasick, stuck on ship, can't choose where you go, be back on ship on time, stuck with same people every day, very expensive

Road trip: Good things: plan where you want to go, complete control of trip, visit lots of different places, stop when you want to, listen to favourite music

Bad things: stuck in traffic, get tired driving, bad weather, dangerous road conditions, need to have enough fuel, find a petrol station, might get lost, have an accident

What can you learn by travelling to new places?

different cultures and traditions, try new food and drink, meet new people, learn a foreign language, visit famous places, live a different way of life, start to think differently, become more independent, gain confidence, travel broadens the mind

Do you like travelling by train? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: comfortable, no stress, look out the window, enjoy the view, not tiring, keep away from busy roads, no traffic jams or parking problems, read a book, do a crossword, play games on computer, listen to music, chat to friends, eat and drink while travelling

No: delays and cancellations, some train journeys expensive/very long, can get bored, sometimes too crowded, have to stand, sit next to unpleasant passengers

TEST 7



Part 2

Describing a photo: Enjoying the warm weather / Celebrating

1 Talking about a person / what someone looks like

Photo 1A

Five quite young children running into the sea

children: three kids with pale skin, two dark. 4 boys, each about 9 years old, girl about 12. Two of the boys have dark curly afro hair, the other two boys have short straight hair, girl has long straight hair, all have wet hair

clothes: swimming costumes, shorts, no tops or shoes

Photo 1B

Three children, a boy and two girls, about 8 years old at a (birthday) party.

children: boy has short dark hair, girl in the middle has very long blond hair, girl on the right has shoulder length or long dark hair

clothes: casual, only see top half of the children, boy wearing red, blue and white checked shirt with long sleeves, girl in middle wearing pink and white spotted blouse or dress, girl on the right wearing a blue blouse or dress

2 Talking about a place / things you can see

Photo 1A

sandy beach with small waves, sunny day, must be hot as children are just wearing swimming costumes/shorts, can't see anything else around the children as they fill the image, children holding hands and running into the sea together, having a great time, probably on holiday

Photo 1B

can't see where they are but probably inside, decorations, coloured flags behind them, drinks and cake in foreground, out of focus. Throwing coloured paper (streamers) into the air, celebrating, having a party, probably a child's birthday. Looks like the boy and girl on the sides are throwing the streamers over the girl in the middle so it must be her birthday. They are all smiling.

Part 3

Vocabulary for Buying a Present

bunch of flowers	cinema ticket
book	
mug/cup	throw/have/organise
pen	a party

Useful words and phrases

expensive, generous, cheap, mean, thoughtful, unusual, hand-made, personal, creative, stylish, glamorous, surprise gift, wrapping paper, label, give something a lot of thought, go to a lot of effort, spend a lot of time over choosing, especially/just for you, for someone special, a special occasion, celebrate/celebration, congratulations, leaving present, thank-you present, many happy returns (of the day), show your pleasure/love

Discussing each idea

flowers: **Yes:** beautiful, special bouquet, choose favourite colours/flowers, easy to arrange

No: don't last long, throw away when they die, not very original idea, can't keep them forever

book: **Yes:** a special book, something interesting, beautiful illustrations/photographs, write students' names inside book or special message, keep forever **No:** probably already got lots of books, difficult to choose right book, not very personal

mug/cap: **Yes:** have one made specially, remember class whenever have coffee, keep forever

No: not very generous, boring present, too cheap

pen: **Yes:** something that will be used often, keep forever, can buy a beautiful/expensive one, appropriate present for a teacher. **No:** no one writes letters any more, not very original for teacher

cinema ticket: **Yes:** go and relax, see a good film, evening out with a friend. **No:** a bit cheap, not personal, can go to the cinema any time, doesn't last forever

party: **Yes:** everyone can go, special guest, have a bbq, all talk to teacher to say goodbye, play nice music, have a lovely time to remember forever. **No:** no lasting gift to keep, difficult to arrange, weather may not be good, expensive to pay for everything

Saying which you think is the best present for your teacher

In my opinion / I think is the best because ...

Without a second thought I believe we should buy him/her ...

Useful Phrases and Expressions

Starting the discussion

Where should we start/begin?

Let's start/begin with

How about starting with

Agreeing

Absolutely, ...

That's a good/excellent point

That's interesting/true/right/great

I really like the idea of

That sounds exciting/perfect/brilliant/wonderful/just right to me.

Disagreeing

I don't think this is a good/suitable/interesting choice/option.

Not exactly! Why not choose the?

I'm not sure about that. I bet nobody would be interested in/like/agree

I'm not sure I'd go along with this.....

Closing the discussion

I think we've decided on the ..., haven't we?

I suppose we've already decided.

I think we've talked about/discussed everything, haven't we?

Part 4

It is important to give reasons for your answers and not just say 'yes' or 'no' or give one-word answers here.

Questions

Do you have a favourite teacher? Who is it?

say what teacher teaches: art, history, science, geography, drama etc. Say why you like them, talk about their personality and explain how they have helped you.

What do you think makes a good teacher?

funny, interesting, understanding, easy to understand, supportive, friendly, sympathetic, not too much homework, explain things clearly, respect the children, need to be strict enough but not too strict

Would you like to be a teacher? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: good to help children, change someone's life, help children with their problems, give them confidence, make them believe in themselves, rewarding job, job satisfaction, see children grow/develop, long holidays

No: difficult to control children, naughty/rude children, many rules, punishments, not paid very well, lots of marking, parents not always supportive

Which subject do you think is interesting? (Why?)

choose a subject, say what you like about it – enjoyable, interesting, lots to learn, have fun, gain new skills/knowledge

Do you think it is important for students to like their teachers? (Why/Why not?)

Yes: need good relationship, look forward to their lesson, easy to talk to, not be nervous or frightened of them, relate to them, trust them, able to tell them your problems/if you don't understand something

No: as long as the lessons are good/easy to understand, not supposed to be your friend, need to keep a distance, generation gap, a bit like a parent, must respect them

Useful phrases and vocabulary

maintaining standards in the classroom

taking/sitting/passing/failing exams

exam pressure

be well prepared

inspire

incentive to work harder

strong/bright student

weak/poor student

positive/negative attitude

connect with students

have a good influence on

encourage



TEST 8



Part 2

Describing a photo: Spending time with friends / Having fun as a family

Useful vocabulary

close friend	hardly know
best friend	met once or twice
someone I know	spend all our time together
schoolmate	meet up when we can
classmate	quality time together
neighbour	generation gap
know very well	

main family: a family unit that has father, mother and children

also: step or half brother/sister/mother/father

extended family: uncles, aunts, cousins, grandparents adopted, foster family, only child, single parent family, single, engaged, married, divorced, widow, widower

1 Talking about a person / what someone looks like

Photo 1A

Two teenage boys, about 16 years old

Boy on the left: short, dark, curly hair; brown eyes, pale complexion/skin, wearing blue, white and grey striped T-shirt

Boy on the right: short, blond wavy hair, blue eyes, pale complexion/skin, nice teeth/smile, wearing dark T-shirt, can't see much of his body

Photo 1B

Family photo, mother, father and two daughters doing something together

Father and mother about 30, late twenties, children about 6 and 2 years old.

Father: short, brown, wavy hair, pale complexion/skin, wearing a grey and white striped T-shirt

Mother: long, dark hair, held back behind her head away from her face, ponytail, wearing make-up, red lipstick, nice teeth/smile, wearing a blue blouse

Girl on the left: very long, straight, fair hair, wearing blue and white flowery dress and rabbit ears on her head

Younger daughter: not much more than a baby, very short brown hair, wearing purple dress and rabbit ears on her head

2 Talking about a place / things you can see

Photo 1A

background behind them not in focus but looks like a living room, maybe one of their houses, can see a sofa, window behind them

Photo 1B

probably at home, might be Easter as they are painting eggs different colours and there is a toy rabbit on the table, coloured eggs and paints on table

3 Other

Describe what the person is/people are doing and why you think this. Describe how they feel.

Photo 1A

boys seem happy, excited and very involved in what they are looking at on the computer screen, could be watching a film/video, playing a game, listening to music, chatting to a friend online

Photo 1B

father holding egg for older girl, mother holding young girl on her lap and holding green and white spotted egg, having a lovely family time together, all really happy and involved in what they are doing

Useful phrases/expressions

Judging by the clothes they are wearing / the expressions on their face / the way they are looking at ... I would say that ...

It's hard to say but it seems to me that....

It's obvious/clear that

Apart from that ...

From what I can see ...

I get the impression that ...

Part 3

Vocabulary for celebrating a special occasion

disco	meal out in a restaurant
cinema (romantic film)	music festival
day on the beach	see a comedian
funfair/theme park	

Useful Phrases and Expressions

Expressing a preference

..... would be more appealing to teens than

I thinkis a better suggestion than

I'd go for because

Asking about preference

What do you say?

Wouldn't you say that

Which appeals to you most?

Do you like the sound of more than

Discussing each idea

disco: Yes: have fun dancing, listening to music, DJ have a drink, meet new people **No:** no chance to have a chat, music too loud, sometimes expensive, not everyone likes disco music

cinema (romantic film): Yes: can do whatever the weather, not too expensive **No:** no chance to talk to each other, not everyone likes romantic music, can always go to the cinema so not special, only for a couple of hours

day on the beach: Yes: can do lots of different things, play games, swim, have a picnic/bbq, chat, get a suntan, relax with friends, cheap to do **No:** problem if weather not good, some people not keen on swimming or sunbathing, might need transport to get there and back

funfair/theme park: Yes: lots of different rides to go on, things to see and do, buy some fast food and drinks, chat with friends, exciting, the thrill of the rides

No: expensive to pay for rides, only go on a few, some people scared of them, too crowded, food not very good quality

meal out in a restaurant:

Yes: have a special meal, good food, excellent service, nice environment, classy, dress up for the evening

No: too expensive, can be too noisy, too grown-up looking restaurant, sort of place you go with parents for special occasion rather than teenage friends

music festival:

Yes: lots of different bands/singers so something for everyone, dancing, singing, drinking and eating, outside in open/fresh air, music creates an atmosphere, lighting, special effects

No: expensive, need good weather, too noisy to talk with friends, overcrowded

see a comedian:

Yes: have a laugh, be entertained, do something different/unusual, talented comedian, laugh until we cry, enjoy the atmosphere, be in the audience

No: might be expensive to get in, more adult entertainment maybe so not appropriate for teenagers, no chance to have a chat with friends

Saying which you think is the best idea for celebrating a special occasion with friends.

*In my opinion / I think is the best because ...
... is by far the best, as*

When you need more time to think about what to say use:

"Well, ..." *"Let me think ..."* *"I see ..."* **to gain time.**

Part 4

It is important to give reasons for your answers and not just say 'yes' or 'no' or give one-word answers here.

Questions**Do you like celebrating special occasions? (Why?)**

Yes: chance to do something different, have fun with family and friends, show someone you care about them, bake a cake, eat lovely/tasty food, throw a party for someone, keep (family) traditions alive

No: usually costs money, takes lots of planning/organising, not a party person, prefer peace and quiet, shy, unsociable

Who do you like to celebrate special occasions with? (Why?)

Family: get together with relatives, extended family, quality family time, parents pay for everything, generations get together, eat and drink lots, have a feast

Friends: do something fun, be with people that you have something in common with, play silly games, have a party with loud music and dancing

What food do you like to eat when you celebrate?

buffet: sandwiches, salads, snacks, cakes and sweets

finger food: easy, quick, convenient, cheap, casual

expensive meal out in a restaurant: waiter, excellent table service, leave a big tip, three-course meal, starter, mains, dessert, fish/seafood, steak, Chinese/Indian/Greek/Japanese etc restaurant, dress up in your best clothes, formal clothes

Which occasion is the most important to you? (Why?)

Birthday: lots of presents, have a party, birthday cards, catch up with friends and family, feel special for the day, be spoiled by everyone

Weddings: everyone celebrating, the happy couple, reception, lots of tasty/delicious food, dancing and music, speeches, see all the family

Christmas/Easter/Halloween: traditional celebrations, costumes, special food, keeping traditions alive

How do you usually celebrate your birthday?

Receive presents and cards, friends and relatives phone or visit. Go out for a meal, go to the cinema, have a party, go for drinks in the evening, talk to family and friends on social media who live far away. Go out for a day trip.

Not interested in birthdays, carry on as normal, not a special day, don't know what all the fuss is about.