



# IELTS Speaking Practice Test in 2019 with Model Answers

## Questions

### Part 1

Where do you usually watch TV programmes /shows?

What is your favourite TV programmes/shows?

Are there any programmes/shows you don't like to watch?

Do you think you will watch more TV or fewer TV programmes/shows in the future?

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### Part 2

#### Cue Card

***Describe someone you know who has started a business***

- ***who this person is***
- ***what work this person does***
- ***why this person decided to start a business and explain whether you would***

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*like to do the same kind of work as this person*

## Part 3

### Choosing Work

What kinds of jobs do young people not want to do in your country?

Who is best at advising young people about choosing a job: teachers or parents?

Is money always the most important thing when choosing a job?

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### Work-life balance

Do you agree that a lot of people nowadays are under pressure to work longer hours and take less holiday?

What is the impact on society of people having a poor work-life balance?

Could you recommend some effective strategies for governments and employers to ensure people have a good work-life balance?

### Model Answers

#### Part 1

##### Where do you usually watch TV programs/shows?

Well, I am not really a fan of TV because nowadays, you can basically watch everything on your laptop itself. I used to watch TV a lot when I was a kid – you know, all the cartoon channels and stuff. In fact, that's why I am **short-sighted** now.

##### What is your favourite TV programs/shows?

As I mentioned before, I **was crazy for** cartoon when I was small. You know there were a mixed variety of TV programs for children, among which I found Cartoon network the most **appealing** due to the lively and humorous characters. It could **keep me sitting for hours**.

##### Are there any programs/shows you don't like to watch?

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Advertisements... I hate to be disturbed by adverts when I was in the middle of wonderful movies or TV shows. I understand that it is a way to **keep people in suspense** but too many advertisements can be annoying sometimes. That's the reason why I switched to watch on the Internet which has less commercial ads.

### **Do you think you will watch more TV or fewer TV programs/shows in the future?**

I will watch less for sure. Why do I need to watch TV when I already have the Internet? I can re-watch my favourite **sit-com** or **reality show** anytime I want. However, I don't want to **become a couch potato** so I'd better limit my time with any screens.

### **Vocabulary :**

**Short-sighted** (adj): unable to see things clearly

**To be crazy for:** really like something

**Appealing** (adj): attractive or interesting

**Keep someone in suspense:** If you keep or leave someone in suspense, you deliberately delay telling them something

**Become a couch potato:** a lazy and inactive person

## **Part 2**

### **Cue Card**

**Describe someone you know who has started a business**

**You should say :**

- **who this person is**
- **what work this person does**
- **why this person decided to start a business and explain whether you would like to do the same kind of work as this person**

Today I would like to tell you about Mark Zuckerberg who is a famous technology entrepreneur and the founder of Facebook Corporation. Well, I think everybody knows Mark as an important figure in the start-up world because he **set up his own business** when he was still a student at Harvard University.

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He firstly created a social network with profile information of his friends in the dorm which attracted hundreds of users just in a week. Nobody would think that this hobby could turn into a **multi-million dollar business** 10 years later, especially when he was still so young at that time.

You know what, I think he was so clever to foresee the **potential profit** of this application so he co-operated with some friends to **raise the company profile**. Nowadays, Facebook is widely used by millions of people all over the world which brought an impressive **sale figure** to the company. However, you must have heard that Mark recently faced a scandal of **leaking customer personal information**, because of which, he must testify with the authorities. Of course.. **no pain no gain** ..

Despite this issue, I still admire him so much for his talent and determination and want to become a successful entrepreneur like him. Start-up has never been a **piece of cake**, especially in such **adverse competition**, you have to be very unique to stand out but once you are, you can **earn a fortune**. I love the feeling of being challenged because only **am I pushed to my limit**, my full **potentials will be unlocked**. Who knows, in the future, I might run my own online education business.

That's all I want to share.

### Vocabulary :

set up own's own business

Multi-million dollar business

potential profit

raise the company profile

sale figure

leaking customer personal information

no pain no gain

a piece of cake

adverse competition

earn a fortune

to be pushed to one's limit

potentials will be unlocked

## Part 3

### Choosing work

#### What kinds of jobs do young people not want to do in your country?

That's an interesting question, let me think about it... I would say it is labour job.. you know.. stuff like cleaners, builders and waiters. The reasons are probably **low salary** and **intense labour**. In fact, many students work part-time as a waiter and waitress but it is just a temporary job. As soon as they graduate from college, they will compete to get a position in the office because **white-collar workers** are still more preferable than **blue-collar workers**.

#### Who is best at advising young people about choosing a job: teachers or parents?

Well, I would say it depends. While teachers would have a better knowledge of student's academic performance, parents will know their kids' personalities the most. In terms of the job market, I suppose they have an equal amount of knowledge. Therefore, it is the best for the young to consult with whoever they feel more comfortable with.

#### Is money always the most important thing when choosing a job?

Not necessarily... we all know that millionaires in the world don't work for money but passion. It is said that "If you love your job, you won't have to work a day in your life" and I completely believe in it. For me, I can't imagine myself get stuck in a **nine-to-five job** without any **job satisfaction**.

### Work-life balance

#### Do you agree that many people nowadays are under pressure to work longer hours and take less holiday?

Yes, I think so. We are living in an **increasingly competitive world** and there is no doubt that the labour market is getting more selective. Students from top universities will have a higher chance of being hired, and even after that, they are likely to be exploited by **excessive workload** and **constant pressure**. Therefore, maintaining a work-life balance is vitally important for workers.

#### What is the impact on society of people having a poor work-life balance?

That's truly intriguing.. To be honest, I have never thought about it before. I guess they will be a negative impact on the community because they don't have enough time to take care of family and friends. As a result, they do not only destroy themselves but also hurt people around them. If there are thousands of **workaholics** like that, you can imagine what the domino effect will be like. To be honest, I would never do that myself.

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**Could you recommend some effective strategies for governments and employers to ensure people have a good work-life balance?**

Well, definitely governments should impose law restricting the number of hours that people can work per day. Although it is necessary to work overtime once in a while, it shouldn't become a daily habit. I suggest that the authorities can even punish business owners if they let their employees work later than 5 pm. It may sound too controlling but the sad news is that many people in Japan killed themselves for over-working which shouldn't have happened if the Japanese government had ways to manage this issue from the beginning.

**Vocabulary :**

**white-collar workers:** White-collar workers work in offices rather than doing physical work

**blue-collar workers:** Blue-collar workers work in the industry, doing physical work

**nine-to-five job:** a job during regular business hours usually in an office

**job satisfaction:** a feeling of fulfilment or enjoyment that a person derives from their job

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