

Sample Part One Topics

Family

- Do you have a large family or a small family?
- Can you tell me something about them?
- How much time do you manage to spend with members of your family?
- What sorts of things do you like to do together?
- Did/Do you get on well with your family? [Why?]

Accommodation

- What kind of accommodation do you live in? What's it like?
- Have you always lived there?
- What are the main advantages of this [accommodation]?
- What changes would you like to make to improve it?
- Would it be easy for you to move to another accommodation?
- Do many people in your country live in such accommodation?

Neighbourhood

- Which part of town do you live in?
- What's it like?
- What kind of shops are there in your neighbourhood?
- Do you get along well with your neighbours?
- What's difficult about living there?

Education (students)

- What do you study?
- What is special about this subject?
- Is there anything you find difficult about it?
- Where do you study...? What's your university/college like?

Education (graduates)

- Do you have higher education?
- What have you studied at university?
- What did you like about your studies?
- Was there anything you found difficult?

Job

- What's your job?
- Is it a common job in your country?
- What are your working hours like?
- Do you get a lot of vacation and off time?
- Are you thinking of changing your job?

Cold weather

- Have you ever been in very cold weather? [When?]
- How often is the weather cold where you come from?
- Are some parts of your country colder than others? [Which parts?]
- Would you prefer to live in a hot place or a cold place? [Why?]

Laughing

- What kinds of things make you laugh?
- Do you like making other people laugh? [Why/Why not?]
- Do you think it's important for people to laugh? [Why/Why not?]
- Is laughing the same as feeling happy, do you think? [Why/Why not?]

Keeping in contact with people

- How do you usually contact your friends? [Why?]
- Do you prefer to contact different people in different ways? [Why?]
- Do you find it easy to keep in contact with friends and family? [Why/Why not?]
- In your country, did people in the past keep in contact in the same ways as they do today? [Why/Why not?]

Daily Routine

- What would you like to change in your daily routine?
- Are all your days the same?
- Tell me about your typical weekday and your typical weekend.
- What is the balance of work/study and free time in your normal day?

Visitors

- What would you suggest a visitor should see and do in your country?
- Are there any traditional arts or music you would recommend?
- Tell me about the kind of foreign visitors or tourists who go to your country.
- In what ways has tourism changed your country?

Festivals

- Tell me about the most important festival in your country.
- What special food and activities are connected with this festival?
- What do you most enjoy about it?
- Do you think festivals are important for a country? [Why?]

Dancing

- Do you enjoy dancing? [Why/Why not?]
- Has anyone ever taught you to dance? [Why/Why not?]
- Tell me about any traditional dancing in your country.
- Do you think that traditional dancing will be popular in the future? [Why/Why not?]