

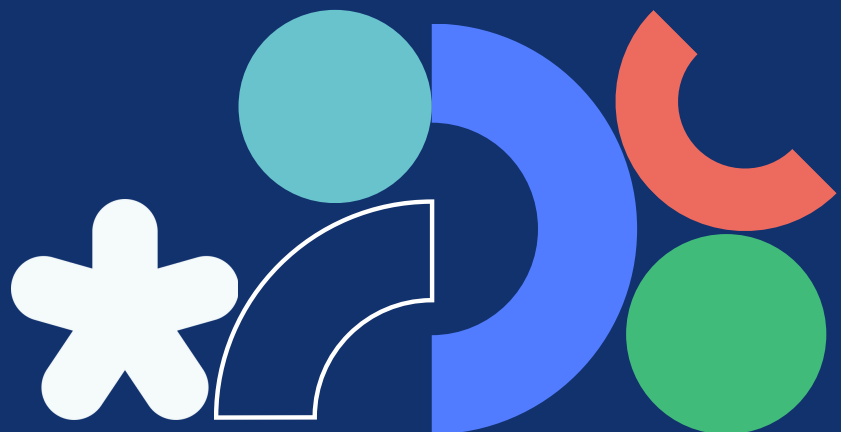


IELTS Speaking Drill Pack

Four daily drills. One for each criterion. Built for the move from 6.5 to 7.

A companion to the 'IELTS Speaking: The 4 Things Examiners Actually Score' video on the E2 IELTS YouTube channel.

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How to use this drill pack

This pack contains **four short daily drills** - one for each Speaking marking criterion. Each drill is designed to take five to ten minutes.

Total daily time: 20–30 minutes

Total weekly time commitment: Around 3–4 hours

You'll need: Your phone (for recording), a notebook, and headphones

The four criteria — quick reference

Criterion	What it asks	Drill
Fluency and Coherence	Can you speak at length without unnatural hesitation?	Drill 2 (Part 1 extension) and Drill 3 (Part 2 structure)
Lexical Resource	Do you use varied vocabulary with natural collocation?	Vocabulary builder (page 6)
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	Do you use a variety of structures, mostly correctly?	Drill 4 (Part 3 framework)
Pronunciation	Is your speech clear, with appropriate stress and intonation?	Drill 1 (Shadowing)

The four criteria — quick reference

This drill pack is built for **self-practice**. It will improve your fluency, vocabulary, and structure on its own. What it can't do is hear what you can't hear. Pronunciation patterns and grammar errors that have become habits are very hard to spot in your own recordings - they need a trained listener.

For weekly feedback against the four criteria, see the final page of this document.



Drill 1 — Shadowing (Pronunciation)

Time: 5 minutes daily

Target criterion: Pronunciation

What shadowing is

You play a one-minute clip of natural English speech - a YouTube video, a podcast, a TED talk, or a news anchor. You listen to one sentence. You immediately repeat it back, copying the speaker's rhythm, stress, and intonation as exactly as you can.

How to do it

1. Choose a clip with clear, natural English.
2. Listen to one sentence. Pause.
3. Repeat the sentence aloud, matching the speaker's rhythm, *not* their accent. The goal is to match where they stress, where they pause, where their voice rises and falls.
4. Move to the next sentence. Repeat for five minutes.

What to focus on

- Word stress: which syllable is loudest in each word
- Sentence stress: which words in the sentence carry the meaning
- Intonation: the natural rise and fall of the voice
- Pauses: where the speaker breathes

What NOT to focus on

- Their accent (yours is fine)
- Speaking faster (clarity matters more than speed)



Drill 2 — Part 1 Extension (Fluency and Coherence)

Time: 5-7 minutes daily

Target criterion: Fluency and Pronunciation

The pattern

For every Part 1 answer, use this structure:

Answer + Reason + Example (3-4 sentences total)

Practice questions — try one each day

- ☐ *Do you enjoy cooking?*
- ☐ *Where do you live?*
- ☐ *What do you do for work?*
- ☐ *Do you watch much TV?*
- ☐ *Where do you live?*
- ☐ *What do you do for work?*
- ☐ *Do you watch much TV?*

Worked example

Question: Do you enjoy cooking?

Band 5 answer (avoid): "Yes, I enjoy cooking."

Band 7 pattern: "Yes, I really enjoy cooking, especially on weekends. I find it relaxing after a busy work week, and recently I've been experimenting with different cuisines. Last Saturday, I attempted a Thai green curry, which turned out better than I expected."

Your turn — record yourself

Pick one question. Record yourself answering it on your phone. Listen back. Did you give an answer, a reason, and an example? If not, try again. The structure should feel natural by your fifth attempt.



Drill 3 — Part 2 with Structure (Fluency and Coherence)

Time: 5 minutes daily, alternating with Drill 4

Target criterion: Fluency and Coherence

The cue card structure

Every Part 2 cue card has bullet points. Use them as your structure. Aim for **about 30 seconds per bullet point** - that takes you to roughly 90 seconds, leaving 30 for natural extension.

Practice questions — try one each day

Describe a place you like to visit when you have free time. You should say:

- Where it is
- How often you go there
- What you do there
- And explain why you like going there

Your prep template (write your answers, then speak them)

Bullet 1 — Where it is (about 30 seconds of speaking):

Bullet 2 — How often you go (about 30 seconds):

Bullet 3 — What you do (about 30 seconds):

Bullet 4 — Why you like it (about 30 seconds):

Practice questions — try one each day

Describe a skill you would like to learn. You should say:

- What the skill is
- How you would learn it
- How long it would take
- And explain why you want to learn this skill

(Use the same template format on a separate sheet)

Practice questions — try one each day

Always record. Always listen back. Note the timestamps where you hesitated, repeated yourself, or ran out of ideas. Those are the patterns to fix



Drill 4 — Part 3 Framework (Grammatical Range)

Time: 5-7 minutes daily

Target criterion: Fluency and Pronunciation

The pattern

For every Part 1 answer, use this structure:

Answer + Reason + Example (3-4 sentences total)

Practice questions — try one each day

- ☐ *Do you enjoy cooking?*
- ☐ *Where do you live?*
- ☐ *What do you do for work?*
- ☐ *Do you watch much TV?*
- ☐ *Where do you live?*
- ☐ *What do you do for work?*
- ☐ *Do you watch much TV?*

Worked example

Question: Do you enjoy cooking?

Band 5 answer (avoid): "Yes, I enjoy cooking."

Band 7 pattern: "Yes, I really enjoy cooking, especially on weekends. I find it relaxing after a busy work week, and recently I've been experimenting with different cuisines. Last Saturday, I attempted a Thai green curry, which turned out better than I expected."

Your turn — record yourself

Pick one question. Record yourself answering it on your phone. Listen back. Did you give an answer, a reason, and an example? If not, try again. The structure should feel natural by your fifth attempt.



Vocabulary topic clusters (build over the next month)

Common IELTS Speaking topics. For each cluster, learn ten to fifteen natural phrases. Source them from real English content (podcasts, interviews, articles), not from a vocabulary list.

Cluster 1 — Family and people

Starter phrases:

- We're a close-knit family
- I take after my mother in the way I...
- We don't always see eye to eye, but...
- He has a great sense of humour
- She's the kind of person who...

Add five of your own from English content this week: 1. _____
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____

Cluster 2 — Work and study

Starter phrases:

- It's a fast-paced environment
- The work is fairly demanding, but rewarding
- I'm hoping to specialise in...
- I've been working there for about three years
- It involves a lot of...

Add five of your own from English content this week: 1. _____
2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____

Cluster 3 — Hobbies and free time

- I picked it up a few years ago
- It's something I find genuinely relaxing
- I usually do it on weekends
- I'm not particularly good at it, but I enjoy it
- It's a great way to switch off

Add five of your own: 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
5. _____



What's next

You now have:

- A daily shadowing drill for Pronunciation
- A Part 1 extension framework for Fluency
- A Part 2 cue card template for structured speaking
- A Part 3 four-step framework for discussion answers
- The start of three vocabulary topic clusters

This is enough to lift your Speaking score noticeably over four weeks **if you do it daily.**

What this drill pack can't do: hear what you can't hear. Pronunciation habits, grammar patterns, and filler words that have become automatic are very hard to identify in your own recordings.

Want a trained ear listening weekly?

E2 offers one-on-one Speaking practice with IELTS-trained teachers, with feedback against the four official Speaking criteria: Fluency and Coherence, Lexical Resource, Grammatical Range and Accuracy, and Pronunciation.

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