

USE: TIPS FOR THE ORAL & WRITING SECTIONS

Task 2 Make questions.

price; cost; fee(s)	How much is the 4-day journey? How much are the English-Russian dictionaries? What is the price for a single room? What's the entrance fee?
location; place; accommodation	Where is the camp located/situated? Where do students usually live/stay? Do/Will I have to share a room with another student?
dates; time	What are the opening hours of the theme park? When does the tour begin and when does it finish? What time do classes start?
age restrictions; special clothes; whether the company offers refreshments	Are there any age restrictions? Is it necessary to have ...? Do I need to have any special clothes? Do you provide/offer the equipment....? Are meals included (in the price)? Are refreshments provided for free?
options; variety; range; availability	What kind of accommodation do you offer? What kinds of jewellery are there on sale? What kinds of jobs can I have? Which tours are available right now?
price reduction; discounts	Is there a reduction in price for a family ticket? Do you offer any discounts for students? Are there any discounts for ...?
price range	Which is the most expensive and the cheapest tour/kind of accommodation?
payment options	How can I pay for the course? What are the payment options?
duration (of the course)	How long is the course (tour; training programme)?
dishes; films	What (kinds of) dishes are on the menu? What kinds of films do you offer?
insurance coverage	Do you provide insurance? Is insurance included (in the price)?
working hours/opening hours	What are the opening hours of the exhibition? When does the club open and when does it close?
number (of cruises; people; placements)	How many cruises run daily? How many people can take part in? How many people are there in one room? How many seats are there on the bus?
what (public transport connections; modern conveniences; facilities)	What kinds of modern conveniences/equipment are there/are available? What kinds of college facilities are there/can I use for free? What types of work can I get?
vegetarian dishes; which band	Are there any vegetarian dishes are on the menu? Which tours start in June? Which band performs on the 12th of May?
Who/Person to contact	Who can/should I contact to enroll for the course? Who do I have to contact for booking?
delivery options	When and where can you deliver the order? What are delivery options?
how (to get); transport	How can I get to? What kinds/means of public transport are available?
possibility of (choices)	Is it possible to have/get/join...? Is booking online possible?

Task 3

SOME COMMON RULES FOR THE INTERVIEW

1. Never say 'yes' or 'no'.
2. Listen attentively and make sure you give an exact answer. If you're asked "How much time do you normally spend hanging out...?", answer "I normally spend about 3 hours a week going out ...".
3. Pay attention to the grammatical form of a question. If you're asked, "Would you say..."; "Would you prefer to ..."; "Have you ever tried...", use the same grammar structure in your first sentence.
4. You can repeat all the words in a question except one: "What's your attitude to/What's your opinion about...?" E.g. - Do you think it is important to choose your future career...? – Well, I believe it's very important to choose ... BUT –What's your attitude to exams? – Actually, I think exams are necessary because...
5. Don't use non-informative answers, such as "You can do anything you like on your smartphone". Say, "You can surf the Internet, communicate with friends, use learning apps ...".
6. Use 2 long or 3 short sentences. The language must be informal.

7. Remember to use topical vocabulary. If you're asked about extreme sports or music, don't repeat 'extreme sports' or 'music' all the time; give names, such as snowboarding/windsurfing/skydiving for extreme sports and pop music/rock ballads/jazz for music.
8. To answer questions like "What character traits are...?" avoid using nouns (sincerity, generosity, loyalty...); better say, "I believe a true friend should be supportive and reliable so that you can ..."; "I'd say I'm optimistic and easy-going, that's why I make friends easily...". Use 2-3 adjectives in one sentence and make sure they are close in meaning. You can't say "My friend is ambitious and kind". Adjectives must be logically connected, like "smart and ambitious"; "kind and helpful"; "reliable and supportive"; "cheerful and easy-going" ...
9. Use appropriate linkers.

LINKERS

<i>Linking words</i>	<i>Meaning</i>	<i>Examples</i>
Well; you know; actually	Neutral, to go with any answer	-Do you work or study? – Well, I study at school. -What sports are popular in your country? – Actually, Russian people love ball games ...
As for me; if you ask me; what about me; I think; in my view; in my opinion	To speak about your opinions, attitudes, feelings	-What would you like to change in your school curriculum? – If you ask me, I'd introduce a school uniform because ... -Do you think teenagers spend too much time on their smartphones? – In my view, they waste ...
Also; in addition; moreover; besides; what is more	To add significant information and between 2 sentences	-Is sport important in teenagers' lives? - I'm sure sport is essential for adolescents because it helps them stay healthy. Besides, doing sport, they can communicate with friends and ...
Honestly; in fact; actually; to tell the truth	To speak about something you are not expected to say or something that may sound embarrassing	-Would you say you are a cinema goer? – Honestly, I wouldn't say I love cinema very much -What are your household chores? – To tell (you) the truth I don't do much about the house ...
Certainly; of course; for sure; definitely	To use between sentences	-Do you enjoy travelling? – Actually, I love seeing new places and meeting local people. Certainly, travelling is a great way to ...
It's a difficult/tricky question; I've never thought about it before	Other ways to play for time before answering	-Do most young people in your country want to be successful? Why? -(Honestly) I've never thought about it. Maybe some do, but the people I know don't say that ...

Writing an essay: common opinions

1 Introduction – opening sentence

Recent studies have shown/revealed that **a)** (young) people/teenagers **are interested in** different film genres; **b)** many teenagers **find it difficult to** choose a career; **c)** young people **often face problems** while choosing ... ; **d)** most/many young people **like** travelling/making presents/doing sports...

2 Para 1 – saying 'the biggest' and 'the smallest'

...the (relative) majority of the respondents (...%) choose "..." as their **favourite activity/the most suitable present/the most common problem...** **The least popular/common option/choice is ...**

3 Para 2 – saying why one number is bigger than another (out of the 3 left)

It is clear that the number of the respondents who choose/prefer to ... is approximately 2.5 times bigger than the proportion of those who opt for ... **This is probably because a) ...is cheaper/easier than ...; b) ... is/are advertised on TV more often than ...; c) teenagers in popular series (do it); d) most teenagers want to look/be/have....**

4 Para 3 – identifying a problem and suggesting a solution

... **one problem that can ... is that ...** (the problem is mentioned in the task, e.g. 'outline the problem that can arise with young people eating fast food'). **Name the problem that is easier for you 'to solve'.**

Remember that if a problem is with teenagers/young people, the solution can't be something like 'teenagers/people should...'; **there must be someone who can solve the problem (the government, authorities, school, parents, etc)**. Suggest relevant solutions: the **government should/must provide/build** accessible and affordable sports facilities/leisure centres ... ; **school should organise special classes** where students will learn about/how to ...; **parents should control** the time their children spend ...; **mass media should propagate** the idea(s) of ... ; celebrities should write about ... in their blogs on social media.

5 Conclusion – expressing your opinion (the matter is in the task, e.g. "Conclude by giving and explaining your opinion on whether it is important for young people to follow fashion.")

The 1st sentence: ... is very important for (young) people... **because ... a)** it (education, sport) makes their lives more interesting; **b)** it (volunteering/reading/taking part in) helps them to be sensitive and responsible... to achieve their goals ... to show empathy/love/respect ... to gain useful experience ...

The 2nd sentence must be connected with the solution in Paragraph 4: **a) If** there are cheap sports facilities in every town or district, young people **will** definitely ... **b) However**, parents should restrict/monitor ... **c) If** teenagers are involved in ..., **their lives/free time/relationship with friends will** be bright and ...