

Nature

Unit aims

Listening skills

Speaking skills

Changing opinions

Describing animals

Extended multiple choice

Describing presents

Summary completion (2)

Making notes

Topic talk

- 1 Look at the photo below and answer the questions which follow.



- a Do you find places like the scene in the picture beautiful or boring?
- b Why are places like this attractive to people?
- c Why do we need places like this more and more in the modern world?

- 2 Decide whether the statements below show the speaker is enthusiastic or unenthusiastic about a place.

- a The holiday cottage caught my attention immediately, so I bought it.
- b I have been fascinated by the building since I first saw it.
- c As it's in the middle of nowhere, it's very peaceful.
- d The house is basically okay.
- e Living in such a remote area is just about bearable.
- f Even though it's in the middle of the city, it's not at all noisy.
- g What makes the place so attractive is the open fields.
- h The reason why it appeals to me is the sound of the crashing waves at night.

- 3 Add the following phrases to as many of the sentences a–h above as you can.

Example

- a 2; 5

- 1 but it's in danger of being spoilt by tourists visiting it.
- 2 but sadly I haven't visited it for years.
- 3 In fact, at times it's quieter than the countryside.
- 4 but I'm afraid that won't last long.
- 5 but at times it can be lonely there.

Speaking skills Describing animals

- 1 Read the short texts in which people talk about pets they had as children. Match each description a–c with an animal from the list.

cat parrot dog rabbit horse goldfish mouse

a

We had him for about ten years. I grew up with him, I suppose. He was always very lively when someone new arrived at the house, jumping up and wagging his tail. The fondest memory I have is of taking him for walks along the canal. I also enjoyed throwing a stick for him in the park. When he was happy he'd bark a lot. I really miss him.

b

She was quite a character. I wouldn't say she was friendly – far from it in fact. She had a habit of arching her back and scratching people she didn't take a liking to. But what I remember most is letting her curl up on my lap, and then stroking her. I'm not sure who found it the most relaxing, me or her. She certainly liked it, and she always purred very loudly.



c

Looking after her involved quite a lot of work. We used to have to go to the farm every night with a bale of hay to feed her. I also used to groom her, which was fun, but hard work. So it was all quite tough, but worth it in the end. The thing that sticks in my mind is the way she used to get excited just before we started jumping. They were very happy times.

- 2 Read the descriptions again. Complete the first column of the table below with the name of the animal. Then write verbs typical of that animal in the second column. The first one has been done for you.

Animal	Typical actions	Human actions
a <i>jump up</i>
b
c

- 3 Complete the third column with verbs that describe what people typically do with these animals, for example, *take them for walks*.
- 4 Each text in 1 contains a phrase for introducing a memory. Underline these phrases.

- 5  **2.15** Listen to three people talking about animals and pets. Decide which speaker is answering which question below.
- a What was your pet like?
 - b Have you ever had a favourite pet?
 - c What was your favourite pet animal when you were a child?
- 6  **2.15** Listen again. What phrase does each speaker use to show he/she does not regard the animal as a pet?
- Speaker 1: Although a pet,
- Speaker 2: I'm is a real pet.
- Speaker 3:, he wasn't my pet at all.
- 7 The taskcard below is taken from Speaking Part 2. Take one minute to think and make notes about your own talk on this topic, using your own experience. Then practise speaking for two minutes using your notes.

Describe an animal which belonged to you or someone you know.

You should say

what type of animal it was

what personality it had

what it typically did

and explain your own personal reaction to it.

Describing presents

- 8 Read the following slogan from a public information campaign. Then answer questions a–c below.

A pet is for life, not just for Christmas.

- a What do you think the campaign is about?
 - b Do you think animals make good gifts?
 - c What questions should you ask yourself before you give a gift like this?
- 9 The list below gives common occasions on which people give presents. Answer questions a–c below.

wedding birthday wedding anniversary religious festival
moving house leaving a job visiting a friend's home

- a On which of these occasions do you give presents in your country?
- b Are there any other occasions on which you give presents?
- c What presents are suitable for each occasion?

- 10 Read these two articles about present giving. Then answer questions a–c below.

Present madness

The greetings card industry is making more and more money every year. There are so many occasions on which we must give greetings cards now. Mother's Day and Father's Day require cards and presents from all to all. Soon, I firmly believe, we will have Brother's, Sister's, Uncle's, Aunt's, and probably Dog's Days. All needing a card, all needing a present. Someone, please, say 'Enough!'.

East meets west

The delightful habits of some Asian countries are coming to our shores. Small, carefully and tastefully wrapped presents for all kinds of informal occasions – and sometimes for no occasion at all – are the fashion among young people everywhere now. A wonderful fashion it is, too.

- a Which article is critical of present and card giving?
- b Do you enjoy giving cards and presents? Do you like receiving them?
- c Should we give and receive presents more frequently than we do?

Making notes

- 11 Read this Speaking Part 2 taskcard and the notes made by two candidates. Which set of notes is more practical? Why?

Describe a present you received and that you liked very much.

You should say

who gave it to you and on what occasion

what it was like

what you did with it

and explain why you liked it.

Candidate 1

- 1 mother, birthday
- 2 Rolex Explorer Seamaster III
gold, blue face, roman numerals
automatic, date, alarm, time zones
waterproof, shockproof
- 3 wore it, checked the time all the time
- 4 expensive, quality

Candidate 2

- mother, bday
- watch, watch features
- wore, checked
- £ £ £, qual

- 12 Take one minute to think and make notes about your own talk on this topic, using your own experience. Then practise speaking for two minutes using your notes.

Exam listening

Section 4

 2.16

Questions 31–38

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

The European Starling

Length	12 inches
Colour	31 , white spots.
Nesting sites	32
Diet	33
Natural range	British Isles, Finland
Population	British Isles, Finland: in decline USA: 34

Some of the problems created by large numbers of starlings

On wildlife

They compete with other species for **35** places.

On agriculture

They feed on **36**

They cause **37** damage.

On human life

They may cause **38**

Questions 39 and 40

Choose the correct letter **A**, **B**, or **C**.

39 What is regulated by legislation on species movements?

- A the movement of foreigners
- B the deposit and pick-up of water
- C the import and export of fish

40 What is the ultimate deciding factor in species management?

- A economics
- B ethics
- C politics