

# FCE SPEAKING GUIDE

## Part 1 – Short questions (Personal information) 2'

Start with

To be honest...  
That is a difficult/tough question..  
Let me think...  
That is an interesting question

### TIPS

- ✓ DO use complete sentences and elaborate on your answers whenever you can. No one-word or super short answers! Be sure to always say WHY.
- ✓ DO listen to your partner and show interest in what he/she says.
- ✓ DO use a variety of tenses, language and structures at the beginning to give yourself confidence.
- ✓ DON'T give answers that you have learned ahead of time – they don't sound natural!
- ✓ DON'T go on and on for each question – give enough info but don't ramble!

## Part 2 – Long turn (Photographs) 1' + 20-30''

Question

Photograph 1

Photograph 2

### 1. Compare

In both photographs ... can be seen

### 2. Contrast

While in the first one..., in the second one...

### 3. Answer the question

As for the question,/ Regarding the question...

### Others:

Both photographs show...

In both photographs...

In the first/second photo...

One big difference between the photos is that...

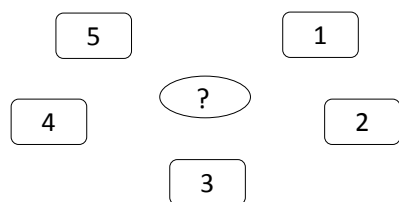
Another important difference is that...

One similar aspect of both photos is...

Compared with....

The first photograph show X while/whereas the second shows Y...

## Part 3 – Collaborative Task (Negotiation) 3' (2'+1')



Start with

Do you mind if I start?  
Shall I start?

Candidates have 15 '' to look t the task and 2' to discuss. The examiner will stop them and give them 1' to decide.

### TIPS

- ✓ DO discuss each of the prompts in detail. It doesn't matter if you don't talk about all of them.
- ✓ DO listen to your partner and respond to what he/she has to say before adding your own ideas.
- ✓ DO invite your partner to respond and/or contribute – remember, it should be a conversation between the two of you!
- ✓ DON'T worry if you don't come to an agreement with your partner. The important part is discussing and sharing your opinion!
- ✓ DON'T dominate the conversation – be sure your partner gets a chance to speak as well.

## Part 4 –Discussion 4'

### To Agree:

*Of course.*

*You're absolutely right.*

*I think so too.*

*That's a good point.*

*Exactly./ Absolutely..*

*So do I./ Neither do I.*

*That's true.*

*I agree with you entirely.*

*That's just what I was thinking.*

*I couldn't agree more.*

*You're absolutely right.*

*No doubt about it.*

*(weak) I suppose so./I guess so.*

*You have a point there.*

*I was just going to say that!*

### To Disagree:

*I don't agree with you.*

*However...*

*That's not entirely true.*

*Yes, but don't you think...*

*That's not the same thing at all.*

*I'm afraid I have to disagree.*

*I'm not so sure about that.*

*I don't think so.*

*I'm afraid I disagree.*

*(strong) I totally disagree.*

*(strong) I'd say the exact opposite.*

*Not necessarily.*

*That's not always true.*

*That's not always the case.*

*No, I'm not so sure about that.*