

## Advanced stage (Grades 10-12)

The following document contains sample interactive prompts for Grades 10-12 of Trinity's Graded Examinations in Spoken English. Please note these are example prompts and will not be used in a real exam.

### Grade 10

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

#### Language functions

- ▶ Developing an argument
- ▶ Defending a point of view
- ▶ Expressing beliefs
- ▶ Expressing opinions tentatively
- ▶ Summarising information, ideas and arguments
- ▶ Deducing

#### Grade 10 Interactive prompts

##### GESE

1. As young children, we're taught that we shouldn't tell lies. However, I think there are occasions when telling a lie is justified.
2. Supermarkets tend to stock food from all over the world. I wonder whether we should make more effort to buy food that is grown in our local area instead.
3. Some people think governments should focus more on developing virtual tourism rather than promoting actual tourism. I'm not sure where I stand on this issue.
4. Some people believe governments should only allow people to drive electric cars. I'm not sure I agree with this.

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**Grade 10 Interactive prompts****GESE for school**

1. At my nephew/niece's school, homework is optional, and I've even heard there's a move to get rid of it altogether. I have mixed feelings about this.
2. Some people believe that because so many teenage students struggle to get up in the morning, secondary schools should start the school day later. I'm not sure where I stand on this.
3. Some people believe a university education should be free to anyone who wishes to study. I'm not entirely sure where I stand on this issue.
4. I've just read about a teacher who lost his/her job because he/she got a tattoo. It seems that appearance is as important as ability these days.

**Grade 10 Interactive prompts****GESE for work**

1. Young people are often expected to decide on what sort of job they want to do from an early age. I wonder how advantageous this really is.
2. There has been a suggestion that companies should subsidise gym membership for all their employees. Perhaps there are better things to prioritise.
3. Many people believe that the potential to earn a lot of money is the most important thing when choosing a career. I'm not sure where I stand on this issue.
4. My nephew/niece has just qualified as an accountant, and he/she's decided to join his/her family company rather than look for a job independently. I'm wondering if he/she's done the right thing.

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## Grade 11

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

### Language functions

- ▶ Justifying an argument
- ▶ Challenging arguments and opinions
- ▶ Inferring
- ▶ Evaluating different standpoints
- ▶ Expressing caution
- ▶ Expressing reservations
- ▶ Expressing empathy and sympathy

### Grade 11 Interactive prompts

#### GESE

1. A lot of young people nowadays are encouraged to go travelling around the world in order to broaden their experience of life. Personally, I think this is a complete waste of time.
2. There's an ongoing debate as to whether social media is bringing people closer together or pushing them further apart. I don't know where I stand on this issue.
3. Modern technology has created a culture of instant gratification. Many people believe this has made people less patient, but I wonder if this is really the case.
4. Many shoppers these days search for bargains but are surprised when the products they buy don't last. Surely, it's worth paying a bit more for better quality products.

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**Grade 11 Interactive prompts****GESE for school**

1. Some people think that children's time outside of school should include structured activities like sport or music. I'm not quite sure if I agree.
2. Many people feel that governments have a responsibility to provide free education for all their citizens, but I realise there are different views on this.
3. Some people think that history is a less important subject in schools than mathematics or science, but I'm not sure I agree with them.
4. Some people believe that there is no role for private education in today's society, but others feel it is important to have the choice between government-funded and fee-paying schools.

**Grade 11 Interactive prompts****GESE for work**

1. Employee wellness programmes increasingly include courses on relaxation techniques to support stress management and productivity. I'm not convinced that they're worth doing.
2. Some people think it's really important to like the people you work with. I'm not sure how necessary this is.
3. Some of the world's most successful entrepreneurs never went to university or else didn't complete their courses. I sometimes wonder why so many school-leavers think it's necessary to go to university.
4. I struggle to understand why some people say their job is not satisfying. I believe there are often opportunities to make work more engaging if we identify what's missing.

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## Grade 12

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

### Language functions

- ▶ Asserting
- ▶ Contradicting
- ▶ Denying
- ▶ Implying
- ▶ Softening and downplaying propositions
- ▶ Affirming

### Grade 12 Interactive prompts

#### GESE

1. The invasive reporting of the private lives of celebrities appears to sell newspapers and magazines. I wonder whether this is ethical behaviour for the press.
2. Some people maintain that children benefit from reading fictional stories as much as reading their class textbooks. I'm not entirely sure if I'd subscribe to this point of view.
3. Artificial intelligence is advancing rapidly and is likely to fundamentally change our lives. I'm not so sure that artificial intelligence will prove beneficial to humans.
4. Some people maintain that younger people are more ethically principled than older people. I'm not entirely sure if I'd subscribe to this point of view.

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**Grade 12 Interactive prompts****GESE for school**

The significance of play is often emphasised in a child's educational development. What

1. people tend to forget, however, is the importance of following rules and respecting boundaries in and out of the school setting.
2. Some people say that competition in schools should be discouraged as it has a negative impact on children's development. I wonder if this is overstating the case.
3. Some schools promote the importance of groupwork in classes, while others place greater emphasis on individual work. I'm unsure which style best prepares students for the future.
4. Some people claim that making mistakes is a vital part of the learning process. I find this a very interesting proposition.

**Grade 12 Interactive prompts****GESE for work**

As a result of technological advances, some scientists predict that many of the jobs and

1. tasks currently performed by humans will soon be undertaken by artificial intelligence. I don't necessarily think this is a positive step forward.
2. Some people say that people are more casual in their attitude to work than they were in the past and that standards are falling. I'm not sure what my standpoint is on this.
3. It's commonly claimed that the internet makes people more productive at work. However, some people have disputed this claim.
4. Some people say governments should control how fast-food companies advertise their products. I believe adults can decide for themselves what food to consume.

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