

GESE Sample interactive prompts

Intermediate stage (Grades 7-9)

The following document contains sample interactive prompts for Grades 7-9 of Trinity's Graded Examinations in Spoken English. Please note these are example prompts and will not be used in a real exam.

Grade 7

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

- ▶ Giving advice and highlighting advantages and disadvantages
- ▶ Making suggestions
- ▶ Describing past habits
- ▶ Expressing possibility and uncertainty
- ▶ Eliciting further information and expansion of ideas and opinions
- ▶ Expressing agreement and disagreement

Grade 7 Interactive prompts

GESE

1. My brother/sister's children spend a lot of their free time indoors. I think that they should do more activities outside the home.
2. My brother/sister watches a lot of films on his/her mobile phone. I don't think this is the best way to enjoy a film.
3. My friend and I want to spend the summer travelling to different cities together. The trouble is we can't agree on how to get around.
4. My teenage nephew/niece is coming to stay with me for a week, but I live in a small town. I'm not sure there'll be enough for him/her to do.

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Grade 7 Interactive prompts**GESE for school**

1. My nephew/niece has decided to study a very rare language. I'm not sure if this is the best use of his/her time.
2. The students who are leaving the school where I teach this year want me to help arrange a special celebration. We can't decide what to do.
3. My students would like to do some sports activities together after classes. I'm not sure what to suggest.
4. My nephew/niece has recently started being late for school. I think it might affect his/her future, but I'm not so sure he/she agrees.

Grade 7 Interactive prompts**GESE for work**

1. My nephew/niece wants to do sport professionally. I wonder if this is the right choice of career for him/her.
2. I've recently had two job offers, one in my home country and one abroad. I can't decide which one I should accept.
3. My colleague says I should use public transport to get to work rather than driving. I'm not so sure it's a good idea.
4. My nephew/niece is thinking of becoming a doctor, but he/she's not sure. I don't know if that's the right decision for him/her.

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Grade 8

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

- ▶ Expressing feelings and emotions
- ▶ Expressing impossibility
- ▶ Reporting the conversation of others
- ▶ Speculating
- ▶ Persuading and discouraging

Grade 8 Interactive prompts

GESE

1. My nephew and niece have invited me to go to a music festival, but I'm not sure whether to accept or not.
2. My friend has told me he/she's just bought a home in a really isolated location. I'm a bit worried he/she's going to feel too lonely.
3. I've agreed to go on a cycling holiday with a friend but now I'm wondering whether I've made the right decision.
4. I really want to become more creative and take up a new hobby, but I'm finding it difficult to choose what to do.

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Grade 8 Interactive prompts**GESE for school**

1. My friends are thinking of sending their children to a school where mobile phones are completely banned. I'm not sure that this is a good idea.
2. My nephew/niece's parents want him/her to play less basketball and concentrate more on his/her studies. I think they might be making a mistake.
3. Students at my nephew/niece's school are now obliged to study environmental protection. I'm worried that traditional subjects will be neglected.
4. My nephew/niece has just been signed by a professional sports club. I'm not sure if it's wise for him/her to stop his/her full-time education.

Grade 8 Interactive prompts**GESE for work**

1. My brother/sister owns a successful café but wants to sell it to go travelling. I'm not sure if he/she's making the right decision.
2. My nephew/niece wants to have a career in fashion, but his/her parents are unhappy about it. I think he/she's very talented and feel I should speak to them.
3. My friends are thinking about opening and running a small hotel. I'm worried they're going to find it difficult.
4. A friend has asked me to write a recommendation for his/her restaurant on his/her website, but after having a meal there I'm not sure if I should do it.

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Grade 9

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

- ▶ Expressing abstract ideas
- ▶ Evaluating options
- ▶ Expressing regrets, wishes and hopes
- ▶ Hypothesising
- ▶ Expressing assumptions
- ▶ Evaluating past actions or course of events
- ▶ Paraphrasing

Grade 9 Interactive prompts

GESE

1. From next month, I won't be allowed to drive my car into the city centre anymore. I'm not sure that banning cars will be good for local businesses.

2. My local council recently built a sports centre, but nobody uses it. I think this is because they designed it badly.

3. I would love to go abroad on holiday, but my family isn't very keen on foreign travel. I wish this wasn't the case.

4. There are plans for a lot of new houses to be built in the countryside near my home. I'm not sure how this will affect the people who live in the area now.

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Grade 9 Interactive prompts**GESE for school**

1. I've always been good at painting, but I decided to study engineering at university instead. Now I wonder if I should have tried to become an artist.
2. My best friend recently decided to change her university course from business studies to creative writing. I'm not sure whether he/she has made the right choice.
3. A local school has introduced a new rule that is not popular with parents or students. Perhaps they may need to rethink their decision.
4. When I was 16, I had to choose to specialise in a few subjects, so I decided not to continue with maths. Now, I wonder if I made the right decision.

Grade 9 Interactive prompts**GESE for work**

1. My friend has just accepted an offer of a job at a very big international company, but he/she's worried that he/she might have made a mistake.
2. I've recently started a new job, and I think there are some improvements the company can make in supporting their staff. I wonder if I can do anything to change the situation.
3. My friend has just opened his/her own shop. I'm worried as I think it's difficult for small independent businesses to be successful these days.
4. My friend recently gave up his/her well-paid job so he/she could do some volunteer work overseas for a charity. I don't think this was a wise decision.

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