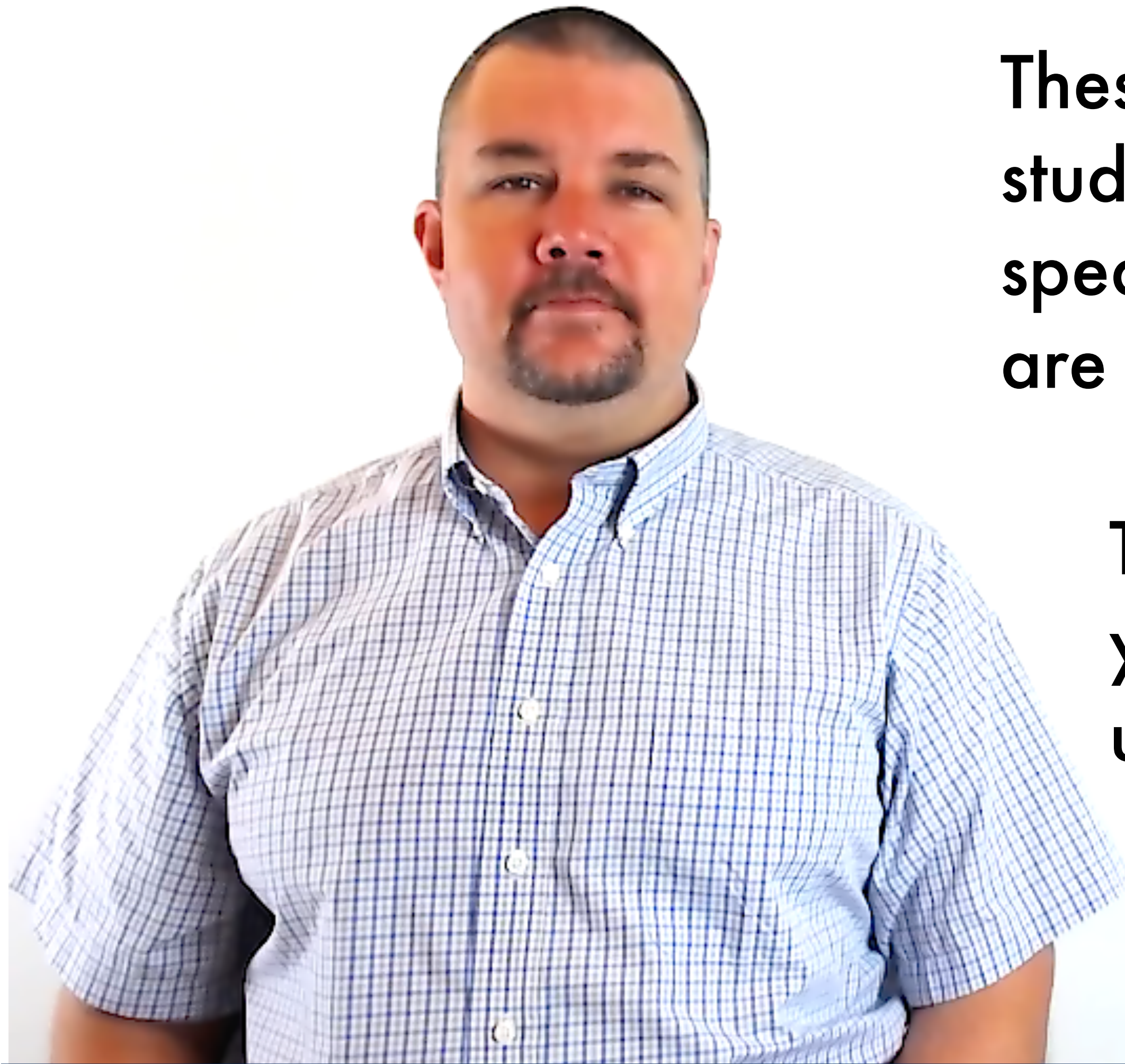


# IELTS SPEAKING TIPS

*Discover what you need to do to increase your IELTS speaking score to 7.0 and beyond*

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# About these IELTS Speaking Tips



These speaking tips are designed to help IELTS students get a better understanding of the IELTS speaking exam. This guide includes useful tips that are essential for IELTS speaking exam success.

These tips can help you as you prepare for your exam but it is up to you to work hard and use the advice given in these tips.

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# 01 Practice all 3 parts of the test

The examiner is listening to you speak and judging how well you speak from the first minute you enter the room. Don't just practice for 1 or 2 parts of the speaking exam, prepare for all 3 parts.

Each of the 3 parts contribute to your overall speaking score. There is no mark for part 1 or part 2 or part 3. Make sure you know what to do and how to structure your answers for each part.

When you do practice speaking tests you don't need to do a full test every time but you should practice for each part for an equal amount of time in your study schedule.

## 02 Fluency is more important than accuracy

Grammar and vocabulary range and accuracy are important marking criteria for the speaking exam. However, be careful not to focus too much on accuracy and lose marks for poor fluency.

It is OK to correct yourself when you make grammar or vocabulary mistakes but don't do it every time you make a mistake. By stopping in the middle of a sentence and correcting yourself every time, you will not speak fluently.

It will also be difficult for you to speak about all of the points in part 2 in 2 minutes if you do too much error correction.

## 03 Use the correct tense in your answers

Twenty five percent of your mark in the speaking exam is connected to grammar range and accuracy. The questions that the examiner asks you are designed to get you to use different grammar and tenses.

If the examiner asks a past simple question, then your answer should be in the past simple tense. So, it is important that you listen to the question carefully so you know what tense to use in your response.

When you do practice speaking tests, look carefully and notice the variety of tenses being used in part 1 questions.



## 04 Practice with a partner

Self study is an important step in preparing for the IELTS exam but when it comes to the speaking exam, actually speaking to another person is important. Find a speaking partner who is also preparing for the exam and help each other.

Get your speaking partner to act as an examiner and make sure they let you know what you are doing well and what you need to improve. Having a partner can also make the studying process less boring and lonely.



## 05 Use authentic IELTS speaking exams

As with all skills in the IELTS exam it is important that you practice using real IELTS test questions. Make sure the practice speaking materials you use follow the format and include the topics that are likely to be in the real test.

For the same reason, make sure your answers also follow the structure and marking requirements for the speaking exam. Each part of the speaking exam should take 4 to 5 minutes to complete.

If your answers are too short in part 1 or part 3, then the examiner will simply ask you more questions.

# **B** BONUS: Watch some example tests

Listening to and watching other IELTS students do speaking tests can be a good way to understand what is required in the exam.

Visit my [YouTube Channel](#) to see a few videos of students doing example speaking tests with me. The YouTube channel also has FREE video lessons for other skills in the exam.

[The IELTS Coach On YouTube](#)



# 06

## Understand the marking criteria

With any exam that you take it is important to know what you need to do to get a good score. I am often surprised to hear many students say that all they need to do in the speaking exam is to speak a lot. This is not true.

IELTS examiners have very clear criteria which they use to assess each student's speaking ability. The four marking criteria are: Fluency & Coherence, Lexical Resource, Grammar Range & Accuracy and Pronunciation.

To get a clearer understanding of each of the criteria and to download a clear checklist of things to do in the speaking exam, download [this](#).

# 07

## Record yourself doing a speaking test



One of the easiest and most effective ways to identify your mistakes when doing speaking test practice is to record yourself. Use your computer or mobile phone to record yourself answering real test questions.

When you listen to your recording make notes about what you did well, according to the marking criteria, and what you need to improve. Don't be too surprised or upset at how bad you may sound, use this as a way to monitor your speaking exam progress.

# 08 Spend most of your time speaking

This may sound like an obvious tip but a lot of my students spend hours preparing for the speaking exam without actually speaking. Make sure you say your answers out loud and speak as you would in the exam.

It is OK to read about tips and even write a few notes about what you might say but make sure that most of your speaking exam preparation time is spent actually speaking. The more you speak English at home, in class or with friends then the more comfortable you will be on exam day.

Even as you are reading these tips you can practice speaking. Read these tips out loud to practice your pronunciation and rhythm.



# 09

## Learn to take and use notes

This tip is specifically for part 2 of the speaking exam. Use the 1 minute that you are given to write notes that will help you be more fluent when you speak.

Even if you think the topic is easy, make sure you write notes that you can use while you are speaking. Note taking is a skill that you must practice, make sure you do this anytime you practice for part 2.

Also, while you are speaking about your part 2 topic be sure to look at your notes, but don't read from them. Your notes are there to help you address all of the points and to remind you about details of your topic.

# 10 Never give up on your goal

A lot of students fail to get the IELTS score they desire simply because they stop trying. Yes, the IELTS exam will be difficult but if you keep trying you will eventually get the score you need.

It is important to stay motivated and keep working towards your goal and remember what it will feel like once you achieve your target score. Think of what you will be able to do once you have the IELTS band score that you are striving for.

You can't really fail the IELTS exam, you can just stop trying to get the score that you are aiming for. Make sure you never give up!

# Thank You!

Thanks for reading through all of the IELTS speaking tips. I will continue to send you some more speaking tips and advice so that we can work together towards your goal.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me by email.

Sincerely

Mr. Lee (The IELTS Coach)







# Want more speaking exam advice?

Studying on your own can be difficult. If you would like a 20 minute Skype lesson\* with me for just \$1 then click the link below for more details.

## [\\$1 IELTS Speaking Trial Lesson](#)



*"Getting help from someone else helped me see exactly what I was doing wrong. Mr. Lee gave me very specific feedback that showed me how to improve my speaking test responses."*

*Hop Nguyen*

\*Limit of 1 trial lesson per student.