

A2 Key for Schools

Speaking test video: examiner feedback

Part 1

Maksim	Ayla-Su
<p>Maksim responds appropriately, often with detail. He requires very little prompting and support, although he misunderstands the question about a weekend he enjoyed, talking instead about his weekend habits, <i>In the weekends I enjoy to cycling</i>. This impacts on his response to the following two questions.</p> <p>Maksim uses a range of simple grammatical forms with reasonable control. He uses a range of appropriate vocabulary to talk about everyday topics.</p> <p>Maksim's pronunciation is mostly intelligible, although his response to the question <i>What is easy for you about learning a new language?</i> is unclear. He has some control of individual sounds and word and sentence stress.</p>	<p>Ayla-Su maintains simple exchanges, despite some difficulty, giving generally short responses to questions. She sometimes does not understand what she's been asked, so the examiner uses the back-up question to give her support, and she is unable to answer the final question, <i>Is watching films a good way to learn a new language?</i></p> <p>Due to her generally short responses, the range of grammatical forms and vocabulary used by Ayla-Su is limited, but she shows a good degree of control, i.e. <i>No, because my friends don't understand English</i>.</p> <p>Ayla-Su's pronunciation is intelligible with generally good control of individual sounds and stress patterns, despite her tendency to extend the end of words with /ə/.</p>

Tips for Part 1

- Sometimes a question only needs a short answer, but try to say as much as you can, for example *No, I'm not*. rather than just *No*.
- It's fine to ask the examiner to repeat a question. Try to learn different phrases for doing this. For example, instead of *I don't understand* it can be a good idea to say *Can you repeat that?*
- Listen carefully to the whole question so that you answer it correctly. For example, talking about present habits is not the correct answer to a question about a past experience.

Part 2

Maksim	Ayla-Su
<p>Maksim maintains simple exchanges without prompting or support. He responds appropriately and fully to Ayla-Su's comments and the examiner's questions, and he encourages Ayla-Su to participate in the discussion, <i>Do you like to wear the hat?</i></p> <p>Maksim uses a range of grammatical forms and vocabulary relevant to the topic, with some success, <i>It's beautiful and it has got so many options</i>. His responses are ambitious, leading to some lack of control, for example his final comment about sunglasses, <i>I think it's no so like décor</i>. Control of simple grammatical forms is generally good, although errors are present, <i>In the school we can take all jewellery, but I didn't take it</i>.</p> <p>Maksim's pronunciation is mostly intelligible, with some instances of less clear speech, for example when talking about sunglasses and watches. Control of individual sounds and stress patterns, particularly at the ends of words and utterances, is affected when he speaks quickly.</p>	<p>Ayla-Su initiates the discussion by choosing the picture to talk about first, <i>I like sunglasses</i>, and develops the exchange by asking Maksim to comment on the next picture, <i>Do you like watch?</i> She struggles to respond to Maksim's extended comments, but responds appropriately to direct questions from the interlocutor and Maksim, <i>Do you like to wear the hat? No, because it's not beautiful</i>, although she's frequently unable to extend her response.</p> <p>Ayla-Su uses simple grammatical forms with control and uses appropriate vocabulary to talk about everyday situations.</p> <p>Ayla-Su's speech is intelligible, with generally good control of phonological features.</p>

Tips for Part 2

- At the beginning of this part, you need to talk with your partner. Practise a range of question and answer expressions to create a natural discussion and avoid saying the same thing each time.
- You don't have to agree with your partner. It's fine to say you don't like something, even if your partner says they do like it.
- Try to give longer answers in this part of the test. Imagine the examiner or your partner is always asking *Why?* and give them this information before they ask.

Overall

Maksim	Ayla-Su
<p>Grammar and Vocabulary Maksim uses a range of grammatical forms, including some more complex forms such as modal verbs. He demonstrates sufficient control, although errors are noticeable, for example with verb forms, tenses and prepositions. He uses a range of vocabulary appropriate to the topics discussed.</p> <p>Pronunciation Maksim's pronunciation is mostly intelligible although control of phonological features is at times compromised by rapid speech.</p> <p>Interactive Communication Maksim maintains simple exchanges, initiating and responding appropriately with only minimal need for prompting and support.</p> <p>Global Achievement Maksim handles communication in everyday situations. He constructs longer utterances and is able to use some more complex language.</p>	<p>Grammar and Vocabulary Ayla-Su shows a good degree of control over simple grammatical forms and she uses appropriate vocabulary to talk about everyday situations. Her brief responses do not allow for a wider range of grammatical forms or vocabulary to be demonstrated.</p> <p>Pronunciation Ayla-Su's pronunciation is intelligible. Individual sounds are mostly articulated clearly, and stress patterns are generally appropriate.</p> <p>Interactive Communication Ayla-Su maintains simple exchanges, despite some difficulty. She requires prompting and support throughout the test.</p> <p>Global Achievement Ayla-Su communicates simple information in familiar everyday situations. She produces utterances which tend to be very short, with frequent hesitation and need for prompting.</p>