AIM Qualifications & Anglia Examinations

Level 2 (Proficiency C1)

Speaking Test

Set 3 2026-2027

Instructions for Candidates

- **The test will take 20 minutes.**
- **You will take the test with another candidate.**

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Procedure

The Anglia Proficiency Speaking Test consists of three parts and should take *approximately* 20 minutes to complete. There are two candidates at each session. The examination will be recorded. Recordings are sent to Anglia Examinations, Chichester College for moderation.

AFTER the examination, you must not return to the area where candidates yet to take the test are still waiting.

Preparation

Think about your future plans and be prepared to talk about them and answer questions about them. Be prepared to ask the other candidate questions about his/her future plans as well.

There are two articles to read and think about. You should be prepared to talk briefly on one of them before discussing it.

You should be prepared to talk about the topics from the list: **Youth**, **Adventure** or **Community**. The assessor will ask you a question on one of the topics or ask you to talk about a statement on that topic. You should be ready to discuss about it with your partner.

Task One: *up to* 4 minutes. Introductory warm-up

The assessor will ask you to talk about yourself and why you are taking the examination.

Task Two*: up to* 8 minutes. Prepared discussion (newspaper article)

The assessor will ask you to talk briefly about the article you have prepared and then you must be prepared to discuss it.

Task Three: *up to* 8 minutes. Unprepared discussion (topic only)

The assessor will offer you two topics to talk about, from the list of three preparation topics that you have already seen. The assessor will ask which topic you have chosen to talk about. The assessor will then ask you a question/questions on that topic. You must be prepared to engage in a discussion about the topic with your partner.

PROFICIENCY SPEAKING EXAMINATION

Task Two: Readings for Discussion

READING ONE: MUSIC ON ANIMALS

Growing interest in animal welfare has led researchers to examine how music influences stress levels across different species.

Experiments in shelters show that slow, steady rhythms can help dogs settle, reduce signs of anxiety and make daily routines easier to manage. On cattle farms, gentle melodies have been associated with slightly higher milk production, suggesting that sound may affect physiological responses in cows. Zoos are testing curated playlists to help ease tension during medical checks or minimise stress when enclosure conditions are changed. Results vary widely: some animals become calmer, while others show little reaction or even discomfort, depending on their hearing range and natural communication patterns. Specialists warn that human musical preferences cannot be applied directly to animals, whose perception of sound differs significantly.

Evidence so far indicates that music can be beneficial when tailored to each species' needs, but it is not a universal solution. As research expands, controlled sound environments may become a practical tool for improving animal welfare in homes, farms and conservation settings.

Points to consider:

- **Do you think animals can enjoy music? Give reasons for your answer.**
- **What signs tell you if an animal is feeling calm or anxious? How would you react if you realised your own pet was feeling anxious?**
- **When studying, do you prefer silence or do you prefer listening to music? Why?**
- **Is it morally right to expose our pets to loud music or large social gatherings?**
- **What can dog owners do to help raise a pet that is socially well-adjusted?**

PROFICIENCY SPEAKING EXAMINATION

Task Two: Readings for Discussion

READING TWO: TATTOOS AND HIRING

Tattoos have become mainstream over the years, with more adults choosing them as a form of personal expression. Even so, visible tattoos on hands, necks and faces are still considered more shocking than those on other parts of the body.

Surveys show that many people continue to view highly visible tattoos as unprofessional, while attitudes towards less obvious tattoos have softened. Some professionals admit that they delayed having a tattoo until they felt secure in their careers, worried that body art might limit opportunities. Research also suggests that different styles or patterns trigger different reactions: bold or intimidating designs can make job applicants seem risky, while softer, more organic designs are linked to creativity. Although applicants with visible tattoos remain slightly less likely to be hired, acceptance is growing in creative fields and among entrepreneurs, where tattoos can reinforce personal branding. Celebrity culture and social media have helped normalise tattooing, making it more diverse and accessible.

Many people now choose tattoos for their artistic value or personal meaning, seeing them as a way to express identity. For some, tattoos function as visual stories that mark important experiences, with little concern about future regret.

Points to consider:

- **What is your general opinion about tattoos? Do you think they express identity or say something important about a person?**
- **In what way do you think younger generations see tattoos differently from older generations?**
- **What factors should people consider before getting a tattoo?**
- **How important do you think it is for a tattoo to have meaning?**
- **Are there any dangers involved in getting a tattoo? What are they?**

LEVEL 2 (PROFICIENCY) SPEAKING EXAMINATION, Set 3 2026

Task Three: Topics

GROUP ONE: YOUTH

GROUP TWO: ADVENTURE

GROUP THREE: COMMUNITY