

Stage 2 [Language] Background Speakers

Assessment Type 3: Examination

Oral Examination – Discussion

The student indicates to the examiner(s) the subject of the in-depth study chosen for the discussion. The student explores with the examiner(s) the subject of the in-depth study and refers to the texts studied. The student may also refer to personal experiences related to the subject of the in-depth study.

The student may support the conversation and discussion with objects such as photographs, pictures and maps. Notes and cue cards are not permitted.

The following questions are suggested as English equivalents of useful starting points in preparation for the Oral Examination: Discussion. The questions are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Sample Discussion Questions

- What is the subject (topic) for your in-depth study? / Which topic did you choose for your in-depth study?
- Why are you interested in this subject? / Why did you choose this topic?
- Tell me about your in-depth study.
- What are the main resources which you have used for this in-depth study?
- What resources did you use? Were they effective?
- How difficult was it to find adequate resources for your in-depth study? Why?
- Did you make personal contact with someone regarding your in-depth study?
- Did you conduct interviews? Whom did you interview?
- Where did you find information about the topic?
- How easy or difficult was it to find information about the topic?
- Could you talk about the way in which you researched information about your topic?
- Which type of texts did you use in your research about your topic?
- Was it difficult to find information for your in-depth study? If you did have any difficulties how did you resolve the problems?
- Can you speak about any personal experiences related to the topic of your in-depth study?
- Which aspects of the subject have you studied?
- What, in your opinion, is the most interesting important/aspect of this topic?
- What did you know about this topic before you studied it?
- What did you learn from your in-depth study?
- What knowledge have you gained through this in-depth study?
- Could you talk about any objects brought in to support the discussion?
- Did you uncover different perspectives or viewpoints on the topic you researched? What were these different perspectives or viewpoints?
- Was there anything unexpected you found out as a result of completing the in-depth study?
- Is there any aspect of this topic that you would like to know more about?
- Explain why you think this topic (or some aspects of the topic) may be of interest to another student.

- Can you describe what, for you, was the highlight of your in-depth study?
- How has your in-depth study helped you understand the culture of [Language]-speaking communities better?
- What are the main findings from your investigation? What is it about these findings that makes you classify them as the most important findings?
- If you had the opportunity to continue to research more information on your topic, which aspects of it would you choose and why?
- If you were talking to your friends about this topic what would you tell them and why?