

GRADE 7, TASK 3 (INDIVIDUAL)

Guidance and examples



COMMUNICATION
SKILLS

TASK REQUIREMENTS

The examiner gives an overview of a social or political issue. A discussion follows in which the candidate expresses and explains their views on the situation.

GUIDANCE

The purpose of the task is to assess the candidate's ability to listen and quickly analyse a situation unfamiliar to them, and to clearly express their personal opinions and the reasons for those.

The following are some example issues:

- ▶ The amount of homework school students get varies a lot not only from country to country, or from school to school, but often from day to day. For most students, the amount of time spent on homework increases as they go through their school lives. How important is homework, and why?
- ▶ The voting age can differ between countries, and there are discussions about whether it should be lowered or remain as is. What should the voting rights be for young people, and why?
- ▶ Online platforms have varying policies regarding freedom of speech, moderation, and content removal. How important is striking a balance between preserving free expression and preventing harmful content online, and why?
- ▶ Some countries have mandatory voting laws, while others do not. What are the arguments for and against mandatory voting?
- ▶ The availability of part-time jobs and the legal restrictions on youth employment differ widely across regions. How important is providing opportunities for young people to work while considering their educational commitments and well-being? Why?

Some general points for candidates to think about when practising and preparing for this task:

Consider Multiple Viewpoints: Social and political issues are often complex and multifaceted. Try to understand different viewpoints on the topic, even if you disagree with them. This will help you engage in a well-rounded discussion.

Formulate Your Opinion: What is your opinion on the issue? Consider the reasons behind your stance and any potential counterarguments that might arise during the discussion.

Listen Actively and engage in constructive dialogue: During the discussion, actively listen to what the examiner is saying. Respectfully acknowledge opposing viewpoints; this shows your ability to engage in a thoughtful and open-minded conversation. Engage in a back-and-forth exchange of ideas. Ask questions to better understand others' viewpoints and explain your own perspective clearly. If you are unsure or do not understand something, ask for clarification. It is an open lively discussion between candidate and examiner.