

# Oral exam topics

### **1. Personal characteristics**

- describing appearance
- describing character and personality
- the ideal man and woman
- fashion, trends
- beauty care, cosmetics

### **2. Friends and relationships**

- friendship
- fellow students and colleagues
- partners

### **3. Family**

- family models (only child, large family, single-parent families)
- division of tasks within the family
- generations living together

### **4. Man and society**

- social benefits (pension, health insurance, unemployment benefit)
- social movements (NGOs, trade unions, clubs, associations)
- public safety, crime and criminal investigation
- unemployment

### **5. Place of living**

- candidate's flat/house
- furnishings, pieces of furniture
- household chores and appliances
- flat-related costs, maintenance
- the ideal home

### **6. Housing**

- living in the city or in the country
- living conditions (own property, rented accommodation, lodgings, hostel)
- flat or house
- neighbourhood

### **7. Holidays and celebrations**

- family celebrations (birthdays, name days, anniversaries)
- Christmas, Easter
- public holidays
- customs and traditions

### **8. Reading; television, video, cinema**

- reading (books, newspapers, libraries, Internet)
- TV, cinema, video
- reading vs TV
- TV vs cinema

## **9. Culture**

- music (listening to music, concerts, opera, playing an instrument)
- theatre
- museums, exhibitions

## **10. Free time activities**

- going out
- parties, balls, festivals
- hobbies
- other ways of recreation

## **11. Learning, education, the school system**

- school system, school types in Hungary
- school system, school types in English-speaking countries
- candidate's school experiences
- tertiary education
- learning outside school: courses, etc
- student exchange programmes, student mobility

## **12. Learning foreign languages**

- the role and importance of foreign languages
- language learning opportunities
- language learning experiences

## **13. Work and the individual**

- working hours (part-time, casual work, shift work, several jobs)
- fashionable jobs / dream jobs
- ways of finding a job
- working abroad (advantages, disadvantages)
- career and/or family

## **14. Work and society**

- job prestige
- unemployment, benefits
- telework
- graduates entering the labour market

## **15. Sports**

- sports facilities
- candidate's sporting activities, favourite sports
- mass sports
- sports events, professionals
- extreme sports

## **16. Health**

- characteristics of a healthy lifestyle
- healthy and unhealthy diet/dishes
- healthcare

## **17. Illnesses**

- common illnesses
- addiction (alcohol, drugs, smoking)
- stress, psychic diseases

## **18. Services**

- catering facilities
- banks
- repair and maintenance
- emergency services (ambulance, police, Automobile Association)

## **19. Shopping**

- everyday shopping
- buying consumer durables
- shopping habits
- sales, discounts
- the role of advertisements
- consumer society

## **20. Transport**

- everyday transport
- public transport in the city
- intercity transport
- individual transport (cars, motorbikes, bicycles)
- public transport problems
- individual transport problems

## **21. Travelling in Hungary and abroad**

- preparations
- favourite destinations
- types of trips (holiday, official, business, study, conferences)
- package tour (advantages, disadvantages)

## **22. Weather, seasons, environment protection**

- environmental problems
- environment protection
- home environment protection (selective waste collection, energy saving at home)
- weather, seasons

## **23. Telecommunications**

- telephones
- computers
- e-mail
- Internet

## **24. Hungary**

- major tourist attractions
- main places of interest
- tourism
- Hungary as a destination

## **25. English-speaking countries**

- general information, personal experiences

# Speaking

## 1. Exchanging personal information

In this part of the exam you will be asked questions which are related to a particular topic. Your answers should reflect your personal views and experiences.

You might be asked questions like these:

### Learning languages

- How long have you been learning English?  
What aspect of learning English do you enjoy most?
- How do you learn new words?
- Besides a language course, how have you improved your English?
- What is the most difficult part of language learning in your opinion?  
Why?
- Have you ever had to use your English in a real-life situation?  
(*If yes*) Tell us about it.  
(*If not*) In what situations can you imagine using your English to help a foreign visitor in Hungary?
- Apart from English, what would be the most useful language for you to study?  
Why?

## 2. Discussion on a topic stimulated by photographs

You will be given a set of photographs, which illustrates a certain topic. You should talk about the topic on your own for about four to five minutes. You should not describe the photographs in detail; you could develop your talk rather by comparing and contrasting them, commenting on them and raising problems related to them.

Remember that in your talk you have to speak from a general perspective and include the ideas represented by the photographs.

You might be given a set like this:

### Sports and games



### **3. Situation**

You are asked to act out a situation. You will be given a card which describes what you have to do. Study the card and begin the conversation.

#### **Buying your first home**

(expressing likes and wishes)

#### **Candidate's copy**

You have finally saved enough money to buy a flat but you have no time to search for one, so you go to a real estate agency.

Tell the agent (the examiner) what is important to you about the flat regarding its

- location
- size
- arrangement of rooms
- price

*The agent starts the conversation.*