Speaking Part 3

The collaborative task: you and your partner discuss options and make a decision together. It's not a monologue — it's a conversation.

Cómo hacer la Part 3 del Speaking de Cambridge (B1, B2 y C1): plan, reglas, frases y diálogo modelo.

1 What is the task?

¿En qué consiste?

B1 B1 Preliminary

The examiner describes a situation. You discuss **picture options** with your partner and decide which is best.

2–3 min
discussion

B2 B2 First

A question with **five written prompts**. Discuss them together, then you get **one more minute** to make a decision.

2 min discuss **1 min** decide

C1 C1 Advanced

Same format as B2, with more abstract topics. Examiners expect **developed ideas** and smooth interaction.

2 min discuss **1 min** decide

2 How the conversation flows

El esquema de la conversación

Start Invite your partner or suggest where to begin. → **Opinion** Give one idea with a reason. → **Ask** Ask what your partner thinks. → **React** Agree, disagree or add something. → **Move on** Change to the next option. → **Decide** Reach a decision — or agree to disagree.

3 Six rules examiners love

Seis reglas de oro

1. **Talk with your partner, not at them.** Look at them and respond to what they say.
2. **You don't need to cover every option.** Two or three in depth is better than five quickly.
3. **Disagreeing is fine** — if you're polite and give a reason.
4. **Don't decide too early.** At B2 and C1, the decision comes in the final minute.
5. **Share the time.** Don't dominate, and help a quiet partner with a question.
6. **Agreeing isn't required.** "Let's agree to disagree" is a perfectly good ending.

4 Next: Part 4

Después viene la Part 4

At **B1, B2 and C1**, the examiner then asks you both more questions on the **same topic**. Now you give longer, personal answers — and you can still react to your partner.

Extend

That's a good question... · It depends on... · On the one hand..., but on the other...

Give an example

In my town, for example... · A friend of mine... · Take... for instance.

Join in

Can I add something? · Going back to what Ana said... · I'd go even further.

5 Phrase bank

Frases útiles por nivel

Function	B1 B2 B1 – B2	C1 C1 upgrade
Starting Empezar	Shall I start? · Let's start with… · What do you think about…?	I'd like to begin by looking at… · Shall we kick off with…?
Opinion Opinar	I think… · In my opinion… · If you ask me…	To my way of thinking… · I'm inclined to believe… · My gut reaction is…
Asking Preguntar	What do you think? · Do you agree? · How about you?	What's your take on…? · Would you go along with that? · Anything to add?
Agreeing Estar de acuerdo	I agree. · That's true. · Good point!	I couldn't agree more. · That's exactly my view. · You've hit the nail on the head.
Disagreeing Discrepar	I'm not so sure. · Yes, but… · I see what you mean, but…	I see where you're coming from, but… · That might be true, but the thing is…
Moving on Cambiar de tema	Shall we move on to…? · What about…?	That ties in with… · Let's turn to… for a moment.
Deciding Decidir	Which one shall we choose? · So, we agree on…	I think we can rule out… · Are we both in favour of…? · Let's agree to disagree.

6 Model discussion

Diálogo modelo · nivel B2

Task: How could a town attract more young people? Prompts: a music festival · cheaper public transport · a new sports centre · more part-time jobs · free Wi-Fi in parks

A **Shall I start?** I think **cheaper public transport** is essential, because a lot of young people can't afford a car.

B **I couldn't agree more.** And it would help them get to university or work. **What about** a music festival?

A It would be fun, **but the thing is**, it only happens once a year. **What's your take on** part-time jobs?

B That's a really good idea. Young people often move away because they can't find work. **That ties in with** the transport point, actually.

A Exactly. **Shall we move on to** the sports centre?

B Hmm, **I'm not so sure about that one.** Most towns already have a gym.

A [Decision minute] So, **I think we can rule out** the sports centre. **Are we both in favour of** part-time jobs?

B Yes — they'd make the biggest difference in the long term.

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