

CARD 1

TASK 1: MONOLOGUE

CANDIDATE A

Preparation time: **3 minutes**  
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

**TOPIC: HEALTH**  
**Junk food**

You read the following text in a news editorial:

In the continuing effort to fight obesity in the U.S., the Food and Drug Administration is reviewing its nutrition labeling guidelines. However, what motivates people to buy junk food varies so much based on context — the purchasing environment, their socio-economic status, their emotional state, their hunger —so a label is unlikely to “interrupt” the purchasing decision except in a small number of cases.

(adapted from [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com))

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the main issues to be addressed when dealing with healthy eating habits.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.

**CARD 1**

**TASK 1: MONOLOGUE**

**CANDIDATE B**

Preparation time: **3 minutes**  
Speaking time: **4 minutes max.**

**TOPIC: WORK**  
**Unemployment**

You read the following text in a news editorial:

The employment problems of older workers do not seem to be substantially worse than those of other workers. In fact, for much of the past two decades older workers have had faster employment growth than other age groups. However, while the job displacement rate of older workers is not unusually high compared to other workers, once displaced, older workers do have more difficulty returning to employment.

(adapted from [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com))

You are going to talk about how you stand on this particular issue.

You must include ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

1. Explain to your partner **in your own words** what you have just read.
2. Discuss the main challenges faced by job seekers these days.
3. Make predictions and speculate about what the situation may be like in the future.

Support your opinions with arguments.



CARD 1

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE A

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 4-5 MINUTES

TOPIC: FAMILY

Consider the statements below on the topic of *parenting*.

1. Talk to each other about how these statements represent different aspects of *raising children these days*.
2. Then decide together which of the statements best reflects *the most important challenge that modern-day parents face*.

- Parents in Western countries are raising smaller broods because of the skyrocketing costs of raising a child.
- For your child, having a phone offers the same kind of security it does for you. -- knowing that you're just a call or text away. They also may see having a phone as part of fitting in with their friends. But there are also some potential downsides to consider.
- Overparented children typically face not just a heavy academic schedule but also a strenuous program of extracurricular activities— tennis lessons, Mandarin classes, ballet. After-school activities, at the same time, keep kids off the street.

**Remember** you must both talk about all the three statements.

You needn't come to an agreement, but you have to support your point.

CARD 1

TASK 2: INTERACTION

CANDIDATE B

PREPARATION TIME: 2 MINUTES

SPEAKING TIME: 4-5 MINUTES

**TOPIC: FAMILY**

Consider the statements below on the topic of *parenting*.

1. Talk to each other about how these statements represent different aspects of *raising children these days*.
2. Then decide together which of the statements best reflects *the most important challenge that modern-day parents face*.

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