

## ISE I CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

### Subject areas for the Conversation phase of the Interview

One subject area will be selected by the examiner from the list below.

- |           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| ▶ Travel  | ▶ Rules and regulations       |
| ▶ Money   | ▶ Health and fitness          |
| ▶ Fashion | ▶ Learning a foreign language |

Please note ISE I candidates should **not** select their topic from the list of subject areas above (see guidance notes on page 30).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**EXAM YOURSELF!** USE THESE QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU REVIEW ALL OF THE TOPICS FOR THE ORAL EXAM.

<http://quizlet.com/22706231/ise-i-questions-flash-cards/>

\*\*\*\*\*  
A Part of [Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom](#).

#### TRAVEL

- Have you ever been abroad?
  - Where have you been? How many countries have you been to?
  - Have you ever taken a package tour?
- Are you planning on going anywhere for your next vacation?
  - If so, where?
  - Who with?
  - How long will you stay?
- Have you ever been on an airplane?
  - How many times?
  - What airlines have you flown with?
- What countries would you like to visit? Why?
  - Do you think you will ever go there?
- Why do you travel?
  - Why do people travel?
  - What are some benefits of travel?
- When you are on a long car journey do you play games or sing songs to occupy your time?
  - What kind of games? What songs?
- Where are you going to go the next time you travel?
  - When are you going to go?
  - Who are you going to go with?
  - How long are you going to go for?
  - What are you going to do there?
  - What kind of things do you think you will buy?
- Where did you go on your last vacation? Your summer vacation? Your Christmas vacation?
  - How did you go?
  - Who did you go with?
  - Would you like to go back to the same place?
- What was your best trip?
- What was your worst trip?
- Do you prefer summer vacations or winter vacations?
- Do you prefer to travel alone or in a group? Why?
- Do you prefer to travel by car, train, bus, plane or ship?
- Have you ever been in a difficult situation while traveling?
- Have you ever gotten lost while traveling? If so, talk about it.
- How do you spend your time when you are on holiday and the weather is bad?
- If you went to \_\_\_\_ (Insert a country name) \_\_\_\_, what kind of souvenirs would you buy?
- If you were going on a camping trip for a week, what 10 things would you bring? Explain why.
- What are some countries that you would never visit? Why would you not visit them?
- What are some things that you always take with you on a trip?
- What do you need before you can travel to another country?

- What is the most interesting city to visit in your country?
- What is the most interesting souvenir that you have ever bought on one of your holidays?
- What languages can you speak?
- What place do you want to visit someday?
- What was the most interesting place you have ever visited?
- What's the most beautiful place you've ever been to?
- When was the last time you traveled?
- Where will you go on your next vacation?
- Would you like to take a cruise? Where to? With who?
- Would you prefer to stay at a hotel/motel or camp while on vacation?
- Would you rather visit another country or travel within your own country?
- Would you rather go to a place where there are a lot of people or to a place where there are few people?
- What are popular tourist destinations in your country?
  - Have you been to any of them?
  - Which would you recommend if you could only recommend one? Why?
- Do you prefer active or relaxing holidays? Why?
- Which is better, a package tour or a tour you organize and book yourself?
- Do you travel with a lot of baggage or do you like to travel light?
- What is your favorite mode of travel? (To get to your destination)
- What is your favorite method of travel to your destination? Train? Bus? Boat? Bicycle? Backpacking?
- What is the best kind of holiday for different ages of people? Children? Teenagers? Adults? Elderly people?
- Do you think it is a good idea to travel with friends, or alone? How about with your family?
- If you had \$100,000, where would you go on holiday? How about if you had \$10,000? What about \$1,000?
- Do you prefer hot or cool countries when you go on holiday?
- Who makes the decisions when your family decides to go on holiday?
- If you could choose one place to go this weekend, where would it be?
- Is there any difference between young tourists and adult tourists?

To help you practice: <http://quizlet.com/19596383/travel-questions-flash-cards/>

Think of 2 questions the examiner can ask you about travel. Then, think of 1 *follow-up* question for each of those questions.

E.g. 1. If you could choose one place to go this weekend, where would it be?

Follow-up: Who would you take with you? Would you stay in a hotel or a hostel? What must you see/do when you get there?

## **MONEY**

1. What does the expression, "money doesn't grow on trees" mean? What would life be like if it did?
2. Who and why might someone ask, "Do you think I'm made of money" Have you ever asked this?
3. How would the world be different if all the money in the world was shared out equally among all people?
4. What's the best way to make a lot of money?
5. Have you ever raised money for charity?
6. Is money really the root of all evil?
7. Can money buy happiness?
8. Do you worry about money?
9. What's the largest amount of money you've ever had in your wallet/purse?
10. Does having a lot of money make someone more attractive?
11. Have you ever lost a lot of money?
12. How much pocket money should a 13-year-old get?
13. Do you ever run out of money?
14. Do you agree with the idiom that "a fool and his money are easily parted"?

<http://quizlet.com/19885300/money-flash-cards/>

## **Fashion**

Do you like today's fashion?

Do you consider yourself stylish?

How important is fashion to you?

Describe the fashion or different styles at your school.

What would you wear if you were going to meet your friends for a coffee in the morning? To go dancing at night? To have a picnic in the park? To go

shopping? To a job interview?

"Clothes make the man" is an expression that means people will judge you by your clothes. Do you think this is true?

Do you pay attention to what celebrities wear?

Do you like watching the red carpet at award shows?

If you could invent a style of dress, what would it look like?

Do you and your friends have similar tastes in fashion? You and your family?

How often do you think about fashion?

Is it good to think about clothes and fashion?

What is your favorite outfit?

If you had to wear the same outfit every day for the rest of your life, what would you wear?

What do you think about second-hand stores?

Do you prefer shopping at department stores, small shops, outdoor markets, second-hand stores, or making clothes by hand?

If your sibling was getting married, what would you wear to their wedding?

How do you describe your style?

In your opinion, is hair an important aspect of fashion?

Do you like wearing accessories such as a watch, necklace, bracelet, earrings, etc.?

Do you notice a difference between Spanish fashion and American fashion, for example, when you are watching an American TV show?

How has the Fair's fashion changed over the years?

What is the most bizarre fashion today?

Give an example of classic fashion and fad fashion.

What's "in" today? In other words, what's in style today?

When you go shopping for clothes, do you usually try them on before you buy them?

Do you follow the latest fashion?

If your life were suddenly on a reality show, would you change anything about the way you dress?

What's the most important/valuable piece in your wardrobe? (What's your most prized item in your closet?)

What kind of accessories do you wear?

Describe a typical outfit you would wear.

Describe what your classmate is wearing.

What fashion philosophy do you agree with?

- Every day is a fashion show, and you do your best to look great
- You love fashion, but you think taking it too seriously ruins it
- If it's not comfortable, then there's no way you'll ever wear it
- If you have to dry clean it or iron it, forget it
- It's better to regret the things you wear than regret the things you didn't wear
- Good taste never goes out of style

What pieces of clothing do you hate wearing?

Who is the best-dressed person you know?

Look in your closet. What sorts of colors do you see?

Describe the typical clothing people wear for each season of the year: spring, summer, fall, and winter.

How much do you spend getting ready to go to school?

- College
- Work
- Out with friends
- To a party
- Do the times vary much?

What would you do or feel if you were refused entry to somewhere because of what you were wearing?

What would you wear to meet royalty or the President of your country?

Would you go to a fancy dress party? Why or why not?

What is a major fashion faux pas?

What accessories do men wear/carry?

## Rules and Regulations

Consider at what age you think people should be able to:

1. Get married
2. Drink alcohol
3. Vote
4. Drive
5. Smoke
6. Join the army

## 7. Leave school

Compare the above with what people are allowed to do in your country.

In the US people can get married at 16, vote at 18 and drink alcohol when they are 21. Do you think this makes sense? Discuss

Questions:

What are some rules at your school? Which rules do you (dis)agree with? Can you think of a new rule you would like to have at your school? Is there a rule you hate?

What would happen if we didn't have rules, for example, at school? In society?

What is your opinion on school uniforms?

<http://www.dumblaws.com/laws/united-states/alabama>

-Do you think any of these laws are valid or justified?

What rule would you like to make?

Guys and Gals! What rules would you make for the opposite sex?

Does everyone in society follow the same rules?

Rules worksheet: What does the sign stand for? Do you agree with this rule? Where do you typically see this sign?

Expressions using "rule". What do they mean?

Rules are made to be broken.

As a general rule, he can be found in the pub.

You are bending the rules.

I think we can rule out him as a possible friend.

The judge ruled against the man.

The Court ruled for the woman.

Qaddafi no longer rules the roost in Libya.

As a rule of thumb, "i" comes before "e," "except after "c."

Would you prefer I rule with an iron fist or a velvet glove?

\* What are some rules for driving? A sports event? A doctor's office? Unwritten rules for a wedding? Meeting a person you like?

## Health and Fitness

What are some home remedies that you take for the following illnesses: a cold, the flu, a fever, a headache, nausea (a feeling of throwing up), and a sore throat. For example, some people eat hot chicken soup to fight a cold.

What are some of the best exercises to get in shape and/or lose weight?

Do you exercise? What kind of exercise do you do? How often do you exercise?

Do you have any scars? Where are they? Would you like to share how you got them?

Do you think pets are good for a person's health? Have you ever broken a bone?

How many hours of sleep do you usually get?

How would you recommend treating a cold?

What are some things that cause stress? What are some ways to deal with stress?

What do you do to stay healthy?

When was the last time you went to a dentist? When was the last time you went to a doctor?

When was the last time you were sick?

Who is the healthiest person in your family? Who is the least healthy?

Would you consider donating your organs after your death?

What is your opinion on diets?

How important are the following to your health:

- Eating healthy foods
- Getting plenty of exercise
- Getting lots of sleep
- Seeing the doctor regularly
- Taking medicine
- Socializing
- Pursuing a hobby (ex. crafts, music, etc.)

How are you feeling today?

What do you do to avoid catching the flu in the winter season?

What's a bad habit you need to change?

Who's the oldest person in your family that you know? Is he/she healthy? Why or why not?

What is the secret to a long life?

What is your relationship with fast food restaurants?

Have you ever been to the hospital?

What do you think of the health services in Spain? How could it be improved?

## Learning a Foreign Language

\*Which languages do you speak and which would you like to learn?

\*What are the biggest problems with learning a foreign language?

\*What is the ideal way to teach/learn another language?

\*What are the benefits of learning a second or third language?

What are the biggest problems with teaching a foreign language?

What techniques do you use to remember vocabulary better? To study a foreign language?

\*At what age should people start learning another language? In what way (e.g. at school, private classes, at home, through the media, etc.)?

\*What is the best test to measure fluency in a foreign language?

\*Should learning a foreign language be mandatory or optional? What role does the student's motivation play in learning a foreign language?

\*Some people say "I'm not good at learning languages." Is this just a question of attitude (maybe because of a previous bad experience) or were some people born lacking the ability to learn a language?

\*What is your opinion on learning Chinese? German? An indigenous language? What are some reasons people learn another language?

\*What advice would you give to someone learning another language? What would you say to a person who is having difficulties learning Spanish?

Why do people want to learn a foreign language? Why do people need to learn a foreign language?

What do you have to do to speak a foreign language well?

What is the most difficult part in learning a foreign language?

Do you agree? 10 Reasons Why Learning a Foreign Language is Important:

1. Improves your grasp of your native language
2. Enhances your confidence
3. Gives you a wider understanding of world affairs
4. Widens your career/job options
5. Improves international relations
6. Makes travelling easier and more enjoyable
7. Connects the world and promotes peace
8. Helps you make friends in new countries
9. Shows you are open-minded and tolerant
10. Boosts brain power

\*Top 5 Resources for Learning a Foreign Language

1. Online Newspapers
2. Learner Community Websites, e.x. Busuu
3. Song Lyrics
4. Language Exchange Groups
5. Podcasts

\*Do you agree? Which is the best way? Do you have any more to add?

\*\*\*\*\*

**EXAM YOURSELF!** USE THESE QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU REVIEW ALL OF THE TOPICS FOR THE ORAL EXAM.

<http://quizlet.com/22706231/ise-i-questions-flash-cards/>