

Method for the Baccalauréat Speaking Exam

Modalités et le déroulement de l'épreuve (Séries ES, S)

- L'expression orale sera testée au 3ème trimestre dans votre établissement. Cette épreuve compte pour ¼ de la note finale. Le niveau attendu est B2 pour la LV1 et B1 pour la LV2. Temps de préparation = 10 minutes. Durée de l'épreuve = 10 minutes
- Le candidat tire au sort une des 4 notions étudiées dans l'année : Mythes et Héros, Espaces et Échanges, Idée de Progrès, Lieux et Formes du Pouvoir. Il a ensuite 10 minutes pour préparer son intervention orale.
- L'épreuve d'expression orale se déroule en 2 temps :
 - une phase d'expression en continu, d'une durée de 5 minutes pendant laquelle le candidat présente et définit la notion, introduit le thème lié à cette notion, présente certains des documents étudiés dans l'année et en lien avec le thème et la notion, fait une conclusion.
 - une phase d'interaction conduite par le professeur qui prend appui sur l'exposé du candidat. Cette phase d'interaction ne doit pas excéder 5 minutes.

Les fiches d'évaluation et de notation pour les différentes épreuves d'expression orale peuvent être consultées sur le site suivant :
http://media.education.gouv.fr/file/43/17/1/fiches_evaluation_200171.pdf

Your Mission

Introduction

- Give a definition of the notion ;
- Present the theme ;
- Present the key question.

Body

- Give your opinion / express your ideas regarding the key question (don't learn by heart !)
- Use an outline (different parts).
- Illustrate your arguments with documents studied in class (text, audio tracks, pictures, quotes).
- Give examples : mention briefly the type of document, the summary, the author's objectives, your analysis with regards to the key question.

Conclusion

- Synthesize briefly your ideas
- Give your opinion
- open up the theme. You can also mention a topic you'd like to develop during the interaction.

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Tips & Vocabulary

During Preparation Time

- Write the complex vocabulary you have memorized just before coming in as I told you to ;
- Collect and organize your ideas/opinion (don't write sentences) ;
- Pick up some ideas that you will use later during the interaction time.

Expression en continu

- Introduce yourself and greet the examiner ;
- Respect the timing (5 min only) ;
- Keep eye contact with the examiner ;
- Use gap fillers when you hesitate ;
- Rephrase when you're not sure the examiner has understood you ;
- Try to convince (yourself and) the examiner that you are interested in this notion.

How to introduce the notion

- I'm going to talk about the **notion** of progress / space and reciprocity / myths and heroes / power : Types and seats.
- The notion I'm going to deal with is the **idea** of progress
- To **begin** with / to start with, I'd like to give a **definition** of...
- Let me begin by giving a definition of the notion

How to introduce the subtheme

- In **relation** to the notion, the **subject** of my presentation will be ...
- Regarding this notion, I'm going to speak about...
- I would like to illustrate this notion through the theme of...

Explaining the theme :

- Conventional wisdom has it that...
- Such a theme is a matter of **common concern** since/as/because...
- The notion hinges on the question whether

How to phrase the key question

We may answer the question ...

We may wonder about / if / how/ why...

How to introduce your outline

1st possibility

- My presentation will fall into 3 parts:
- My commentary will be based on two points :
 - o First of all, I will **concentrate** on.... , then I will **analyze** before **finally focusing** on ...
 - o Firstly/ first/ first of all, I will be **interested** in..., then I'll **study**..., eventually I'll say a few words about...

2nd possibility

In order to (= so as to) illustrate this notion / this theme / the fact that..., I have chosen two documents

Let me **explain** the **reason** why I have **chosen** ...

To my mind (=in my **opinion**, in my view...), the documents that best illustrate the notion... are...

For **example** / for **instance** / let's take the case of / take for example / in **particular** / **particularly**

How to introduce your arguments

At the turn of the 21st century, ... / With the advent of... / With the growing gap between... / With the tremendous progress of...

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How to talk about a document studied in relation to the notion

a) say what the document is about :

The document deals with/ is about...
 It focuses on a **major** issue
 The gist of the text
 It raises the problem of ...
 It indicates / it shows / it **suggests** / it proves that...
 It describes / it draws our **attention** to the fact that
 It points out = it underlines = it **stresses** the fact that
 I would like to dwell on a particular aspect of the document
 As the journalist/author/cartoonist puts it, quote "... unquote.
 It is a good example of...

b) Explain the author's or narrator's point of view

FOR	AGAINST	NEUTRAL
He/she approves of ... He/she sides with... He /she stands for ... He/ she advocates...	He/she denounces / condemns He/she criticizes/ blames / reproaches GN for Ving He/she disapproves of... He/she warns us against ...	He/she analyses / comments on / reveals / informs us that...

The **author** / poet / **journalist** / **painter** / film director/ **singer** / **artist** wants to draw our attention
 His/her aim is to...

c) How to explain the link with the notion you have to talk about
 It is an **interesting** / apt / **relevant** illustration of... insofar as ...
 In many **respects**, the document / the **recording** / the **report** shows that / proves that...
 Both documents make us **realize** that / make us **aware** that / make us **understand** that ...
 In both documents / in the three documents, the **idea** put **forward** is...

Give your opinion on the key question

To my knowledge, This extract is particularly interesting on account of
 I think that this issue can be seen from another angle
 In my **opinion** / in my view / to my mind
 From my point of view
 My personal point of view on this topic is that
 As far as I am **concerned**, I think that ...
 I strongly **believe** that...
 I'm afraid I **disagree** about the idea that...
 I have the **feeling** that ...
 We are given the impression that ...
 We must **acknowledge** that...
 We must not **forget** that ...
 We should keep in mind that...
 Nothing will change **unless**...
 I am all in favour of
 I am under the impression that
 I am convinced that
 There can be no doubt that
 I would like to point out that
 What I am driving at is

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To conclude

Now, what conclusion can we draw from this analysis
By way of conclusion, we can say that
From all this follows that
To conclude, I would like to say that
It all comes down to
The long and the short if it is
To **conclude** / in **conclusion**, I could say that ...
All in all, I'd like to end by saying that...

To make him/her aware that you've finished

And that would be all I have to say about this notion.
My presentation is now finished/over.

Expression en interaction

Don't forget to :

- develop your answer,
- justify your opinion with arguments and examples,
- give your opinion about the documents we've studied (positive or negative arguments).

Expressions to interact

Agree

I think so / I **suppose** so / I guess so
That's just what I think / That's it
I **agree** with you about it / I do agree with you
I'm with you there
Exactly / **Precisely** / **Obviously** / **By all means**
It is certainly true that...

Disagree

I don't really think so
I'm afraid you're wrong
I don't fully agree with you
I would like to raise an objection
I have a few reservations about this
I don't agree with you on that point
I disagree with you
I strongly disagree with this argument
I have mixed feelings about
I am totally against

Involve the examiner

Imagine ...
Would you agree to / would you wish to ...
Do you mean that ... ?
Don't you think that... ?
Isn't it+adjectif+to+Verb...?
Shouldn't + S + V ... ?

Clarify your speech

Let me put it another way = let me say it differently
What I mean is that
In other words

Convince the examiner

Use examples !
I'm quite sure that ... / I'm convinced that / I do believe that
I think it would be a brilliant idea/a great idea to+V
It would be fantastic if ...

When you don't understand the question

I am not sure I understand what you mean.
I am afraid I haven't got the slightest idea.
I am terribly sorry but I haven't understood the question.
I must admit I don't know much about this.
I am sorry, what did you say?
I am sorry I didn't hear what you said.
Do you mind repeating what you have just said?

Adding information

I would like to make another point if I may
I would like to raise another question
I would also like to argue that
Now if I may express my own opinion
It emerges from this that

Gap-fillers

Well / So / Let me think/see /
You know / You see
I mean / you see/know what I mean
If you see what I mean / What I mean is... /
Do you see what I mean?
The thing/problem/point is
Anyway what I'm trying to say is...
How can I say this, ...
It's a sort / kind of
I suppose/guess so
In a way / Actually / Basically
Now, to get back to what I was saying...
How shall I put it ? ...

Source: adapted from R. Justome's method

If you have any question, please send me an email englishub@gmail.com

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Vocabulary

Verbs	
To speed up / To further / To boost / To foster	To soar / To skyrocket
To tackle	To make headway / To advance / To gain ground
To reach	To protect / to shield / To safeguard
To improve / To better	To bring about / To generate / To entail
To implement / To enforce	To lose ground
To overcome / To prevail on	To spread / To be rampant / To propagate
To initiate	To get rid of / To dump
To decrease / To lessen / To shrink / To be on the wane ≠to raise	To be at a standstill
To prevent / To hamper / To hinder	To fall / To dwindle / To plummet
To interfere with / To infringe on	To reckon/ To deem / To consider / To suppose
To be at stake	To surmise / To assume
To flourish / To thrive	To contend that
To reduce / To curtail / To curb	To ignore / To disregard
To involve / To imply	To stick to the facts
To threaten	To make a plea for / To plead for/against
To give an insight into	To be in sharp contrast with
To highlight / To focus on / To point out	To set up a connection between
To shed light on (an issue)	To cite / To quote
To dwell on	.....
To stress / To underline / To emphasize / To lay emphasis on / To underscore	.....
To suggest / To imply	.....
To infer	.....
To embody	.....
To bring to the fore	.....
To boil down	.....
To take a critical stand on	.....
To advocate a different approach	.....
To hint at an issue	.....
To bear evidence that	.....
Nouns & Expressions	
A significant/burning issue	A hurdle
A predicament / A plight	A conundrum
An outlook / A prospect	A moot point
A standpoint / A viewpoint	A warning
A milestone / A landmark	A matter of prime importance
A significant step	.....
A substantial increase	.....
A considerable breakthrough	.....
A prime example	.....
A primary question	.....
A crucial point	.....
A serious drawback	.....
Far-reaching consequences	.....
A deadlock	.....
A matter of common concern	.....
An understatement	.....