

Thinking inside the exam box

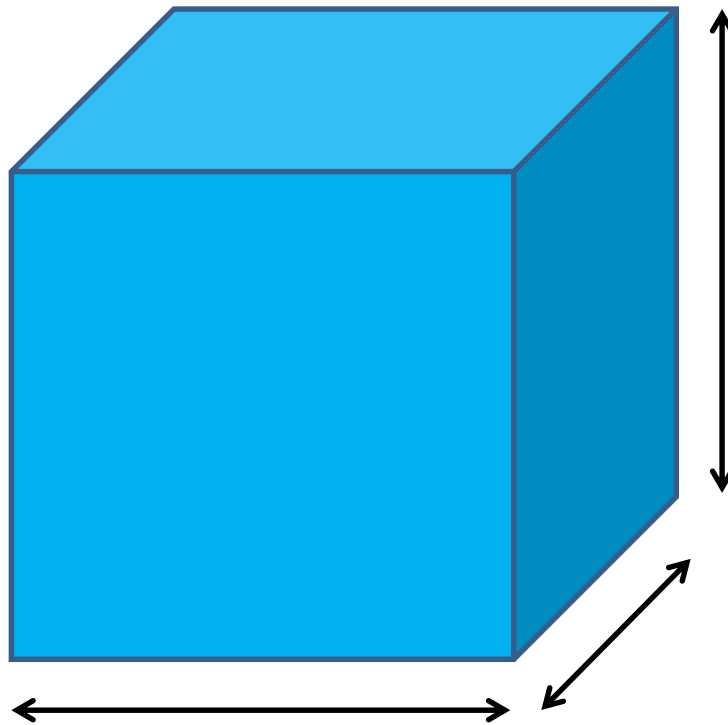


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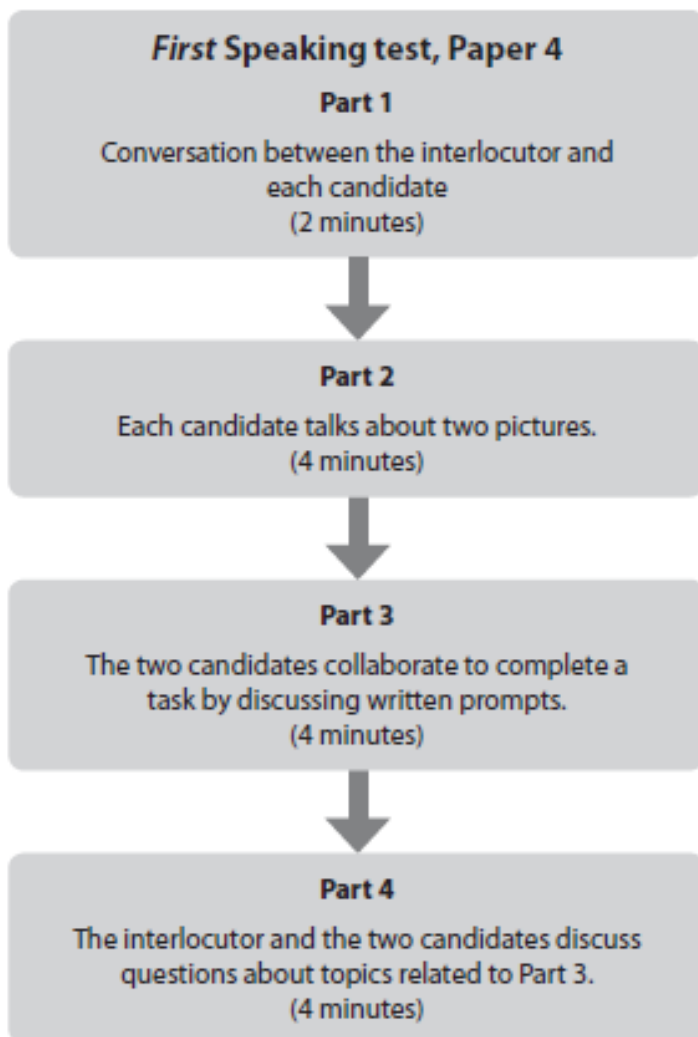
Generating ideas in exams are easier for students to come up with when teachers help them to...

- work within the exam template
- practise generating ideas
- rehearse and develop

“Work within the exam template”



- 1 Look at the flowchart and read the sentences taken from a *First Speaking test*. Which part of the exam does each sentence come from? Who said it – the interlocutor (I) or a candidate (C)?



- 1 First of all we'd like to know something about you. **Part 1 (I)**
- 2 In the first picture you can see four people skiing ... **Part 2 (C)**
- 3 I'm from Colombia. **Part ____ (____)**
- 4 I would prefer to spend my free time skiing as in this picture ... **Part ____ (____)**
- 5 And what do you like about living in Colombia? **Part ____ (____)**
- 6 Now, I'd like you to talk about something together for about two minutes. **Part ____ (____)**
- 7 Maybe you could have a dinner in the evening and then later have a little party. **Part ____ (____)**
- 8 Do you prefer spending time at home or do you like to go out in your free time? **Part ____ (____)**
- 9 As many people can work from home with computers, do you think more of us will move away from cities in the future? **Part ____ (____)**
- 10 In this part of the test, I'm going to give each of you two photographs. **Part ____ (____)**
- 11 I'd like you to compare the photographs ... **Part ____ (____)**
- 12 What do you think is important, when choosing where to live? **Part ____ (____)**
- 13 That's right. And the last activity we can choose might be the firework display. **Part ____ (____)**
- 14 I'd like you to imagine that your local town is 500 years old and is planning events to celebrate the anniversary. **Part ____ (____)**
- 15 Well, I think at the moment with all the opportunities and technical advances it is very easy to work away from the office. **Part ____ (____)**
- 16 Can you tell me about a day that you've enjoyed recently? **Part ____ (____)**

1 = They did this very well.
 2 = They did this quite well.
 3 = They need to improve this part of the exam.

Part 1	Score
talk about general topics	1 2 3
make sure you answer the examiner's questions	1 2 3
give full answers with reasons	1 2 3
speak naturally and fluently	1 2 3
Part 2	
compare and contrast the two photographs	1 2 3
answer the question with reference to the two photographs	1 2 3
answer the examiner's supplementary question	1 2 3
give reasons for your answers and opinions	1 2 3
Part 3	
discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each suggestion	1 2 3
compare and contrast some of the suggestions	1 2 3
choose the best idea	1 2 3
ask for your partner's opinion	1 2 3
show you are listening to your partner	1 2 3
use polite phrases for agreeing and disagreeing	1 2 3
Part 4	
answer the examiner's questions	1 2 3
give opinions	1 2 3
give reasons for your opinions	1 2 3
use a wide range of language and structures	1 2 3

Once upon a time _____

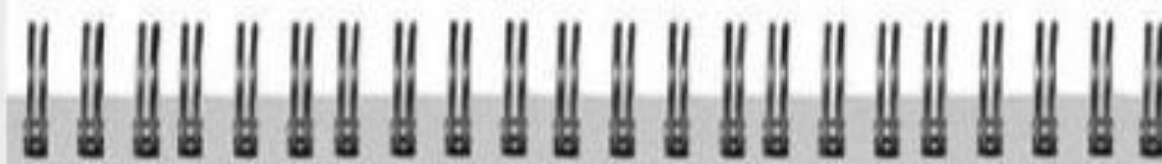
Every day _____

One day _____

Because of that, _____

Because of that, _____

Until finally _____



It is much easier to communicate with family and friends than in our grandparents' time. Do you agree?

Notes

Things to write about:

- 1 letters and emails
- 2 telephones and mobile phones
- 3 your own idea

There are various arguments for and against the view that _____

Another reason is that _____

Thirdly _____

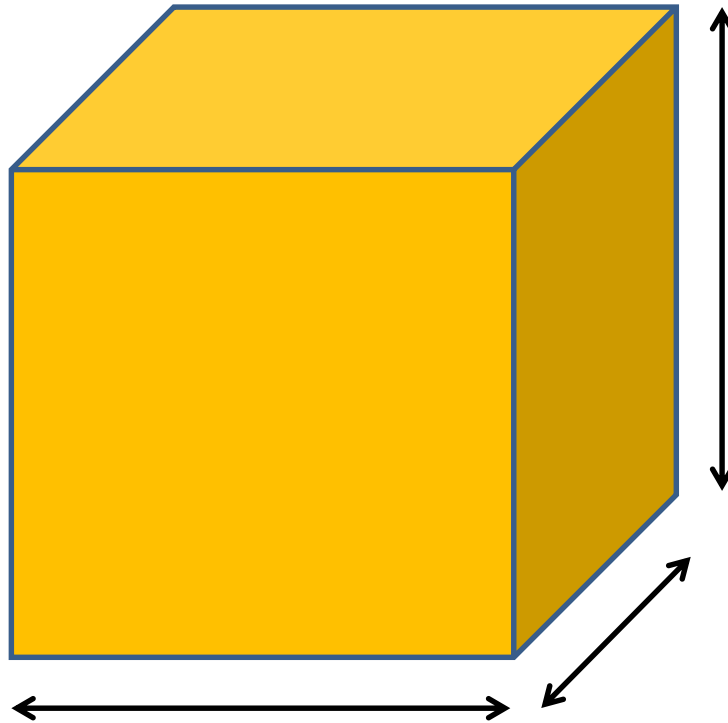
On the other hand, there are arguments against. Firstly, _____

In addition to that, _____

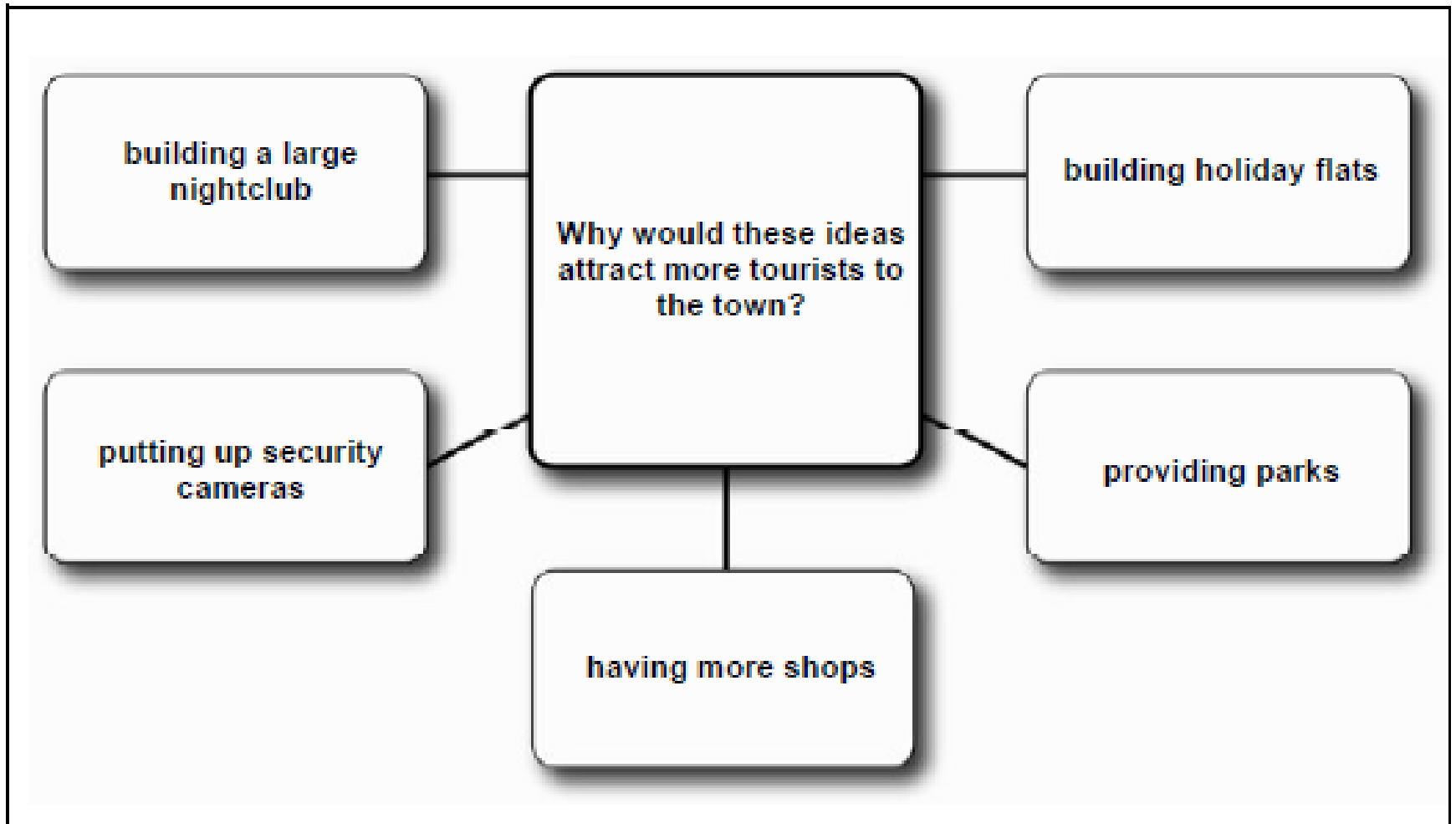
Finally, _____


So, on balance, I think that _____

“Practise generating ideas”



<p>I think that</p> <p>I agree that</p> <p>I don't agree that</p> <p>I'm not sure that</p>	<p>exercise is good for you</p> <p>travel broadens the mind</p> <p>our grandparents' lives were easier</p> <p>living in the country is better than the city</p> <p>the internet has improved communication</p> <p>people spend too much time on Facebook</p>	<p>because...</p>
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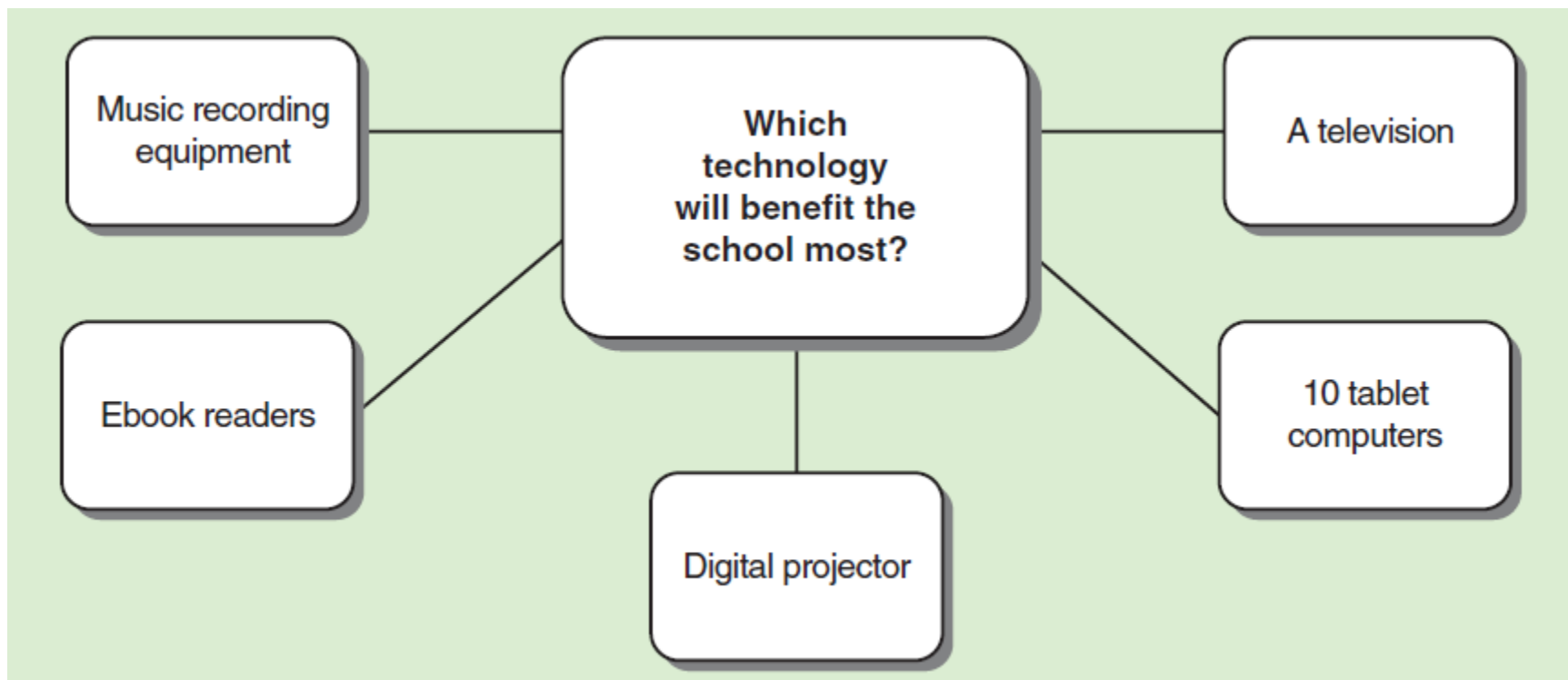


 Yes, but....

 Yes, and....

“We could attract more
tourists to our town
by...”

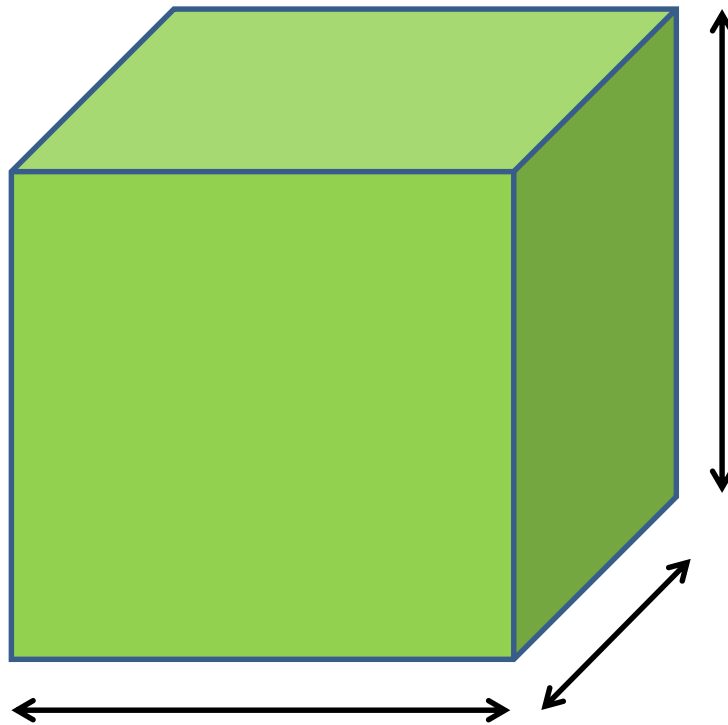
☺ Yes, and....



What about from the perspective of...?

- The students
- The music teacher
- The English teacher
- The parents
- Other?

“Rehearse and develop”



REVIEW AND EXAM PRACTICE Units 9 and 10

1 For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Sitting in front of a computer screen can certainly be faster and less stressful than looking for a (0) C space and fighting your way through crowds of fellow shoppers. But is online shopping safer?

Some (1) _____ still seem to have some hesitation when it comes to online shopping, but authorities say it has in many ways become more secure than (2) _____ purchases at an actual store. After all, every time you use a credit card in a store you (3) _____ someone all your personal details and financial information.

Experts advise that online (4) _____ may now be better protected than traditional shoppers, especially if they follow a few useful tips. First of all, use one credit card for all (5) _____, so if someone does use it illegally, only one card is affected.

Next, be careful that you are on the site of a real company. Some thieves have (6) _____ websites that look like the real thing just to get your information and money. The best way to check if a site is real is to (7) _____ for the 's', which stands for secure, in the 'https' part of the website address bar at the top of your browser.

The final thing you can do to (8) _____ safe while shopping online is to always make sure the computer being used has a firewall and up-to-date antivirus software.

- | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|-------------|--------------|
| 0 A car | B large | C parking | D blank | 5 A bargains | B offers | C purchases | D deliveries |
| 1 A police | B sellers | C clients | D consumers | 6 A visited | B set up | C bought | D accessed |
| 2 A doing | B paying | C giving | D making | 7 A look | B pay | C find | D click |
| 3 A pay | B write | C give | D copy | 8 A protect | B make | C have | D stay |
| 4 A goods | B sites | C stores | D customers | | | | |

2 For questions 9–16, read the text below. Use the word in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the space in the same line.

In recent years there have been lots of reports on the (0) obesity epidemic affecting many countries. Combine this with the (9) _____ increase in stress and (10) _____ affecting the lives of workers and you have a medical time bomb.

OBESE
DRAMA
ANXIOUS

So where can we look to find effective (11) _____ to these problems? People in the south-east Mediterranean are said to enjoy one of the (12) _____ diets in the world. So one study set out to test this belief, with (13) _____ results.

SOLVE
HEALTH
REMARK

The researchers found that men from the Island of Crete had the lowest blood pressure and the lowest rates of cancer and heart attacks compared to men in six other countries. Decades later around half the Cretans were still (14) _____, whereas there wasn't a single (15) _____ in the other countries. There may be (16) _____ considerations to take into account but changing to a Mediterranean style diet could probably extend our lives.

LIVE
SURVIVE
GENE



IDEAS GENERATOR

FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT A TOPIC

In the Speaking test, you might have to talk about a topic you don't have much personal experience of, or don't feel confident about.

Look at this list and write a number (1–3) for each topic:

1 = I know about this topic and I can talk about it for a long time.

2 = I know a bit about it, I can talk about it for two minutes.

3 = I don't know anything about it and I can't talk about it.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tourism and travel | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| History and traditions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Learning and education | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Work and employment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Media and the Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Special occasions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Entertainment and sport | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fashion and current trends | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shopping and consumerism | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Food and healthy living | <input type="checkbox"/> |


Look back at the topics that you marked 2 or 3. Where can you find more information about them? On the news? From friends? In a book or magazine? On the Internet? Find out more information and make lists of words that will help you to talk about them.

<http://www.fotobabble.com/m/YStvNVBOS0I1d2c9>

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Enzo: *'Well, it is a nice town, we have lots of nice buildings and places to visit. Our food is very nice and you can have a nice time walking through the streets. The countryside is nice and you can have a nice view from the hills over the town.'*

A future interview



1. What's the best thing about having passed your exam?
2. What motivated you to pass the exam?
3. What was one early obstacle and how did you overcome it?
4. Who helped you along the way?
5. What was the most important factor in helping you pass?
6. What advice would you give to someone else who is going to take the same exam?

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“Thanks for taking part!”

John Hughes

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