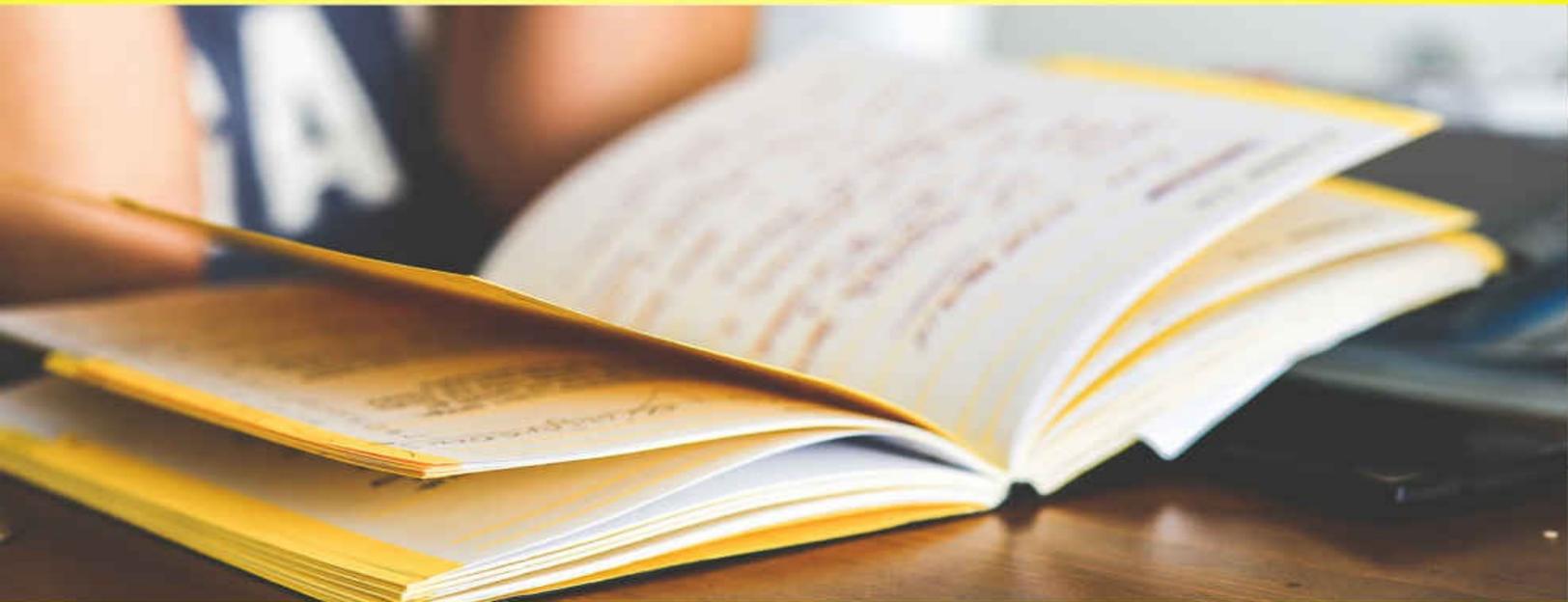


SAY THIS

— TO THE —

IELTS EXAMINER

21 SCRIPTS FOR THE IELTS SPEAKING TEST



JADE PEARLHOUSE

Say This to the IELTS Examiner

21 Scripts for the IELTS Speaking Test

JADE PEARLHOUSE



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Introduction

According to a recent worldwide survey about the IELTS test results, speaking and writing components are the most challenging parts of the IELTS test for a large number of candidates. Therefore, I have done some research into the causes of this trend, and have found that listening and reading skills are language input, whereas speaking and writing are language output which is definitely more difficult for most candidates.

After publishing my writing templates book ***“22 Templates for IELTS Writing: Fast track to success in the IELTS writing test”***, I have decided to write this speaking scripts book which helps IELTS candidates worldwide to get the ideal speaking test results that they want in record time.

In this book, you will find exactly what to say to the IELTS examiner in front of you. You don't have to memorise everything in this book, but if you can read these scripts again and again, you will become very familiar with what you are supposed to say in the IELTS speaking test, thereby increasing your IELTS score.

Most IELTS teachers tell you to practise more, whilst this IELTS book shows you exactly what and how to practise! As a result, you won't need to guess what to say in order to impress the IELTS examiner anymore. Now you will be equipped with very powerful language structures that have been prepared for you already. Once you become fluent in the contents of this book, you will have the confidence to be the winner in the IELTS test, as competence leads to confidence.

We all know that Section 2 of the IELTS speaking test is more important than Section 1 and Section 3 of the IELTS speaking test – This has been explained in my Amazon best-selling book ***“26 Strategies to Succeed in the IELTS Test: How to work hard and work smart”***. Because most candidates find Section 2 harder than the other two sections (Section 2 is actually a speech), this book features 21 powerful scripts which are all about how to do well in Section 2 of the IELTS speaking test so that you will gain the



competence that you need. Of course, there is a bonus chapter which specifically shows you how to impress the IELTS speaking test examiner in Section 1 and Section 3 as well.

Remember: your IELTS examiner doesn't care whether the information that you tell him/her is true – that is **not** the examiner's job. The examiner's job is to assess your language skills only. Consequently, you don't need to focus on the accuracy of the content that you say. Instead, *you must focus on the accuracy and fluency of the language you use.*

Also, you should be flexible enough to know how to leverage what you already know to talk about other similar topics. For instance, if you have prepared a topic such as “describe a famous person”, this topic is actually the same as “describe your favourite singer”.

Free resources can be accessed at www.ieltswithjade.com



Speaking Script 1

Describe a famous person.

Celine Dion **is my idol**. She **was born and raised** in Quebec, Canada. She started her singing career at the age of 12.

At the beginning, Celine was only singing in her family's restaurant, **but very soon**, her tape was sent to a music manager Rene Angelil who later on became her husband. Rene **was so impressed and was moved to tears by** Celine's voice, so he decided to help Celine with her career. Therefore, Celine Dion **became a rising star** in Canada.

Before 1990, Celine couldn't speak English properly, so all of her albums were in French. **But as a fast learner**, Celine started to sing in English in 1990 and **penetrated the US market** very quickly. So far **practically** the majority of her songs became **big hits** and so many of them **won awards** for her. Nearly all her French and English albums have been really **well-liked** worldwide.

I like Celine Dion so much because she is **talented** and **has a good sense of humour**. In 2010 I went to Las Vegas to see her live show, and it was really **a marvellous experience!** Celine performed five nights a week in Las Vegas at that time, which truly amazed me. As a successful singer, she has been hardworking all her life. Whenever she releases a new album, I am always the first person to purchase it, **so apparently**, I am her huge fan.

Celine learned English as a second language very well, **which also encourages me to** learn English well. She is a real **role model** for me. I am also interested in music because that's my passion, too. I hope I can also have some success in this industry in the future.



Speaking Script 2

Describe a foreign culture that you are interested in.

I'm planning on visiting the United States. Now **I'd like to share some thoughts about** the American culture **with you**.

Let me start off by talking about why I like the American culture. The biggest characteristic of the US culture is the fact that the United States is a **melting pot** of so many different cultures. **By that I mean** we can see and experience a **multitude of** cultures from all over the world in one country. Of course, the mainstream culture in the United States is western culture, because it's a western country **geographically, politically and spiritually**.

As for sightseeing trips, **I reckon** the United States is surely a perfect place because cities like New York and Los Angeles are full of **gorgeous architecture**.

Also, the United States **is the birthplace of** so many **great minds**, such as Jack Canfield and Mark Twain. I absolutely love their books!

And ... Almost all of my favourite bands are American, such as Eagles, Guns N' Roses and Green Day. **And what else?** Backstreet Boys and Carpenters ... So many **musically-talented** people there!

Oh, I also must point out that there are a **host of world-class** universities in the United States, like Harvard and Yale. I really hope one day I can study in America as well.

Speaking of personality, Americans are very relaxed and **laid-back**. I haven't met an American that I can't get along with yet, so I'm sure if I live in America, I will **feel at home**.

American food also excites me. I have heard a lot about American seafood, so I really want to try that as well.

At the moment, most of the information that I have learned about the American culture has come from the Internet. **Honestly, I seriously hope**



that one day I will go to the United States and have some **first-hand experiences** there.



Speaking Script 3

Describe a party.

I went to an Old Hollywood party last month. It was a **theme party** called “Love the Journey”.

At the **grand entrance, cocktails and champagne were served**. Because everybody was **dressed up** like a movie star in the 30s, people were busy taking pictures at the entrance too.

The music at the party was also very **old-school**. The songs were mainly jazz music from decades ago, and I really enjoy the **ambiance** created by beautiful music like that. People started to dance to the music very quickly, and **it felt so romantic and elegant**.

Later on, there was a karaoke session, so many songs were presented by participants. My favourite songs were “What a Wonderful World”, “Moon River” and “As Time Goes By”. I also sang a song in front of the audience. The song is called “Loving You”. I did pretty well and **hit the high notes** perfectly. So I guess others were quite impressed by that. Anyway, **I’m crazy about** music and singing, so **that’s really my thing**.

The most exciting part of the party was the game called “Truth or Dare”. All of us **gathered in a circle** and took turns to play the game. When it was my turn, I chose “Truth”. Fortunately, the question wasn’t too embarrassing, so I did okay.

That was really a wonderful night. **What a memorable experience!** I enjoyed every minute of that party. Although I’m not a **party animal**, I **am into** theme parties like this.



Speaking Script 4

Describe your favourite TV show.

My favourite TV show is *Sex and the City* **which is** an American romantic comedy produced by HBO. It was on TV from 1998 to 2004, and it's still available now on the Internet.

The show is about four **charming** women in New York City. They are close friends. Carrie is a sex columnist who writes for a newspaper; Samantha is a public relations agent; Charlotte is a gallery owner; Miranda is an ambitious lawyer. They have very different personalities.

Each **episode** is about twenty minutes long, so it never gets boring. The conversations in this show are **hilarious**. **That's why I really like** the show. Oh, the **soundtrack** is also fantastic.

Sex and the City won so many **awards** because it was extremely **sensational**. Many people like this show because these four women always wear stylish clothes and trendy high heels, **which is surely a feast for the eyes**.

I like this show very much because Carrie Bradshaw **is my idol**. One day I want to become a columnist and write for a newspaper or a magazine. I always love writing and I'm working hard to become a writer just like Carrie. Also, writing for the media is a great idea because that's like doing content marketing **while** getting paid. **That means** I can promote myself or my own business, and at the same time the magazine or newspaper pays me money. I really want to live a **fabulous** life like that in the future, so I'm going to have a plan and **work towards my goal**.



Speaking Script 5

Describe your favourite website.

My favourite website is YouTube. **I'm pretty sure** everyone has heard a lot about it because it's **currently** the second biggest search engine in the world.

I really like YouTube **mainly because** it's so **entertaining and educational**. It provides **a wealth of information** such as self-help content, music and news. Besides, I can easily subscribe to any channel that I like **so that** I wouldn't miss any new videos that I enjoy. The **layout** of YouTube is very **well-organised and user-friendly**.

I **absolutely adore** YouTube because it allows me to download any video that I would like to save on my computer or mobile phone. In this way, I can easily watch those videos whenever I want without **Internet access**.

YouTube belongs to Google, the biggest online company in the world. **That's why** I can use YouTube as long as I have a Google account, which is very **handy**.

Right now I'm learning how to make videos by myself, so I will **launch** my own YouTube channel next month. I'm quite confident because my YouTube videos will focus on my music. I will play the piano **while** singing pop songs in my videos, so **hopefully** I can **have a large following** pretty soon. My confidence is **backed up** by my competence, as I have been learning how to play the piano since 2001. Music is my passion and **I've realised that** YouTube is **the perfect platform** for me to create my own fans who will follow me in my future career in this industry.

I'm really hooked on YouTube. It's so **incredibly powerful**.



Speaking Script 6

Describe a city you would like to visit.

As far as I'm concerned, all people, **regardless** of their background, have heard something about Los Angeles, **not just because of** its Disneyland, **but also because of** its Hollywood.

Obviously, Los Angeles is one of the biggest cities in the United States. It's the most **well-known** city in California. Los Angeles means "the angels" in Spanish. **That probably means** Spanish people like this city very much. **Indeed**, nearly 50% of its population are from South America where Spanish is spoken.

Los Angeles **is renowned for** its **cultural diversity**. People of all races live in this city. **What fascinates me most is** the American **modernity**. **Certainly**, the United States is a young country, and Los Angeles promotes its modern lifestyle extremely well.

The city of Los Angeles is **the hub of** California's financial world. It's also a major transport centre and a port. Los Angeles has the busiest airport in California.

I **am eager to** visit Los Angeles because I really want to meet those Hollywood movie stars. In Los Angeles, many people see **celebrities** in the street because there are just so many of them! So **I hope that one day** I will **have the opportunity to** go to Los Angeles and **experience this world-class city first-hand**.

Some of my friends like going shopping in Los Angeles because **it's a mecca for fashion lovers**. Of course, almost every famous brand can be found in Los Angeles, like Gucci, Chanel, Dior... **you name it**.

Los Angeles is **the best** city in the world, **hands down**.



Speaking Script 7

Describe a library that you have visited.

I have visited the library in the city that I live in. It's a public library **located at** the city centre. It's my favourite place in the city because there are so many things to do here.

The library has a huge **glass curtain wall**, so **the exterior is gorgeous**. In fact, **its interior is neat** too. The **entrance hall** has a **self-service desk** where I can borrow and return books easily, so I simply scan my library card to complete those tasks very quickly. Of course, there is still **a circulation desk** with **a staff member** to help visitors who don't want to use the self-service desk.

There are many **reading rooms** in this library. I often study in one of these reading rooms because the **ambience** there is perfect. Sometimes I even book **a group study room** for my friends so that we can discuss our group projects together.

The photocopy room in the library is pretty cool as well. I can print or photocopy documents at a low price, and scanning documents is a free service. Everything is so **handy** there.

Because the library has such **a refreshing and relaxing atmosphere**, I visit this library at least once a week. It is really **a fount of wisdom** which provides **a wealth of books**.

In my opinion, this library is **a mecca for knowledge-craving people** like me. My Number One **value** is knowledge and growth, so I really enjoy reading. Borrowing books from the library saves me a lot of money – that's why I'm a **regular** there.



Speaking Script 8

Describe the apartment or house you live in.

I live in an apartment in the city. It's quite **average**, without anything too **fancy**. But its location is **seriously perfect** because it's in the centre of the city where everything is so **accessible**.

Apart from its **convenient location**, I also like my apartment because it's small and **cosy**. In fact, I'm not a fan of big houses, for I don't like cleaning a big house which simply wastes a lot of space. **Apparently**, I dislike doing housework, so a small apartment doesn't **require** too much time **when it comes to** doing weekly housework.

My apartment has a sitting room, a kitchen, a bedroom and a bathroom. With all **functionalities** that I need, this apartment **affords** me a satisfying lifestyle that I really enjoy every day.

Also, my bedroom has a beautiful **view** over the city, because I live on the 12th floor. **Indeed**, I like **high-rise buildings** like this and I love the way of life in the city.

My apartment has a lot of **decorations**. For example, there is a **vision board** in my sitting room. On this vision board, there are a **range of** photos and meaningful words which **represent** what I want to achieve in the future. So I can see my goals and plans **on a daily basis**. The vision board also includes my **identity statement** and **daily rituals** that I must complete. I just like keeping myself **inspired** all the time. I made the vision board all by myself, so I'm very proud of that.

Also, my bedroom has many paintings on the wall. I love art so much that I have bought a lot of paintings when I was travelling overseas.

Living in this apartment all by myself is **incredibly relaxing and enjoyable**.



Speaking Script 9

Describe something that made you laugh.

I'm so **into** *The Ellen Show* because Ellen DeGeneres is the funniest woman in the world. Her talk show **features** interviews with celebrities and politicians, **pranks** as well as surprises.

It's a **well-known** TV show because it's not only popular in the United States, but also in other countries. **Thanks to** Ellen's **great sense of humour**, this funny show has millions of **viewers** all over the world.

I still remember when Tylor Swift was on *The Ellen Show*, Ellen DeGeneres had a camera in the ladies' toilet and Ellen was hiding behind the toilet door. So when Tylor Swift went to the toilet, Ellen suddenly scared her. Tylor Swift was so scared that she **literally** fell on the floor. That was **such a classic prank!**

Ellen did **loads of** pranks like this in most episodes of her show. In one episode, she sent someone to hide in a garbage bag and the hidden person suddenly started to dance on the floor when someone was walking towards them. Of course, that prank was quite successful.

Sometimes when Ellen's celebrity guest was sitting on the couch and talking to her, she sent someone to hide in the plant behind the guest who would be really scared by the person in the plant, which made the show very fun and **engaging**.

However, Ellen never scared politicians such as President Obama, because if that happened, Ellen must be **in serious trouble**.

Also, Ellen dances a lot on her show, and her **dance moves** are **hilarious** as well! The majority of Ellen's fans are women because her talk show is a **day-time TV show** which attracts housewives who stay at home. Ellen is probably the most famous lesbian in America, and some **straight** women like her so much that they actually said they would turn lesbian just to be with Ellen, which is quite **amusing**.





Speaking Script 10

Describe something that you are good at.

I'm very good at writing. In fact, I've been a **freelance writer** since two years ago. Therefore, I have written for many websites who were looking for **contributors**.

Most of the articles written by me are about business, career success, **productivity** and **finances**. Recently, I have started to write articles about **dating advice** and relationships, as I'm interested in exploring different areas.

I also have my own blog and I write one **blog post** per week. Now I'm **building my own online audience** who are **eager to** read my blog article every Sunday. Yes, they **look forward to reading** my blog post every weekend, which makes me really excited – they **hold me accountable**, too!

I think the reason why I'm good at writing is because I like reading. I always enjoy reading good books such as **fictions and non-fiction books**. As a **fast reader**, I usually read a book a week, and I **take a wealth of notes**. I organise my notes very well by storing all useful information in one notebook. I like making notes while reading. That's how I learn.

Therefore, whenever I need to write something, I **simply** take out my notes and **come up with** great ideas very quickly.

Since writing is **mental work which can also be physically exhausting**, I take breaks throughout the day. Yes, I have a break every 50 minutes, so that I don't have to sit in front of my computer all day long. I think managing my time like this is **so key**.

Sometimes I **get carried away** while writing a long **piece**, so I have to **remind myself to** have a rest. In this way, I can keep my energy high and I also become more creative as a result.



Speaking Script 11

Describe something you hope to learn.

I hope to learn painting. **I've always wanted to** learn this skill since many years ago.

When I was very young, I did lots of **portraits** and **self-portraits** by myself. Nobody was teaching me painting, but I just loved doing it. It's my **natural inclination**, my real passion.

So now **I plan to learn** painting soon. Once I have made enough money to hire a teacher, I will start to learn painting in my spare time. I would like to learn **oil painting**. I'm interested in **landscape painting** and **still life painting**.

I often imagine that one day I will have my own **studio** and **gallery**. I hope I can make a living by working as an artist, because if my job is my passion and real hobby, then every day will be a holiday – I won't need to work for a day anymore in my life. That's just so **glamorous**.

Sometimes I visit a few galleries **near my place** to look for inspirations. One gallery features **abstract paintings**, whereas the other gallery presents **representational paintings**. Both types inspire me so much.

The most famous painting in the world is *Mona Lisa* which is a **half-length painting**. Although it **dates back to the Italian Renaissance**, today in **the Louvre**, it still attracts **numerous admirers** from all over the world. *Mona Lisa* is special because of her **enigmatic** smile. In the future, I'm going to see this painting in the Louvre and I'm sure I'll **adore** this **masterpiece**.

Leonardo Da Vinci is my **hero** because he produced *Mona Lisa*, the best masterpiece. I really hope that I can become an excellent artist like him.



Speaking Script 12

Describe your personality.

In general, I'm an **outgoing and gregarious** person with very good **social skills**. I believe that having social skills **is of vital importance in this day and age**, as **nobody can afford to be an island anymore** in the 21st century.

I wouldn't say I'm a **party animal**, but I **do** go to parties quite frequently. Usually I arrive at the party very early so that I can meet people who are already there, **especially** the organisers of the party – these people are very important. Then when others arrive at the party gradually, I invite them to join our conversation. That's how I make new friends by going to events alone.

I believe that **my network is my net worth**, so I try my best to **build a powerful network** that can help me with my career success. **Who I know is just as important as what I do**, because people around me can easily become **the gateway to opportunities**.

So I learn new communication skills all the time by reading a lot of books about **charisma, human dynamics** and psychology. I think this has helped me to improve my interaction with people on different occasions.

Having many friends also **boosts my confidence**, as I feel that I am someone who is needed by people. I guess that means I'm a valuable person. Certainly, I also help my friends in many ways because I love **adding value** too.

Well, everyone is **multidimensional**. I also enjoy spending time by myself. For example, I like staying at home and watching TV on Friday nights.

But most of the time, I prefer going out to **socialise** with others. Meeting new people excites me; making new friends **gives me a great sense of satisfaction**.



Speaking Script 13

Describe your favourite advertisement.

My favourite advertisement is a chocolate commercial on TV.

A woman is waiting for her **lover** to **pick her up** from her apartment. She has waited for a very long time, so she looks at her watch **every five seconds**. Then she receives **a bunch of flowers** from **the delivery boy** and there is a box and a card **as well**.

She opens the box and finds beautiful chocolates inside the box, so she bites a piece and the chocolate **melts** in her mouth like silk when the jazz music starts in the background.

She looks at the card which says, "Life is sweeter when Hershey's Kisses are added to it."

All of a sudden, her lover arrives and **they are so in love**.

I think this commercial is very cool because it **focuses on** how we feel. When I was watching this **TV commercial**, I could feel how that woman feels completely. **It seems that** what I saw **visually** could become something that I could smell and taste. **I reckon** that was because of the background music. I love **jazz**, as **I find it really romantic and relaxing**.

The person who created this commercial must be a **genius** who totally understands **psychology and marketing**. **Consumers** are influenced by emotions **rather than** logic. When a powerful commercial like that can change how we feel, it can change how we **perceive** the product. That's why we buy this product.

Apart from that, I really like the **slogan** in this commercial. It's very **well-written** and so creative that it's written on the card. **In this way**, I could hear the slogan and see it at the same time. **In other words**, this is a **multisensory experience!** And **I absolutely love it**.



Speaking Script 14

Describe a wedding you have attended.

My sister **got married** last year. I went to her wedding which was held at the beach at 11 o'clock on a Saturday morning. The ceremony was **simple but chic**, as it was a **western-style ceremony**.

The music was chosen by my sister, so it was very **modern and solemn** – **typical** western music. After the **officiant** made some **opening remarks**, the **groom**, my sister's husband, **made his way to the altar**. I still remember his black **tuxedo** which was a very **classic formal outfit**. **The best man** was my friend Joe who was waiting at the altar.

About ten minutes later, the **Wedding March** started to be played in the background. Then the **maid of honour** and the **flower girls** entered the ceremony. They were my colleague and her twin daughters. My sister, the bride, entered in a **breathtaking wedding gown**, **escorted** by our dad. Her wedding dress was a present from my mum – it was a **family heirloom** – the colour was champagne **rather than** white. That's my favourite colour.

My sister believes in western tradition, so on her wedding day she had to **wear something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue**. **That's considered to be** good luck in western culture. **Like I said**, her wedding dress was something old, and her shoes were something new. Also, she borrowed a bracelet from me, so that was something borrowed. Then she was wearing a blue flower in her hair, which was something blue.

When my sister was **walking down the aisle**, everyone was so **moved**. My mum was literally **moved to tears** because finally she **witnessed** her oldest daughter's wedding. Then my dad left the bride at the altar with the groom and the officiant.

The couple **exchanged wedding rings as well as wedding vows** at the altar, and then they kissed each other and **were pronounced husband and**



wife by the officiant. After that, my sister and my **brother-in-law** were **showered with golden confetti**.

Later on the **wedding banquet** was held at Hilton Hotel near the beach. The hall had a **magnificent** view. I really enjoyed the whole experience.



Speaking Script 15

Describe a radio program.

Well, my favourite radio program is called *Love Life* on iHeartRadio which is **an Internet radio platform** owned by an American company with its **headquarters** in New York. Apart from the United States, it's also popular in Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

This radio show is really funny because the **host** is a British **dating coach** called Matthew Hussey. Matthew Hussey is a **love guru** who knows everything about dating and relationships. **Initially**, he was a confidence coach who helped thousands of men, but since 2008, he has been giving **dating advice** for women.

On this radio show called *Love Life*, each **episode** features one woman's telephone conversation with Matthew Hussey. She asks one question, and Matthew answers her question **in detail**. Every episode is about fifteen minutes long, so I can listen to the show during breakfast time in the morning. That's a very interesting way to start my day, because Matthew Hussey's advice is actually **beyond** dating advice. He often talks about how to apply what he teaches us in other areas of life, such as work and **social life** in general.

Occasionally, no woman calls the studio. **Instead**, Matthew Hussey gives some very **powerful content regarding personal development** on the show. Sometimes, he talks about **time management**; sometimes he talks about **productivity**. In fact, I like his other content more than his dating advice because dating advice **tends to be corny** after listening to it **repeatedly**.

Generally speaking, this radio program has helped me to understand psychology and **human dynamics** better. I **highly recommend** this radio show.



Speaking Script 16

Describe a wealthy person.

The rich person that I'd like to talk about is Gary Vaynerchuk. Gary Vaynerchuk is an **entrepreneur** in the United States. When he was only three years old, he moved to America from Soviet Union. As an immigrant, life was hard when he was young. His family were living in a **studio apartment** – pretty difficult for eight family members. He couldn't speak English at that time, so he **was bullied by** his classmates at school.

When he was in middle school, he started to sell baseball cards in a shopping mall every weekend. So he was making about three thousand dollars each week. At that time, he was an F student at school because he couldn't **pass any subject** at all. His teacher told him that he was a **loser**, unfortunately, and nobody knew he was making a lot of money.

In his early twenties he **took over** his father's wine business, and he grew the business from 3 million dollars to 50 million dollars a year by 2005. In 2006, Gary realised that YouTube is the best place to do marketing, so he started *Wine Library TV* channel on YouTube, which helped his wine business a lot.

Gary works very hard. He works from 6am to 11pm every day and **rarely** has a holiday. He says he is the **ultimate** workaholic and he hates holidays. Somehow I think he is awesome because he knows what he wants and he is a real **hustler** who **works with high energy and determination**.

Gary founded VaynerMedia with his brother AJ Vaynerchuk in 2009. It's a **social media-focused** digital agency, because Gary invested in many social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

Gary has published four best-selling books which are all about business and **entrepreneurship**. This is probably the most popular topic in **contemporary society**.



Speaking Script 17

Describe your ideal job.

My ideal job is **to be a freelance writer**. I always wanted to write professionally when I was young, so now I'm working hard to improve my writing **skills and techniques** so that I can **make my dream come true** one day.

I think in order to be an **outstanding** writer, I must **cultivate my creativity** and **expand my outlook**. I'd like to focus on **creative writing** such as poems. Also, I'm interested in writing **blog articles** which are very popular on the Internet.

Because I have an **inquiring mind**, I have read a **wealth of books regarding self-help, personal development**, literature, and so on. Therefore, I would say I'm a **knowledgeable** and **well-read** person who has the **potential** to write **remarkable pieces**. I'm quite **capable** and **efficient when it comes to computing skills**, and I type really fast. Consequently, I'm sure I have the right skills to be an **excellent** writer in the 21st century.

Being a freelance writer means having freedom in life, which is something that I have always wanted. Because of modern technology, I can easily work from home and build my **home-based freelance writing business**. My plan is to set up an account at Upwork.com which helps me to find clients who are looking for longer articles, and then set up an account at Fiverr.com which has more clients looking for shorter articles. With these two **platforms**, I'll be able to work at home with so much **flexibility** every day.

Being a freelance writer also means being a **self-employed entrepreneur**. I don't like to be told what to do and I'd like to plan my own schedule, so I **reckon** running my own business is the best way to **live my life on my terms**. I am working hard in order to **fulfil my potential** because I've already found my **calling**.





Speaking Script 18

Describe your favourite book.

My favourite book is *The Happiness Trap* **written by** Dr Russ Harris. This book is about how to improve our **mental health** which is **a frequent topic of discussion in this day and age**. Whenever I feel **stressed out**, I always **turn to** this book **for help**.

The main idea of this book is mindfulness. That means an individual should **live in the moment right now** and be an observer. When we are able to observe what's going on, we are less likely to be **mentally chaotic**. That's how we **alleviate our pain and stress**.

Another very **enlightening** message in this book is values. There is a values test in the book. After doing the test, I realised that my Top 3 values are knowledge, experience and connection. So the author's suggestion is I should be mindful **on a daily basis**, especially when difficult situations **arise**, and then take actions according to my values. For instance, if I feel nervous while preparing for an exam, I can **take a deep breath** and simply observe how I feel **rather than** struggle with my feelings. Then I look at my values: knowledge, experience and connection. **Based on** my values, I can learn something new, experience something exciting or talk to someone I care about. These kind of activities make me truly happy.

Dr Russ Harris is a physician and therapist in Australia, although he was born in the United Kingdom. He is **a leading expert on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy** which is **a very important concept in** modern psychology.

In fact, I find *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy* very similar to Buddhism, because they share similar wisdom and practice such as being okay with things that are out of our control and meditation exercise.

Now if you ask me how I am able to **cope with** issues that I can't change in my life, my answer is, "The trick is not minding." Because I'm mindful and



I'm observing what's going on in my life, I **feel less attached to** my problems and that's why not minding the pain is the key.



Speaking Script 19

Describe a trip you took recently.

Recently I went to Florida, the United States. So far it was the best trip I've ever had in my life.

As the flight was **international long haul**, I purchased business class fare. *Virgin Australia* is the best airline in **the Southern Hemisphere**, so I had a bed on the plane. In fact, there was a desk, a TV and a bed – and that was my seat! I didn't enjoy watching TV because **I'm not a fan of** any TV shows on the plane, but I certainly enjoyed reading books in bed.

The food served by Virgin Australia was **scrumptious** and the wine was **seriously perfect** as well. When I was flying from Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale, the flight **was upgraded to** first class, so it was even more **refreshing** with better service.

Fort Lauderdale is a city in Florida, and it's famous for its beautiful beach, sunshine and parties. I was **partying very hard with** a few celebrities there, so I really **had a blast**. I went to **a beach party, a tropical cocktail party, a pool party and an Old Hollywood party**. My trip was very **well-planned**, hence I really had a good time.

The only problem I had was the annoying **jet-lag**, because Florida is 13 hours and 30 minutes behind Adelaide, Australia. That was a bit **tiring**, but overall the experience was **invigorating** because I was so excited!

There are so many **tourist attractions** in Florida and the **scenery** was **spectacular and breathtaking**. I also met many new people and they have become my new friends.

The beach in Florida is the best I've ever seen in my life. I really enjoyed the **tranquil and serene** ocean early in the morning with a **breeze sweeping across** the ocean waves – it was so **peaceful and soothing**.

In general, I think the trip was **rewarding** because I **rejuvenated myself**



in the process.



Speaking Script 20

Describe a picnic in a park.

Last weekend my friends and I had a picnic in a park **near my place**. It was a **breezy, shiny** Saturday morning, so we decided to have **brunch** in the park.

My friend Caroline brought fish and chips; Tiffany brought a salad; I brought a chocolate cake. The food was **scrumptious and balanced**.

The weather was very nice and warm, so we were eating and chatting for a few hours. The grass in the park was **neatly-mowed**, and some other people were also there. **Interestingly**, two boys were also having a meal in the park near us, and I realised that they were my neighbours. So we invited them to join us. As we forgot to bring any drinks, they offered to share their drinks with us. Then we had some lemonade and coke together.

Tiffany is very **health-conscious**, so she decided to drink water instead and went to a shop near the park to buy a bottle of **spring water**. Maybe I should learn from her, because I really like sweet food and **I reckon** eating more **wholesome** food is probably better for me.

Nowadays most people prefer talking online, so they chat on Facebook. But my friends and I like **catching up with** each other more – maybe we are a bit **old-fashioned**, but we just like **face-to-face communication** which is still very important **nowadays**.

Compared with eating in a **fancy** restaurant, I like having a picnic in the park more, as it **reminds** me **of** my childhood. Also, it's so much cheaper. When I was young, I used to go out with my classmates and had a lot of fun outside the house. We were playing in the nature. So I believe I should still spend more time outside my home and enjoy more fresh air and sunshine.



Speaking Script 21

Describe a piece of interesting news.

Yesterday I saw a piece of very interesting news on TV. The news was about how some online dating websites **are inundated with money-worshipping** concepts and ideas.

Brandon Wade, a Chinese American businessman, runs three online dating sites which are really unusual. One of his websites, seekingarrangement.com, **is best characterised by sugar babies** looking for **sugar daddies**, which means it is a website for young and attractive women to find rich and generous men so that they can build **mutually beneficial relationships**. Another website of his is whatsyourprice.com, which is helping successful and **wealthy** men to find sexy, single women who charge fees when they go out with men. His third website is misstravel.com which helps women to find **affluent** men that are happy to pay women who would like to **accompany** them while travelling.

Because his websites are all **doing very well** internationally, his business has attracted the attention from the media. As a result, a TV show criticises this **phenomenon**, saying the theme of his dating websites is **morally wrong**. Yet many **netizens claim that** Brandon Wade is **contributing to** the society because **traditional relationships are full of stress and drama, whereas** Brandon Wade **provides people with the opportunity to find balanced relationships in a relatively easy and efficient way**.

The fact that Brandon Wade's websites are so popular **means individuals in modern-day society are highly stressed**. Consequently, people want to **alleviate their stress** by finding something **straight-forward without playing any games**. Instead of criticising Brandon Wade himself, we should **question why** his business is so successful.



Bonus Scripts for Part 1 and Part 3 of the Speaking Test

Part 1 Speaking Scripts:

- Learning English is **an arduous process**, but it's also very **rewarding**.
- My **aspiration** is to get better **academic qualifications** and find a **cushy job**.
- My hometown is a **prosperous city**, so **the cost of living is sky-high**.
- As a **movie buff**, I'm into **thought-provoking movies**.
- Because reading **expands my outlook and thoughts**, I read **best-sellers**, including **motivational books** and **literary classics**.
- **Speaking of** clothing, my favourite style is a **trendy and youthful look**, as I believe people like **youthful** individuals **rather than** young individuals.
- I feel comfortable when the weather is **mild**, and I **can't stand** the **humidity in the monsoon season** in some countries.
- Relaxing music **calms my nerves and restores my soul**.
- My family are **loving and strict** at the same time.
- Most of my friends are **trustworthy, amusing and genuine**, because **friends are the family that I choose to have**.
- I'd like to try some **extreme sports** in the future, since I'm an **adventurous** person.
- I used to like **name-brand stuff**, but recently I have decided to **invest in** my education instead.
- In order to improve my **emotional health**, I have a dog as my **constant companion**.

Part 3 Speaking Scripts:

- **It seems to me that** in the past, people **were unwilling to** shop



online; **in contrast**, most people are happy to browse websites such as eBay and Amazon **these days**.

- **To the best of my knowledge, the causes of cyber bullying are complex. The chief contributing factor is many youngsters are not mature enough to use Facebook and Twitter. A secondary reason may be lack of parental guidance.**
- **In my view, the most sensible way to confront this would be to educate the general public.**
- **Ideally**, every university student should know how to use a computer. **But in reality**, some university students don't have enough **computing skills**.
- **Apparently, the advantages include** better physical health and mental health.
- **The main problems associated with this trend are** lack of patience and prevalent anxiety.
- **It stands to reason that** a student who is bullied at school will grow up without self-confidence.
- **The concerns that** being overweight is a potential long-term problem in western countries **are well-justified**.
- **It is an inescapable fact that** public schools don't have enough funds to support every single student. That's why issues in public education is **unavoidable** in western countries.



About the Author

Jade Pearlhouse is an Australian educator, author and academic/career strategist. She has contributed to the success of Flinders University, University of South Australia, the University of Adelaide, Australian Institute of Translation and Interpretation and Australian national curriculum.

Her work has made an international impact, including publishing her content on Amazon, teaching Business English as well as Academic English at tertiary level in Asia-Pacific region and offering international business owners professional advice on effective cross-cultural communication which impacts on business success and helps businesses to penetrate overseas markets.

In 2015, Australia's leading career website seek.com.au regarded Jade's advice as the best career advice in Australia.

These days, when Jade isn't teaching a class or helping clients with their resumes and cover letters, she is writing at www.jadepearlhouse.com

