Speaking Test

Only candidates who pass the computer test (reading, listening, grammar and vocabulary) will be admitted to the CLA B2 speaking test. The speaking test is about 20 minutes long and consists of 3 parts. One examiner will speak to four candidates.

Part 1
The examiner introduces him/herself and asks the candidate to introduce him/herself and confirm his/her identity. Each candidate asks questions on familiar topics from a list to the person sitting next to them. They are allowed 15 seconds for a preliminary reading and do not have to follow the order of the questions. Test focus is on the candidate’s ability to communicate information and opinions on everyday topics and personal experience.

Part 2
The examiner gives the four candidates a task card with a question and 5 points which the candidates can use to start a discussion. Candidates are allowed 15 seconds for a preliminary reading and 6 minutes to then discuss the question together. Test focus is on the candidate’s ability to start and keep a discussion going, to interact effectively with others in order to express ideas using the appropriate language.

Part 3
The examiner asks further questions which are connected to Part 2 to individual candidates. These questions give the candidate an opportunity to discuss more abstract issues and ideas. Test focus is on the candidate’s ability to express and justify opinions, analyse, discuss and speculate about issues.

The candidate is expected to interact effectively with the examiner and other candidates using a range of simple and complex grammar and vocabulary at B2 level throughout the test.

Topics
The topics and questions asked are of a generic nature and do not require any specific knowledge. The topics can range from Advertising to Shopping, Crime to Entertainment or from Technology to Health. A good way for a candidate to prepare for the test is to expose him/herself to everyday topics as discussed in newspapers, on radio or TV. Articles or reports which deal with different issues and contain arguments and opinions are especially useful.