

How Speaking Responses Are Scored

Your responses will be scored holistically. This means that raters listen for various features in your response and assign a single score based on the overall skill you display in your answer. Although scoring criteria vary somewhat depending on the question, the raters generally will be listening for the following features in your answer:

- **Delivery:** How clear and fluid your speech is, including good pronunciation, natural pacing and natural-sounding intonation patterns.
- **Language Use:** How effectively you use grammar and vocabulary to convey your ideas.
- **Topic Development:** How fully you answer the question and how coherently you present your ideas. Good responses generally use all or most of the time allotted, and the relationship between ideas and the progression from one idea to the next is clear and easy to follow.