

This segment is all about giving detailed and thoughtful answers. If you can do so with good grammar, you will surely achieve a high score on the IELTS Speaking test. You have to present your opinion to the examiner, and there is no right or wrong opinion. The examiner wants to understand your efficiency in articulating your thoughts and presenting logically.

We are posting a few sample answers for IELTS topics for the Speaking Test. But please keep them ONLY for your reference.

## Values

- **What kind of assets are valuable to your family?**

My family lays a lot of stress on having tangible assets. My grandparents always worked hard to save money to buy land. Not just in my family but across the country, where I am from, owning land or a house is considered a vital sign of economic prosperity. Land means you have a place of your own. It gives us a sense of security and belonging.

- **Why do you think people need to have a status symbol in society?**

Status symbol means you are doing well in your life, and everyone wants to do so. The world pays attention to and respects those who own valuable assets. It is not something specific to a country or region. If you own a BMW, everyone will figure you are earning well. There is always societal pressure to do well and own such assets.

## Advertising

- **Do you think advertisements have a strong influence on people?**

Definitely! There are many similar products available in the market. However, what influences us significantly to buy a product is not just other people's opinions but also what the advertisement tells us. Advertisements are a medium for companies to build their brand, and when we watch such advertisements, see them on billboards or hear them, we desire to acquire the products they showcase. They persuade us to purchase the brand citing reasons which appeal to us.

- **Do advertisements properly influence our choices?**

That is a good question. And the answer to this, I think, is that they can have a good as well as a harmful effect on us. An ill effect on advertising is that it may broadcast incorrect information. Like how using a particular deodorant can turn you into a 'chick magnet.' They also propagate prejudices: in the country, I come from, we have advertised fairness creams, whose use makes you 'beautiful', socially acceptable and attractive!

On the other hand, advertisements make you aware of your choices in the market and the features of a particular product. Therefore, we should always follow advertisements with a pinch of salt.

## Sports and Activities

- **Are sports more about money these days?**

Yes. I think so. When you see footballers or Formula 1 race drivers signing up for multi-million dollar deals, one wonders if sports is more about creating a brand and one-upmanship of who has better players than the actual sport. Sportsmanship, too, isn't promising in the sports arena. It is excellent to see organisers spend considerable money to organise sports events. Still, a handful of occasions and players hog up all the limelight leaving out the rest of the sportspersons and sports events that deserve encouragement. We see more brand logos on a player than the sportsperson themselves!

- **Should sportspersons strive to be role models?**

Yes, they should, as by representing a team, region or country, they take the onus of representing the people too. People become fans of these sportspersons and athletes as they are in awe of their talent and skills. There is always a strong possibility that these people look up to their idols and imbibe what they do. At times, the fans might even misbehave just because they saw their favourite sportsperson behave in such a manner. The onus lies with the sportspersons to act responsibly as they carry the responsibility of being public figures who can easily influence other people.