



Assessment sheet 2.2: Planning the interactive oral activity

This resource supports Unit 2.4, on pages 73–79 of the *IB English B* coursebook.

What is the interactive oral activity (IOA)?

During your study for IB English B, you will be required to take part in at least **three** IOAs, based on the ‘core’ topics in the course:

- Communication and media
- Global issues
- Social relationships.

You will work in groups, with other students, but you will be given an individual mark for your own performance. The best mark you achieve in the IOAs will be submitted to the IB, and will account for **10%** of your final mark for the English B course.

As the title of the activity suggests, there has to be dialogue and interaction with other students in the group, and so you cannot work alone.

There is no specified time limit for the IOA, and it is not recorded. At least one of the IOAs you take part in will need to be based on a listening stimulus, such as a speech or the lyrics of a song.

The IOA can take many forms. Your teacher may provide the stimulus, such as one or more texts, and ask you to participate in a formal debate, an interview or a discussion, using the texts as a starting point. Alternatively, you may be asked to prepare your own IOA, with guidance from your teacher.

This resource provides you with a suggested step-by-step approach to preparing and planning an IOA with the other members of your group.

Planning your interactive oral activity

Step 1: Finding ideas from your coursework.

Use the space below and on the next sheet to generate ideas from particular texts or topics that you have enjoyed or found especially interesting during your course. Make notes, and list any key points, to show your knowledge and understanding of your chosen text(s) or topic.

You can then use these notes as the starting point for planning your IOA.

What is your chosen topic or text?

Make a list here of key points that show your knowledge and understanding of the text(s) or topic you have chosen.

What I learned from _____

•

•

•

•

•

Step 2: Choosing a format for your IOA

You have now made a list of what to include in your IOA. The next step is to decide on an appropriate format for your activity. There are many different formats that you could choose from. For example:

- An interview (e.g. with a character from a text you have studied)
- An informal debate about a controversial issue
- A group discussion about a text or issue
- A role-play activity based on a text or other stimulus
- A chat/talk show
- A formal debate (e.g. between ‘experts’ who support different sides on an issue)
- A ‘pitch’ for an advertising campaign, where an idea is presented by one or two students, followed by a discussion by the whole group.

Not all of these formats will be suitable for the subject you want to talk about. Can you think of other formats, as well as those listed above, that would lend themselves well to the subject you want to explore?

Choose two or three formats, from your own ideas or from the list above. Use the space below to list the reasons why they might be suitable for your chosen content.

Format 1:

This format would be suitable for the chosen subject because:

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-
-

Format 2:

This format would be suitable for the chosen subject because:

-
-
-

Format 3:

This format would be suitable for the chosen subject because:

-
-
-

When you have considered these possible formats, decide which one you wish to use for your IOA. You may want to discuss this with your teacher before making a final decision.

Step 3: Choosing the right language for your activity

You should make sure you know about the kinds of language that are used in the type of activity you have chosen to do, whether it is an interview, a debate or a campaign ‘pitch’.

If you can, try to look at real-life examples of your chosen format before you start to plan your own. You might look on YouTube® or relevant TV programmes. Make notes of the kinds of language, key phrases and topic-specific terms that are used. Try to use these in your own activity.

You could also use notes you have taken during class, and make use of words from the word banks in the first two units of each chapter in this book.

Use the space below to make notes on the language and terms used in the kind of activity you want to do. Consider the following:

- What kinds of language are used?
- What are the key phrases?
- Are there any topic-specific terms used?

Think about how you can use these in your own activity.

The chosen format for your activity:**Kinds of language used:**

Key phrases used:

Topic-specific terms:

Step 4: Writing a proposal

Once you have decided on the format for your activity, and considered the kind of language you will use, you may want to write a short proposal for your teacher. This is not a formal requirement, but it may help you to ensure that your activity is relevant, and focuses on your coursework.

Your proposal will need to answer the following questions. Make some brief notes for each of these, and you can then use your answers as the basis for drafting your proposal.

What coursework will you refer to in your IOA?

What format will your activity take?

What do you want to achieve in the activity?

What will happen during the activity? Write a brief description.

Use the space below to draft your proposal.

