



What happens when I first go into the interview room?

Aim: This section explains what you should and shouldn't do in the very first part of the speaking test.

Problems: A lot of candidates are very nervous when they first go into the room and meet the examiner. In the introduction phase of the speaking test many students think it is Phase One and begin to talk at length.

What should I do when the candidate before me has finished?

Just wait outside the room until either the examiner or a member of the IELTS administration staff comes to get you. DON'T go into the interview room without being asked because the examiner will be busy recording the results of the previous candidate.

What should I say to the examiner?

"Hello" would be fine.

What happens after I sit down?

The examiner will probably say something to try to get you to relax. Then (s)he will say that the interview is going to start and will turn on the cassette recorder.

Why is the interview recorded?

Because it is for your protection. The examiner often listens to the interview again to make sure the score is accurate. Also, sometimes your speaking test needs to be re-marked by another examiner if the score is a lot different from the other parts of your test.

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