

Released Sample Topics for MSU-CELP Speaking Test

The topics below are a sample of actual CELF speaking topics that have been used in recent test administrations. Each topic is designed to begin a short conversation. Each topic consists of a group of several related questions that might be used in a conversation about this topic. As in real life, every conversation is unique, so an examiner might ask additional, similar questions on the same topic.

Description	Narration	Supported Opinion
<p>*What is something you would like to own someday? Is it difficult to get something like this? How would you get it? What would you do with this thing?</p> <p>*Have you ever been to an art museum? Can you think of an impressive piece of artwork you've seen in a museum? What did it look like? What was impressive about it? What did you like about it?</p> <p>*Have you ever made something by hand for someone else? What was it? What did it look like? What materials did you use?</p> <p>*Is there a place you could visit over and over and not get tired of? What is this place like? What can you see/do/experience there?</p> <p>* I would like you to describe a healthy lifestyle. Tell me about simple, healthy food and exercise. Are there any other components to living a healthy lifestyle?</p> <p>*Have you ever received a gift you were not satisfied with? What was</p>	<p>*Have you ever been disappointed, frustrated, or let down by technology? What happened? What caused the problem? How did you react? How did you solve the problem?</p> <p>*Have you ever had to be very patient and wait for something? What was it? What did you do while you were waiting? What finally happened?</p> <p>*Do you enjoy being alone? Can you think of a time when you enjoyed being alone? Where were you? What did you do while you were alone?</p> <p>*Have you ever been mistaken for someone else? Where were you? Who did someone think you were? How did you react? How did the other person react? What happened next?</p> <p>*Think about a time you tried something new. What was it? What motivated you to try it? What happened? What was the result?</p> <p>*What was the best or worst vacation you have ever had? What happened during this vacation that was so good or bad? Have you been there since?</p>	<p>*Should schools serve only healthy food to students? Is it schools' responsibility to make students healthy? How can schools motivate students to eat healthy food? Do companies that make unhealthy food have a right to sell their products in schools? Should there be any limits?</p> <p>*Besides environmental benefits, what other benefits do you think using public transportation provides society with? How does it benefit individual people? How does it benefit cities/society/countries, etc.?</p> <p>*Would you ever want to be famous? What for? How would your life be different? What things would you do differently? Would you prefer to be famous for your whole life or just a short period of time? Why? What opportunities would you have? What difficulties might you face?</p> <p>*What are some things that we use today that will be obsolete in 50 years? Why won't we need those things anymore? What will we do instead? Do you think anyone at all will still be using those things? Who? Why?</p> <p>*Which is more important for students: memorizing large amounts of information or learning critical thinking skills? What benefits does each of these bring to students? How does society benefit from having people with each of these types of knowledge?</p> <p>*Do artists/musicians/filmmakers have a responsibility to create things that will have a positive impact on society?</p>

<p>the gift? Who gave it to you? How did it make you feel? What was so unsatisfactory about this gift?</p>	<p>Did you tell people about your experience?</p>	<p>Why or why not? Should people be free to create whatever they want? What about films/music etc. that is meant solely to entertain people? Should there be any inherent message to a work of art? What about artwork or creations that might be offensive to some people? Should there be any limits?</p> <p>*What do you think makes a good teacher? Why are these qualities important? Does it depend on the age of the students? On the subject being taught? On the type of school?</p> <p>*Should governments spend money on space exploration, or should we focus on solving problems here on earth first? What benefits do we obtain from space exploration? Are these benefits cost effective? Who, if anyone, should fund this type of research? Which problems on earth should take precedence, if any? Why?</p> <p>*Should doctors be judged only by their medical knowledge or also by how they interact with people? Whose job is it to evaluate doctors? What criteria would you use to evaluate a doctor? Have you ever interacted with a doctor who did or did not communicate well? What was the result of that interaction?</p> <p>*Do you think there is too much fighting and violence on TV? Why is there so much violence? What effects do you think this has on society? Should TV producers be forced to change their content? Why or why not?</p>
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