

Website Sample Speaking Task 3: Paired Discussion

[8-10 minutes plus set-up time and follow up questions]

Paired Discussion: Pre-Interview Preparation

Topic = Tourism Development in Thailand

The examiner will explain that in this part of the test the two test-takers will take part in a joint discussion:

*“In this part of the test I would like you both to participate in a **two-way** discussion for up to ten minutes. Please read the instructions on this card”*

The examiner will then hand the candidates the first prompt card explaining the scenario. After allowing time to read the card, the examiner will then give the candidates the second prompt card with the questions for discussion.

*“Please remember that together you will be discussing the best way to answer the questions **before** the interview takes place. This is an opportunity to prepare and discuss the content of your answers. Please read through the questions now.”*

DevawongseVaropakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs
Paired Discussion: Tourism Development in Thailand

Candidate's Card 1: Scenario

Paired Discussion: Pre-Interview Preparation

Tourism Development in Thailand

You and a colleague have been jointly invited to take part in a TV interview as part of the series "Tourism Across the World". The theme of this episode is "Tourism in Thailand".

The interviewer will be a foreign journalist and s/he has provided you in advance with the questions covering the areas s/he is interested in.

After reading the questions, discuss with your partner the best way to answer them effectively and diplomatically. The examiner will give you the questions and tell you when to begin and when to stop.

NB: Please make sure that both of you participate.

Candidate's Card 2: Interview Questions

Paired Discussion: Pre-Interview Preparation

Tourism Development in Thailand

After reading the questions below, discuss with your partner the best way to answer them effectively and diplomatically. The examiner will tell you when to begin and when to stop.

- Why has Thailand been so successful in attracting tourists?
- How has Thailand managed to protect its valuable natural resources from the excesses of tourism?
- There've been some unfortunate incidents involving foreign tourists recently. Is Thailand still a safe destination?
- Does the large number of visitors pose a threat to traditional values and culture?