EAL/D Performance Component

Speaking Examination

30 minutes – 15 minutes preparation, 15 minutes examination 25%

Preparation

Topic with focus questions 15 minutes

Candidates are given 1 topic and are given 15 minutes preparation time to construct responses to focus questions provided with the text. Dictionaries are not allowed during preparation or interview time.

Examination – 12 minutes + 3 minutes reconciliation

Part 1: 1 minute

Examiners to select 2 - 3 general questions as appropriate for the context (e.g. offshore students, remote area students, senior college students). Initial discussion to establish rapport through low-order questions such as:

How are you? Where are you from? What area are you from? How long have you been studying English? Which languages do you speak? What are they? Describe when you use them. How long have you been here? What are you studying? What are you studying? What is it you like learning about the most? Why? Do you have much free time? What do you do?

Part 2: 4 - 6 minutes

Candidates answer and discuss prepared questions (done during preparation time in a separate room) and share ideas and opinions. Notes for Part 2 may be brought into the interview room. Topic examples:

Favourite Activites

- What is your favourite activity?
- Describe it.
- Explain who is involved.
- Explain why you like it.
- Discuss any disadvantages.
- Will you continue this activity in the future?

Experiences

Describe a memorable experience

- Say who was involved.
- Explain where you were and what happened.
- Explain why you enjoyed it.
- Discuss what makes experiences enjoyable.
- Do you think you'll repeat this experience in the future?

Part 3: 5 – 7 minutes

Candidates discuss general issues related to their studies. The questions are open enabling candidates to demonstrate their control over the grammatical, lexical and phonological features of standard Australian English. Notes for Part 3 are not allowed. Topic example:

Over the course of the year, you have studied various issues and topics in class. Can you explain one of these that most interested you? What have you learned about the issue or topic that you didn't know before? Is this an issue that affects society as a whole? Why? Why not? Can you give me your opinion as to what could be done to improve the situation in the future?

Assessment

All stimulus material and hand written notes must be left with the examiner before leaving the interview room. These will not be assessed.

Candidates will be assessed on:

- organisation of ideas
- use of cohesive devices
- degree of control over grammatical features
- clarity
- fluency
- stress
- pace
- intonation
- use of communication strategies
- appropriate register

Dialect accent (such as American or Indian pronunciation of words) is not assessed providing this does not impede comprehension.

Reconciliation of marks - 3 minutes

Margin of 3

Two examiners will be present in each interview.