

Read aloud

Expert Strategy 3.1

In this part of the speaking section, you will see a short text on the screen. You will be given either 30, 35 or 40 seconds to read it before the computer starts recording you. You will have the same amount of time again for the recording. When the computer starts recording, you must read the text aloud. You will do 6–7 *Read aloud* tasks.

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Look at the text below. In 35 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 35 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 33 seconds.

The Royal Society of Chemistry predicts that as few as six chemistry departments (those at Durham, Cambridge, Imperial, UCL, Bristol and Oxford) could remain open by 2014. Most recently, Exeter University closed down its chemistry department, blaming it on "market forces", and Bristol took in some of the refugees.

Instructions

Recording Status box that tells you when the microphone opens and when it closes

Text that you have to read aloud

Next

EXPERT STRATEGIES

Before you speak

- 1 Read the text before the microphone opens. These tasks aim to test your understanding of the text. If you understand the content of the text, you'll find it easier to use stress and intonation to help express meaning.
- 2 Try to guess the pronunciation of any unknown words.

While you speak

- 3 Imagine that you are speaking to an audience. Speak clearly, at normal speed and volume. If you speak too quietly or too quickly, it might be difficult to assess your speech.
- 4 Use punctuation to help you identify places for brief, natural pauses. Keep your mind on meaning but pay attention to your stress and rhythm, as well as pronunciation of sounds and smooth transitions between words.
- 5 If you make a mistake, don't go back and correct yourself. Just keep going. You will not be able to re-record anything.

Notes from the test developers

- Do not pause for more than two seconds. After three seconds, the recording stops and you cannot re-open the microphone.
- To get a good score, your response must include all the words in the text and you must say them with good pronunciation and fluency.
- These tasks contribute to your reading, speaking, pronunciation and oral fluency scores.