

GESE – Sample interactive prompts

Advanced stage (Grades 10-12)

The following document contains some sample interactive prompts for Grades 10-12. Please note these are example prompts and will not be used in a real examination.

Grade 10

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

Language functions

- ▶ Developing an argument
- ▶ Defending a point of view
- ▶ Expressing beliefs
- ▶ Expressing opinions tentatively
- ▶ Summarising information, ideas and arguments
- ▶ Deducing

Grade 10 Interactive prompts

1. Some people believe governments should only allow people to drive electric cars. I'm not sure I agree with this.
2. We hear a lot these days about how it's beneficial to become better at multi-tasking. I'm not sure whether I agree or not.
3. Some people think governments should focus more on developing virtual tourism rather than promoting actual tourism. I'm not sure where I stand on this issue.
4. Some people are worried about the influence of video games on young people. I'm not sure where I stand on this.
5. Many people believe that the potential to earn a lot of money is the most important thing when choosing a career. I'm not sure where I stand on that issue.
6. Many people think it's best for young people to listen to the advice of their family when deciding their future career. I wonder if this is always a good idea.
7. As young children, we're taught that we shouldn't tell lies. However, I think there are occasions when telling a lie is justified.
8. Supermarkets tend to stock food from all over the world. I wonder whether we should make more effort to buy food that was grown in our local area instead.
9. At my nephew/niece's school, homework is optional. Students only have to do it if they want to. I've even heard there's a move to get rid of it altogether.
10. Many people think that we should spend more time enjoying ourselves and less time trying to make money, but I'm not sure you can do one without the other.

Grade 11

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

Language functions

- ▶ Justifying an argument
- ▶ Inferring
- ▶ Expressing caution
- ▶ Expressing empathy and sympathy
- ▶ Challenging arguments and opinions
- ▶ Evaluating different standpoints
- ▶ Expressing reservations

Grade 11 Interactive prompts

1. It has been said that people of different generations have difficulty in understanding each other. I wonder if this has been exaggerated.
2. Many people feel that governments have a responsibility to provide free education for all their citizens, but I realise there are different ideas about this.
3. Some people think that children's time outside of school should include structured activities like sport or music. I'm not quite sure if I agree.
4. Some people think that history is a less important subject in schools than mathematics or science, but I'm not sure I agree with them.
5. Many people believe that living in a consumer society with a lot of choice is a good thing. I sometimes wonder if it is really such an advantage.
6. There has been increasing awareness about plastic waste and its devastating effects on the natural environment. As an individual I don't feel I have much impact on helping solve the issue.
7. There's an ongoing debate as to whether social media is bringing people closer together or pushing them further apart. I don't know where I stand on this issue.
8. Modern technology has created a culture of instant gratification. Many people believe this has made people less patient, but I wonder if this is really the case.
9. A lot of young people nowadays are encouraged to go travelling around the world in order to broaden their experience of life. Personally, I think this is a complete waste of time.
10. Some people think that history is a less important subject in schools than mathematics or science, but I'm not sure I agree with them.

Grade 12

The examiner will introduce the Interactive phase by saying:

In this task, I'll start by telling you something. You'll have to ask me questions to find out more information and make comments. It's your responsibility to maintain the conversation. Are you ready?

Language functions

- ▶ Asserting
- ▶ Denying
- ▶ Softening and downplaying propositions
- ▶ Contradicting
- ▶ Implying
- ▶ Affirming

Grade 12 Interactive prompts

1. Some people maintain that younger people are more ethically principled than older people. I'm not entirely sure if I'd subscribe to that point of view.
2. There is a proposition that parents should limit the amount of time their children spend on their phones. This is clearly a matter for discussion.
3. Some people maintain that children benefit from reading fictional stories as much as reading their class textbooks. I'm not entirely sure if I'd subscribe to that point of view.
4. Artificial intelligence is advancing rapidly and is likely to fundamentally change our lives. I'm not so sure that artificial intelligence will prove beneficial to humans.
5. Some people say governments should control how fast-food companies advertise their products. I believe adults can decide for themselves what food to consume.
6. The invasive reporting of the private lives of celebrities appears to sell newspapers and magazines. I wonder whether this is ethical behaviour for the press.
7. Some people claim that making mistakes is a vital part of the learning process. I find this a very interesting proposition.
8. Some people say that competition in schools should be discouraged as it has a negative impact on children's development. I wonder if this is overstating the case.
9. It's often said that there should be no limits to the activities of the press even when it comes to people's private lives. I couldn't agree more.
10. One effect of increased globalisation is that minority languages are gradually becoming extinct. Many people regret this but I'm not sure it's such a bad thing.