

C1 English

THE BUILDING BLOCKS GUÍA



The Building Blocks Guide

Your speaking exam foundation

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1: INTRODUCTION

The Building Blocks Guide should be used as a reference to support your speaking exam preparation.

Using this guide should help you save time and therefore money because it focuses your exam preparation on developing **sentences and phrases** which demonstrate the **exam assessment criteria** –i.e. sentences which are **exam-ready**.

BUILDING BLOCKS GUÍA

DIÁLOGO MONÓLOGO

Guía Tutorial Guía Audio

Take care of your brain - use the same structures and language points for your writing and mediation exam tasks!

This guide gives you:

- A list of exam-ready sentences using key grammatical structures
- A list of exam-ready sentences using key language functions:
 - a) Advice
 - b) Suggestions
 - c) Likelihood & Speculation
 - d) Prohibition
 - e) Obligation

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EOI ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- 3. Advice on how to improve richness and range:
 - a. A list of exam-ready sentences to express general statements
 - b. A list of exam-ready sentences to give personal opinions
 - c. A list of useful vocabulary, expressions and idioms
- 4. Advice on how to improve coherence:
 - a) A list of useful connectors/linkers
 - b) A list of useful adverbial phrases

Advice & Tips:

- 1. The EOI exam has questions about a broad range of topics. The sentences in this guide **cover a wide variety of topics.**
- 2. **Different regions have different time restrictions.** You must know how long your exam tasks last as you must practise in exam conditions.
- 3. Don't try to remember everything. **Learn and copy a range of structures and phrases from each section.** Adapt the vocabulary to suit different topics.
- 4. Become familiar with exam topics by using past exam papers. Moreover, no matter your interests, C1-level students are expected to be able to speak fluently and coherently about unfamiliar topics and controversial matters. You should already be following current affairs.
- 5. There is a huge difference between a low C1 and a high C2, so adapt the sentences in this guide to make them easier or more complex to suit your level.



The monólogo:

TAREA 1 MONÓLOGO: MEDICAL TOURISM

Spain has all the ingredients to establish itself as a leading international healthcare and medical tourism destination, being one of the top destinations chosen by foreign patients, combining a package holiday with a treatment.

- . Do you think that this new source of income could benefit the country's financial status?
- Are there any drawbacks that we should explore before the country starts aiming at that market?
- Describe at least three examples of medical tourism

TAREA 1 MONÓLOGO: ONLINE SHOPPING

Some people think that the future of shopping is online, as you have access to a huge variety of products in a "global supermarket".

- What effects does online shopping have on global commerce?
- Do you think that internet shopping is making people purchase things they do not need more than in the past?
- Does it contribute to a growing number of shopaholics?

ANIMAL RIGHTS

You are going to talk about animal rights. Express your ideas and use arguments and examples to justify your opinion. Use the following questions as a help to prepare your monologue, but do not answer them directly:

- 1. What springs to mind when you hear the term 'animal rights'?
- 2. Is animal experimentation justified?
- 3. What obligations do humans have towards animals?

These images are here to help you but you do not need to interpret them or use them to accomplish this task:

TEACHING TO MANAGE EMOTIONS

Managing our emotions is hard, whether you are four or six or forty-six! Teaching our children to effectively manage their feelings and emotions is an important ongoing task. However, some families or institutions are reluctant to provide such training at certain ages because they think children are too young or too immature to handle the content.

You are going to talk about teaching to manage emotions. Express your ideas and use arguments and examples to justify your opinion. Use the following questions as a help to prepare your monologue, but do not answer them directly:

- 1. Do you think teaching to manage emotions is necessary? Why? Why not?
- 2. Have you ever received such training? Is it typical in your country of origin?
- 3. What changes would you implement in the current education system concerning this issue?

2: GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURES

	MINIMUM GRAMMATICAL RANGE
Present Tenses Simple	 Despite the recent measures to improve online security, many experts believe that we are a long way off from finding any real solutions to reducing the increasing levels of online crime and digital identity theft. A key indicator of the superficiality of digital communication is the year-on-year increase in youth stress and loneliness. Generally speaking, people are more conscious of the negative impact of gender and
	racial stereotyping nowadays. 4. Opponents of alternative therapies argue that there is little scientific data to prove that
	they are safe for human use in the short or long term. 5. It's a sad fact of the digital age that young people are more influenced by Instagrammers
	 and social media bloggers than they are by journalists, scientists and politicians. 6. It is often said that poverty, pollution and civil war are the most serious world problems. 7. A key indicator of the detrimental effects of digital communication is the year-on-year
	 increase in youth stress and loneliness. 8. Recycling, using energy-efficient appliances and reducing waste are by far the easiest measures that the general public could adopt to slow down further damage to the
Present Continuous	environment.9. Global waste production is growing in volume and toxicity, and yet, nobody has come up with a <i>viable solution</i> to reduce waste or dispose of it in an eco-friendly manner.
	10. <i>Thankfully</i> , the Spanish government is taking the issue of gender inequality much more seriously nowadays.
Past Tenses	1. Researchers estimated that <i>the number of</i> people going to cinemas would <i>drastically</i>
	 decrease as a direct consequence of the popularity of streaming media services. Last week, the national level of unemployment fell by 2% largely as a consequence of new jobs created by the technology sector.
	3. A few months ago, I read an article <i>in which</i> the medical community reported that stress and anxiety in young people will increase as society <i>becomes more dependent on</i> digital technologies to connect with people.
Present Perfect	4. Yesterday, I read that e-book sales have outperformed the sales of traditional print books; this is a <i>worrying statistic</i> for all bookshop owners and public libraries.
	 According to recent statistics, in 2022, the tourism sector supported over 1.2 million jobs and generated over €12 billion for the local economy.
	6. Unfortunately, because we are an image-led society, the demand for unnecessary risky cosmetic surgeries has grown exponentially over the last 20 years.
	 Málaga has developed into one of the top must-visit city break destinations in Europe. Consequently, the local council has just invested €10 million into infrastructural improvements.
Present Perfect	8. <i>Thankfully,</i> the local council has been recycling paper, glass and plastic for over 10 years.
Continuous	Moreover, last year it expanded the city cycling lanes to encourage residents to use more eco-friendly methods of transport.
Used to	9. I remember when travelling abroad used to <i>cost an arm and a leg. However, to a large extent, low-cost airlines</i> have made it much more <i>economical</i> to get abroad.
Past perfect	10. Before the smoking ban in public places, in general, people hadn't considered the effects of passive smoking.

NEED MORE HELP?

A: EOI Digital Survival Guides Summary

1. The Building Blocks Guide:

- Exam-ready sentences for you to copy and adapt for the speaking exam
- A list of useful grammatical structures
- A list of useful vocabulary, expressions & idioms
- A list of useful connectors & adverbial phrases

2. The Monólogo Guide:

- Exam-ready recorded monólogo: audio (mp3)
- Complete transcript colour-coded to show you how to use the grammar, vocabulary and connectors

3. The Diálogo Guía:

- Exam-ready sentences to start, interact and end an exam dialogue
- Examples of formal & informal situations
- Best used with the Diálogo Tutorial

4. The Diálogo Tutorial

- Step-by-step tutorial on how to develop an exam-ready dialogue
- Complete model from start to end

B: .60-minute English Online Exam Clinic 1-1

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Want to pass your official English language speaking exam but need more exam practice?

The 60-minute online 1-1 exam clinic will give you the exam practice you need. Delivered by a certified Trinity & Cambridge examiner and experienced EOI teacher.



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