



Modern Foreign Languages Speaking Assessments

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- **Preparation:** The NEC course materials and tutor will help prepare you for the speaking assessments and your Individual Research Project (IRP).
- **Qualification Requirement:** You will need to complete the oral/speaking component as well as the written papers to achieve the full qualification.
- **Weighting:**
 - *A level:* The speaking assessment makes up 30% of the overall marks.
 - *International GCSE:* The speaking exam makes up 25% of the overall marks.
- **Timing:** The speaking assessment must be completed in the same examination series that exams are being sat.
- **Private Candidates:** Private candidates may struggle to find an examination centre for language speaking components as the entering centre will have the responsibility for providing a qualified assessor hosting face-to-face assessments, and handling exam board paperwork.
- **NEC Students:** Students studying with NEC can sit the oral and written exams at one of NEC's partner exam centres.

HOW CAN NEC HELP ME?

- NEC are in a unique position where they can help students from start to finish and therefore provide a seamless process.
- We are able to guide and support you in preparing effectively for the oral examination and support you with the booking of the exam centre - so you can focus on developing your language skills.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH PROJECT (IRP) FOCUS

(A LEVEL ONLY)

For the A level qualification, a substantial portion of your speaking mark is determined by your Individual Research Project (IRP). Key rules include:

- **Topic Choice:** Must be directly linked to the culture, history, society, politics, literature or arts of a French- or Spanish-speaking country.
- **Analytical Scope:** Your project cannot be purely descriptive or factual. You must select a title that allows you to use analytical skills and defend arguments.
- **Prohibitions:** Your IRP must be completely separate from an EPQ or the specific book/film you are studying for your Paper 2 writing exam.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I enter?

- Your exam entry for the speaking component is automatically bundled with your overall written exam entry.
- Your chosen centre will contact you to assign a specific time slot closer to the assessment period.
- Booking with NEC means we look after the application process - you will need to apply to take the exam once enrolled with NEC.

When will I complete the speaking exam?

- Oral assessments typically occur between mid-April and mid-May.
- However, there are a number of internal deadlines leading up to this date, with a final IRP submission date of 1st March.

GET IN TOUCH

From the moment you enrol to when you receive your results
-we're here to support you.

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