

2026 Preliminary Exam Topics – English Oral Exam

The themes in this practice resource were compiled and distilled from a Facebook crowdsourcing survey conducted by Articulate Intelligence. Parents shared the topics, picture stimuli and questions that their children recalled from their 2026 Primary 6 preliminary oral examinations.

Similar responses have been grouped into broader themes. Based on these reported themes, Articulate Intelligence developed the practice stimuli and oral questions in this resource. The questions generally follow a three-part structure:

1. Responding to the picture stimulus
 2. Sharing a relevant personal experience
 3. Expressing and explaining an opinion
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The topics and questions in this resource are not official examination materials. They may not reproduce the original preliminary examination questions exactly, and the eventual PSLE oral examination may cover entirely different topics.

This document includes model answers that use a varied sentence structure and moderate level vocabulary. They are not meant to be memorized, but for students to read and be familiar with the sentence structures and vocabulary used so they could use it themselves in the exam.

Due to the large size, the document has been split into two. This document has Themes 4 to 8.

These practice sets have also been added to Articulate Intelligence's AI Oral Examiner. This real-time conversational AI allows students to practise speaking, respond to follow-up questions and receive a personalised performance report.

Practise these questions with the AI Oral Examiner:

<https://articulate.com.sg/ai-oral-exam-practice/>

Thank you and best of luck for your exams!

- Meng Aun (Founder, Articulate Intelligence)



Theme 4: Family Bonding and Spending Time Together

Picture stimulus: A father and daughter enjoy cycling together in a park.

Oral questions

1. **Do you think exercising together is a good way for the father and daughter to spend time together? Why or why not?**
2. **Tell us about an enjoyable activity you have done with your family.**
3. **Would you prefer playing online games with your family or doing a physical activity together? Why?**

Theme 4: Family Bonding and Spending Time Together

1. Do you think exercising together is a good way for the father and daughter to spend time together? Why or why not?

Personally, I think exercising together is an excellent way for the father and daughter to spend time together. Cycling gives them an opportunity to talk, enjoy the scenery and take a break from their usual routines. **At the same time**, it helps them remain active and healthy.

From the picture, both of them appear relaxed and happy. The father may also be teaching his daughter how to cycle safely or encouraging her when she feels tired. **As a result**, they can strengthen their relationship while creating pleasant memories together.

Overall, cycling is a meaningful family activity because it benefits both their physical health and their relationship.

2. Tell us about an enjoyable activity you have done with your family.

I remember going to East Coast Park for a picnic with my family during the June holidays. We prepared sandwiches, fruit and drinks before leaving home early in the morning. When we arrived, we found a shady spot near the beach and laid out our picnic mat.

After eating, my parents and I took a walk along the beach while my younger sister collected seashells. **Besides that**, we played a game of badminton together. None of us played particularly well, but we laughed whenever someone missed the shuttlecock.

What I enjoyed most was having the chance to talk and relax with my family without worrying about schoolwork or other responsibilities. **In the end**, I felt refreshed and grateful that we had spent the day together.

3. Would you prefer playing online games with your family or doing a physical activity together? Why?

Personally, I would prefer doing a physical activity with my family. **For instance**, we could go cycling, swim or play badminton together. These activities would allow us to exercise **while also giving us an opportunity to** communicate face-to-face.

Another reason is that physical activities encourage us to leave the house and enjoy a change of surroundings. Since we already spend a great deal of time sitting down for school or work, exercising together would help us develop a healthier lifestyle.



However, playing online games with my family can also be enjoyable, especially when the weather is bad or when we cannot go outdoors. Online games may teach us to cooperate and solve problems as a team.

Even so, I would still choose a physical activity because it allows my family to exercise, communicate and create memories together. **Overall, I believe** it is the more meaningful and healthier way for us to bond.



Theme 5: Food, Eating Habits and Food Waste

Picture stimulus: A family of three enjoys dinner together at a buffet restaurant.

Oral questions

1. How do you think the people in the photograph feel? Why?
2. Tell us about a time when you went out for a meal with your family.
3. Do you think people in Singapore waste too much food? Why or why not?

Theme 5: Food, Eating Habits and Food Waste

1. How do you think the people in the photograph feel? Why?

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Personally, I think the family feels happy and relaxed. **From the photograph,** they appear to be smiling and enjoying one another's company. The wide variety of dishes on the table in the background also suggests that they are enjoying the buffet.

Perhaps they are celebrating a special occasion, such as a birthday or an achievement.

Another possibility is that they simply decided to have a meal together after a busy week.

Since family members may have different schedules, eating together gives them an opportunity to talk and catch up with one another.

Overall, I believe they are enjoying both the delicious food and the chance to spend quality time together.

2. Tell us about a time when you went out for a meal with your family.

I remember going to a Japanese restaurant with my family to celebrate my mother's birthday last year. Before the meal, my sister and I secretly bought a small cake **in order to** surprise her.

At the restaurant, we ordered several dishes to share, including sushi, noodles and grilled chicken. **What I enjoyed most was** being able to try a little of everything. **On top of that,** sharing the dishes allowed us to talk about which ones we liked best.

After the meal, the restaurant staff brought out the cake while we sang a birthday song for my mother. She looked surprised and delighted because she had not expected it. **In the end,** I felt happy that we had made her birthday memorable. The experience also reminded me that family meals are not just about food but also about spending time with the people we love.

3. Do you think people in Singapore waste too much food? Why or why not?

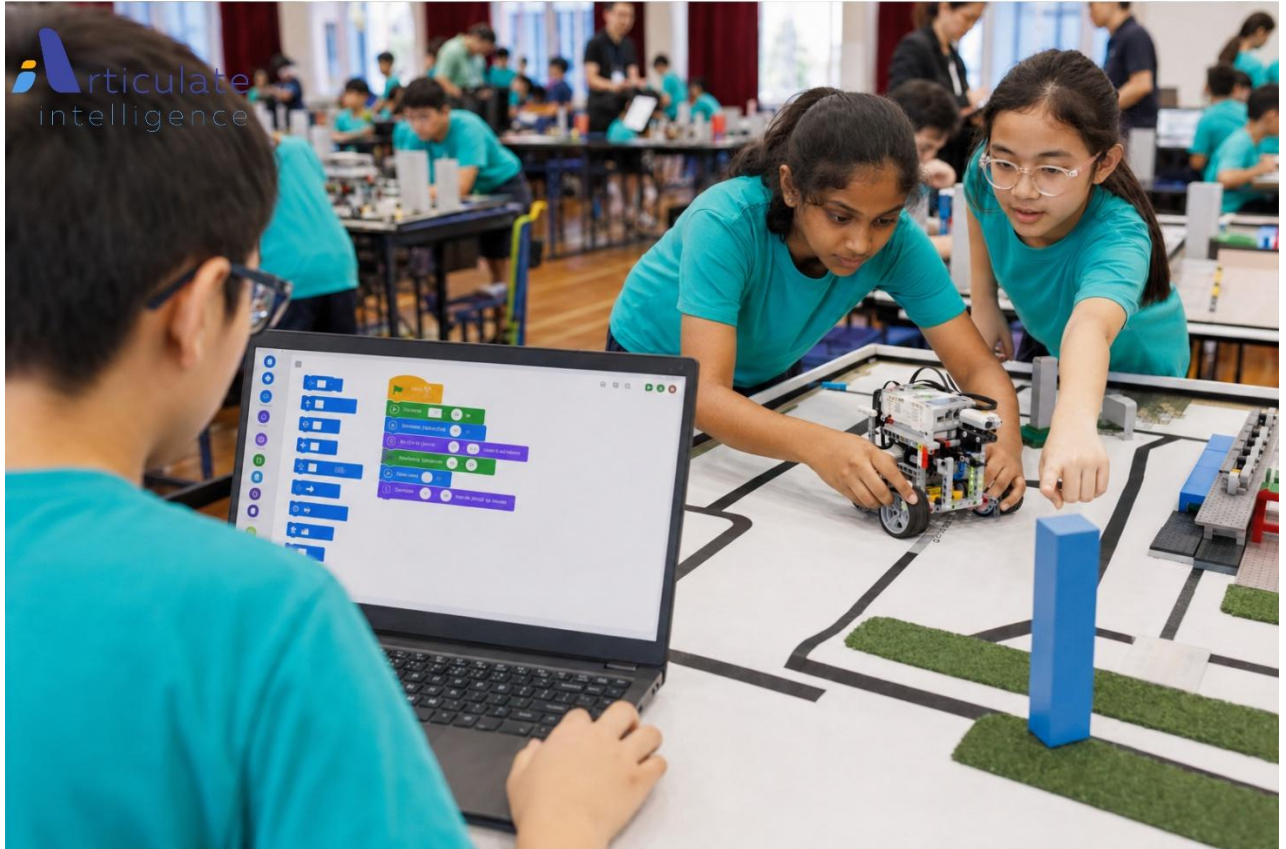
In my opinion, people in Singapore waste too much food. Since food is widely available, some people may not appreciate the time, effort and resources needed to produce it. **For example,** diners at buffet restaurants sometimes take more food than they can finish because they want to try every dish. **As a result,** large amounts of uneaten food are thrown away.

Besides that, people may buy too many groceries without checking what they already have at home. The food might then expire before it can be eaten. This wastes not only the food but also the money spent on it.

However, I believe that more Singaporeans are becoming aware of the problem. **For instance,** some people take away their unfinished meals, while shops may sell unsold food at lower prices instead of discarding it.



Overall, everyone can help to reduce food waste by taking only what they can finish and planning their purchases carefully. **If each person makes a small effort**, we can prevent a large amount of food from being wasted.



Theme 6: Competitions, Robotics and Teamwork

Picture stimulus: Three students work together during a coding and robotics competition.

Oral questions

1. **Would you like to participate in this competition? Why or why not?**
2. **Tell us about a time when you took part in a competition. What was the experience like?**
3. **Do you think teamwork is important when taking part in a competition? Why?**

Theme 6: Competitions, Robotics and Teamwork

1. Would you like to participate in this competition? Why or why not?

Personally, I would like to participate in this coding and robotics competition because it seems both interesting and challenging. I would have the opportunity to learn how to programme a robot and use my creativity **in order to** solve different problems.

From the picture, the students appear focused and are working closely together. They may have to design their robot, test it and correct any problems before the competition begins.

Although this could be stressful, successfully completing the task would give me a strong sense of achievement.

On top of that, I could learn from my teammates and improve my communication skills.

Overall, I would take part because the competition would allow me to gain new knowledge, face a challenge and become more confident.

2. Tell us about a time when you took part in a competition. What was the experience like?

I remember taking part in an inter-class badminton competition last year. My partner and I practised during recess several times a week **in order to** improve our teamwork and prepare for the competition.

At first, I felt extremely nervous because many students were watching us. We lost the first few points, but my partner encouraged me to remain calm. **As a result,** I began to concentrate better, and we gradually caught up with the opposing team.

Although we did not win the final match, we were proud that we had tried our best. **This experience taught me that** winning is not the only purpose of joining a competition. We can also learn from our mistakes and become more resilient. **In the end,** I felt disappointed about losing, but I was grateful for the experience.

3. Do you think teamwork is important when taking part in a competition? Why?

In my opinion, teamwork is extremely important when a competition involves a group. Each team member may have different strengths and abilities. **For example,** in a robotics competition, one student might be skilled at coding, while another might be better at designing and building the robot.

Besides that, team members can support one another when they experience difficulties. If a problem occurs, they can share their ideas and work together **in order to** find a solution. **As a result,** they may solve the problem more effectively than one person working alone.



However, teamwork is only successful when everyone contributes and listens respectfully to others. If team members refuse to cooperate, disagreements could affect their performance.

Overall, I believe teamwork increases a group's chances of success because members can combine their strengths, overcome challenges and encourage one another.



Theme 7: Presentations and Public Speaking

Picture stimulus: A student gives a presentation to her classmates while her teacher observes.

Oral questions

1. How do you think the girl feels about giving this presentation? Why?
2. Tell us about a time when you gave a presentation to your class. How did you feel?
3. Do you think schools should give students more opportunities to give presentations? Why or why not?

Theme 7: Presentations and Public Speaking

1. How do you think the girl feels about giving this presentation? Why?

Personally, I think the girl feels slightly nervous but confident about giving the presentation.

From the picture, she is standing in front of her classmates and speaking while everyone looks at her. Being the centre of attention might make her anxious, especially if she is afraid of forgetting what she wants to say.

However, she appears to be standing upright and presenting without reading directly from a script. **This suggests that** she has prepared carefully and knows her topic well. Her teacher is also nearby, so she may feel reassured knowing that help is available if she needs it.

Overall, I believe the girl feels nervous because she is speaking in front of an audience, but she is also prepared and determined to do her best.

2. Tell us about a time when you gave a presentation to your class. How did you feel?

I remember giving a science presentation about the solar system to my class last year. My group prepared several slides and divided the presentation into different sections **so that** everyone would have a chance to speak.

Before the presentation, I felt nervous because I was worried that I might forget my lines or pronounce a difficult word incorrectly. When it was my turn, my hands were trembling slightly, and I spoke too quickly at first. **However,** I took a deep breath and reminded myself to slow down.

As I continued speaking, I gradually became more confident. My classmates listened attentively, and my teacher smiled encouragingly. **As a result,** I was able to finish my section without making any serious mistakes.

In the end, I felt relieved and proud of myself. **This experience taught me that** careful preparation and regular practice can make public speaking less frightening.

3. Do you think schools should give students more opportunities to give presentations? Why or why not?

In my opinion, schools should give students more opportunities to make presentations because public speaking is an important life skill. Students may need to present their ideas in

secondary school, at university and eventually in the workplace. Regular practice would help them become more confident when speaking in front of others.

Another reason is that preparing presentations teaches students to organise their ideas and explain them clearly. **For example,** they must decide which information is important and arrange it in a logical order **so that** their audience can understand them.

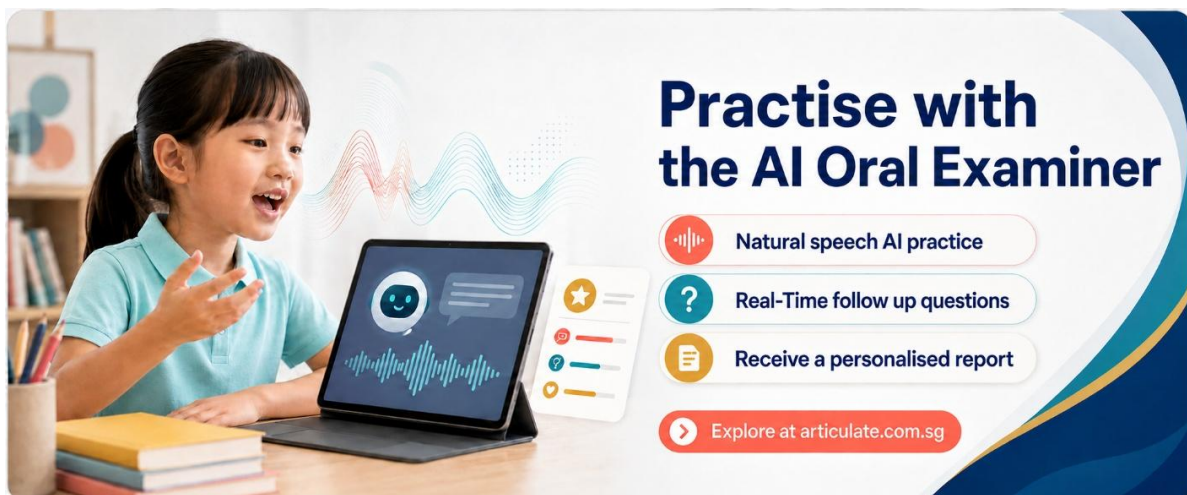
However, some students may feel extremely anxious about speaking in front of a class. Teachers should begin with short presentations or allow students to present in groups before asking them to speak alone. **As a result,** students can gradually develop their confidence without feeling overwhelmed.

Overall, I believe presentations should be included more often in school because they improve students' confidence, communication skills and ability to organise their thoughts.

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