

IELTS Speaking Phrase Bank — Band 9 Edition

Natural linking phrases, opinion language, and sample answers for Parts 1, 2 & 3. From computerielts.com

Part 1 — Everyday Questions

FUNCTION	PHRASE
Giving a quick opinion	"Yeah, I'd say so, mainly because..."
Saying you don't do something	"Not really, to be honest — I never really got into it."
Adding a small detail	"...especially on weekends" / "...ever since I was a kid"
Softening a negative answer	"I wouldn't say I love it, but it's alright."

Sample: "Do you like reading?" → "Yeah, quite a bit actually — I usually read before bed, mostly fiction, because it helps me switch off from work."

Part 2 — The Long Turn

FUNCTION	PHRASE
Starting your answer	"I'd like to talk about a time when..." / "One experience that comes to mind is..."
Moving through a timeline	"At first..." / "After a while..." / "By the end of it..."
Describing feelings	"It left me feeling really..." / "I remember being quite..."
Wrapping up	"Overall, it's something I still think back on because..."

Sample opener: "I'd like to talk about a trip I took to the mountains last year with a few close friends — it's a memory that's genuinely stuck with me..."

Part 3 — Discussion & Opinions

FUNCTION	PHRASE
Giving an opinion	"From my point of view..." / "As far as I'm concerned..."
Justifying it	"...mainly because..." / "...largely due to the fact that..."
Comparing	"Unlike X, Y tends to..." / "Compared with a decade ago..."
Speculating	"It's quite likely that..." / "I'd imagine that..."

Disagreeing politely

"I'm not sure that's entirely true, because..."

Softening a strong claim

"To some extent..." / "In a way..."

Sample: "How has technology changed communication?" → "I'd say it's made it far more instant, but in a way it's also made conversations more shallow, because people rely on quick messages rather than longer calls."

Fillers That Sound Natural (Not Memorized)

USE WHEN...	SAY
Buying a second to think	"That's an interesting question, let me think..."
Rephrasing yourself	"What I mean is..." / "Or rather..."
Correcting a small slip	"Sorry, I mean..." (then continue — don't panic)