

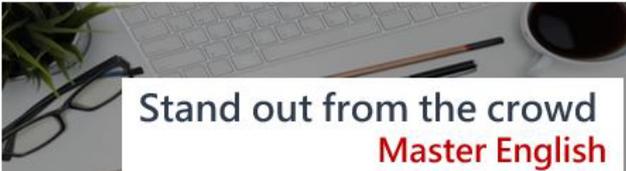
# THE BUILDING BLOCKS GUIDE

"Like a hand in glove to prepare for C2 certification." *Albert Arnau*



**Tiger Edition 2026**

**Inglés Málaga**



Stand out from the crowd  
**Master English**

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**The Building Blocks Guide**

**Your speaking exam foundation**

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## PAST EXAM PAPER EXAMPLES

### The monologues

**Remember:** rules for **monologue content** and **time limits** for planning and delivery **vary by region**. Know the specifics for your exam and practise under those conditions.

#### SURROGACY

*Surrogacy is fraught with moral complexity. On the one hand, there are joyous parents and on the other hand tales of exploitation of women with many leading politicians and outlets of Spanish media referring to surrogacy as "womb renting". The Guardian.*

You are going to talk about Surrogacy. 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. Why is surrogacy such a controversial issue?
2. What measures need to be implemented to protect women and children?
3. What problems might parents of surrogate babies encounter?

#### SUGAR TAX

*A sugary drink tax or sweetened beverage tax (SBT) is a tax or surcharge designed to reduce consumption of sweetened beverages. Drinks covered under a soda tax often include carbonated soft drinks, sports drinks and energy drinks. This policy intervention is an effort to decrease obesity and the health impacts related to being overweight, however the medical evidence supporting the benefits of a sugar tax on health is of very low certainty. Wikipedia.*

You are going to talk about Sugar Tax. 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. Will the sugar tax have an effect on obesity in Spain?
2. Are there any disadvantages to this measure?
3. What possible alternatives would there be to reduce the obesity rate?

#### NIVEL C2

#### MODELO 8

The advances made in artificial intelligence (AI) have begun to change the way we work, study and spend our leisure time. Talk about the advantages and disadvantages of this new technology.



## 2: GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURES

### MINIMUM GRAMMATICAL RANGE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Present</b>s: Simple   Continuous   Verb Patterns: ing, inf, B-inf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Inversions</b>: Negative Trigger   Inverted conditionals   Modals</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Past</b>s: Simple   Continuous   Perfect   Used to   Verb Patterns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Clefts</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Futures</b>: Prediction   Facts   Perfects   Verb Patterns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Perfect participle clauses</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conditionals</b>: C0   C1   C2   C3   Mixed   Set Phrases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Question</b>: Direct   Indirect   Tag   Negative   Rhetorical</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Passives</b>: Basic   Adverb + Reporting Verb   Modal + Passive</li> </ul>	

	<b>MINIMUM GRAMMATICAL RANGE</b>
<b>Present Tenses</b> <i>Simple</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Despite the mounting evidence of climate change, some individuals <b>choose to bury their heads in the sand</b> and <b>ignore</b> the urgent need for environmental action.</li> <li>2. <b>Nowadays we hear a lot</b> about the growing threat of globalisation, but many supporters of globalisation <b>argue</b> that <i>this narrative undermines the far-reaching positive effects</i>.</li> <li>3. <b>Many are</b> the causes that <i>have led us to</i> a better and longer life.</li> <li>4. The <i>proliferation</i> of mobile communication devices <i>in conjunction with</i> the <b>widespread use of</b> social media <b>has fundamentally altered</b> our way of life. However, <i>have you ever considered whether</i> these changes <i>have led to</i> more freedom?</li> <li>5. Unfortunately, <b>it's</b> an <i>under-known fact</i> that the <i>catalyst</i> for mass emigration, <i>far from being economically motivated</i>, <b>is</b> the result of <i>racial persecution</i> and <i>civil unrest</i>.</li> <li>6. Conventional wisdom <b>suggests</b> that money can't buy you happiness, <i>although, according to recent studies</i>, people <b>tend to feel</b> happier as their income increases.</li> <li>7. <i>Opponents of GM foods</i> <b>argue</b> that there is little scientific data to <i>conclusively prove</i> that they are safe for human consumption in the short or long term.</li> <li>8. <i>The notion</i> that technology <i>intrinsically</i> <b>enriches</b> our lives <i>is flawed for countless reasons</i>.</li> <li>9. <i>A key indicator of the superficiality of digital communication</i> <b>is</b> <i>the year-on-year increase in youth stress and loneliness</i>.</li> <li>10. <i>According to many research studies</i>, celebrities <b>have a long-term detrimental impact on young minds</b> since they encourage <i>underage drinking</i> and <i>unhealthy binge diets</i>.</li> <li>11. <i>Advocates of free speech</i> often <b>claim that</b> censorship stifles debate. However, <i>opponents argue</i> that <i>this standpoint</i> naively ignores the <i>true complexity</i> of the issue.</li> <li>12. <b>It is</b> a <i>sad reflection of modern-day society</i> when young people <b>appear to be more influenced</b> by social media bloggers <b>than</b> journalists, scientists and politicians.</li> <li>13. <i>Despite</i> the recent measures to reduce carbon emissions, many environmental experts <b>believe</b> we are <i>a long way off from</i> <b>unearthing</b> any <i>long-term practical solutions</i> in the <i>fight against climate change</i> and the <i>catastrophic depletion of natural resources</i>.</li> <li>14. <i>Generally speaking</i>, people <b>are</b> more <b>conscious of</b> the negative impact of globalization and mass consumerism.</li> <li>15. <b>It is well documented</b> that unemployment, civil war and poverty <b>are amongst the most pressing</b> world problems.</li> </ol>

## 6: ENSURE COHERENCE & ORGANISATION

### CONNECTORS FORMAL & INFORMAL

**You must use connectors in your exam.** They help develop points, organise ideas, and add structure and coherence, making it easier for the listener to follow and stay engaged. In exams, the greater the variety of connectors you accurately demonstrate, the more points will be awarded.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>F</b> = generally considered to be formal</li> <li>• <b>B INF</b> = the bare infinitive, or the infinitive without <b>TO</b></li> <li>• <b>ING</b> = the gerund</li> </ul>					
ADDING INFORMATION	CONTRASTING INFORMATION	GIVING A REASON	RESULT / CONSEQUENCE	ORDERING / SUMMARISING	PURPOSE
And	But	Because	So	Firstly, secondly, thirdly	In order to + <b>B INF</b>
Also	While	Since	Therefore	Finally	So as to + <b>B INF</b>
As well as	Although	As	As a result	All in all	For the purpose of <b>ING / Noun F</b>
Besides	However	This is why	Consequently <b>F</b>	In a nutshell	<b>ING / Noun F</b>
What is more	On the one hand,... However, on the other hand,...	Due to + <b>Noun F</b>	As a consequence <b>F</b>	To sum up	With the intention of <b>ING / Noun F</b>
Apart from that	In contrast <b>F</b>	Due to the fact that <b>F</b>	Hence <b>F</b>	In short/brief	So that
Another thing	Even though <b>F</b>	Owing to <b>F</b>	Thus <b>F</b>	To summarise <b>F</b>	<b>REFERRING</b>
In addition	Whereas <b>F</b>	For this reason <b>F</b>	On account of this <b>F</b>	In summary <b>F</b>	With regard to
Furthermore <b>F</b>	Despite the fact that	On account of this <b>F</b>	Accordingly <b>F</b>	To conclude <b>F</b>	Regarding
Moreover <b>F</b>	Despite + <b>ING</b> / <b>Noun F</b>	On the grounds that <b>F</b>	X has been a positive step towards X	In conclusion <b>F</b>	Concerning
Additionally <b>F</b>	In spite of + <b>ING</b> / <b>Noun F</b>		X has led to	On balance	As for
Not only... but also <b>F</b>	Nevertheless <b>F</b>		X has had a positive impact for	Taking everything into account	Speaking about
	In theory... but in practice...		X has had negative consequences for	Taking everything into consideration	<b>EQUATION</b>
	On the contrary <b>F</b>		In turn <b>F</b>	First of all	Equally
	By / In comparison		Thereby <b>F</b>		Likewise
	Conversely <b>F</b>				Similarly
	Weighed against this <b>F</b>				In the same way
	Rather (than)				Neither... nor

## 7: ADDITIONS

### EXTRA GUIDES | EXAM PRACTICE

#### A: EOI Digital Speaking Survival Guides Summary

##### 1. The Building Blocks Guide

- **Exam-ready sentences that demonstrate key grammatical structures.** Easy to adapt for the speaking exam, and the writing & mediation tasks.
- **Exam-ready sentences demonstrating key functions:** *advice, speculation, deduction, describing trends & developments*
- Useful **vocabulary, expressions & idioms**
- Bank of **useful connectors & adverbial phrases**



##### 2. The Monologue Guide

- **Exam-ready recorded monologue: audio** (mp3)
- **A complete, colour-coded transcript** demonstrating effective use of level-appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and connectors

##### 3. The Dialogue Guide

- **Examples of different types of dialogues** (formal & informal)
- **Exam-ready model sentences and interactive phrases** to complete dialogues using level-appropriate
- **Examples of interactive language to start and end a dialogue | express opinions | interrupt and clarify | express agreement and disagreement | persuade and negotiate an agreement**
- **Best used with the Dialogue Tutorial**

##### 4. The Dialogue Tutorial

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

#### B: ·60-minute English Online Exam Clinic 1-1

##### EOI: Escuela Oficiales de Idiomas inglés

Preparing for your official English speaking exam but need more realistic exam practice?

The **60-minute online, one-to-one exam clinic** will give you the focused speaking practice you need.

Delivered by a **certified Trinity & Cambridge examiner** and **experienced EOI** teacher.



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