



NATIONAL RESEARCH  
UNIVERSITY

School of Foreign Languages

# **SPEAKING FOR EXAMS AND CONTESTS: PLAYING OURSELVES IN**

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NATE board (2016-2019)

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# OVERVIEW

## TASKS

Questions  
Reading + repeating  
Long-turns  
Collaborations

## SKILLS

Asking and answering questions  
Expressing a viewpoint  
Collaborating with others

...

## GAMES

reading and interfering  
simultaneous reading  
situation puzzles  
animals and owners  
speaking chess  
hats



*Scan me*



*Phase 2*  
**Interlocutor**

*Select one or more questions from the list to ask each candidate.  
Ask Candidate A first.*

How do you get to work/school/university every day?

What did you do yesterday evening/last weekend?

Do you think that English will be useful for you in the future? (Why/Why not?)

Tell us about the people you live with.

Thank you.

**Task 2. You are going to take part in a telephone survey. You have to answer six questions. Give full answers to the questions.**

**Remember that you have 40 seconds to answer each question.**

**Tapescript for Task 2**

**Electronic assistant:** Hello! It's the electronic assistant of the Dolphin Sports Club. We kindly ask you to take part in our survey. We need to find out how people feel about doing sports in our region. Please answer six questions. The survey is anonymous – you don't have to give your name. So, let's get started.

**Electronic assistant:** How old are you?

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Electronic assistant:** How many times a week do you do sports?

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Electronic assistant:** What sport is the most popular with teenagers in your region?

You do the PTE Academic speaking test at a computer which records your answers. If your browser supports speech click on the microphone then speak your answer.

*There are 39 questions in this quiz.*

*You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer.*

*Often just one or a few words is enough. Click on the microphone and speak or type the answer in the box. You should listen to the question only once.*

# TASKS

## Questions

Phase 2  
Interlocutor

Select one or more questions from the list to ask each candidate.  
Ask Candidate A first.

How do you

What did

Do you think  
future? (V)

Tell us ab

Thank yo

# TASKS

## Questions

Task 2. You are going to take part in a telephone survey. You have to answer six questions. Give full answers to the questions. Remember that you have 40 seconds to answer each question.

**Task 2. Study the advertisement.**

**The best bicycle trip!**



**You are considering going on a bicycle trip and now you'd like to get more information. In 1.5 minutes you are to ask five direct questions to find out about the following:**

- 1) minimum age;
- 2) preparation;
- 3) number of people in the group;
- 4) accommodation for the night;
- 5) duration of the trip.

**You have 20 seconds to ask each question.**

2

Hello! It's the electronic assistant of the Dolphin Sports you to take part in our survey. We need to find out how big sports in our region. Please answer six questions. The – you don't have to give your name. So, let's get started. How old are you?

How many times a week do you do sports?

What sport is the most popular with teenagers in your

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r a few words is enough. Click on the microphone be the answer in the box. You should listen to the nce.

**Task 1. Imagine that you are preparing a project with your friend. You have found some interesting material for the presentation and you want to read this text to your friend. You have 1.5 minutes to read the text silently, then be ready to read it out aloud. You will not have more than 1.5 minutes to read it.**

Birds live everywhere. They vary from pigeons in big cities to penguins in the Antarctic. However, all birds have similar features. For example, they all have wings. Still, not all of them can fly. All birds also have feathers. In fact, birds are the only living animals that have feathers. Birds build nests, in which female birds lay eggs.

Birds are war  
same. It doesn  
including hum  
Birds have alv  
enjoy watchin  
ducks and gee  
hunting.

**Task 1. You are going to read the text aloud. You have 1.5 minutes to read the text silently, and then be ready to read it aloud. Remember that you will not have more than 2 minutes for reading aloud.**

The ninth planet of the solar system was discovered in 1930. Scientists had been hunting for it for years but it was not calculated its probable position until 1930. It was too far away for mentioning that the first photograph of the planet was taken by a researcher. He was only twenty-five years old. However he was deeply involved in the study of the edge of the solar system was the planet was suggested by an 1

You do the PTE Academic speaking test at a computer which records your answers.

*Look at the text below. In 40 seconds you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly possible.*

Child language brokers are children or young people who translate or interpret on behalf of family members or others who do not speak the local language. When settling into a new country, children often learn the local language more rapidly than their parents and other adults. As a result youngsters start taking on the role of language broker in a number of different contexts such as shops, banks, schools, doctors, dentists, welfare offices, police stations, housing offices among many others.

# TASKS

## Reading

# TASKS

## Reading and repeating

Task 1. Imagine that you are preparing a project with your friend. You have found some interesting material for the presentation and you want to read this text to your friend. You have 1.5 minutes to read the text silently, then be ready to read it out aloud. You will not have more than 1.5 minutes to read it.

Birds live everywhere. They vary from pigeons in big cities to penguins in the Antarctic. However, all birds have similar features. For example, they all have wings. Still, not all of them are the only living animals that lay eggs.

Birds are warm-blooded. It doesn't depend much on the weather. Birds, including humans, are also warm-blooded. Birds have always fascinated people. Many people enjoy watching them in the wild. Ducks and geese are often used for hunting.

The ninth planet was discovered in 1930. Scientists calculated that it existed. It was mentioned by a researcher. He was only twenty-four and had no formal education in astronomy. However he was deeply involved in the search for the ninth planet. The planet at the edge of the solar system was called Pluto, after the Roman god. The name for the planet was suggested by an 11-year-old British girl.

Child language brokers are children or young people who translate or interpret on behalf of family members or others who do not speak the local language. When settling into a new country, children often learn the local language more rapidly than their parents and other adults. As a result youngsters start taking on the role of language broker in a number of different contexts such as shops, banks, schools, doctors, dentists, welfare offices, police stations, housing offices among many others.

You do the PTE Academic speaking test at a computer which records your answers. If your browser supports speech click on the microphone then speak your answer.

*There are 12 questions in this quiz.*

*You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. Click on the microphone and speak or type the answer in the box. You should listen to the sentence only once.*

# TASKS

Long turns:

- Description

**Task 3.** These are photos from your photo album. Choose one photo to describe to your friend.

Photo 1



Photo 2



Now I'd like each of you to talk on your own about something. I'm going to give each of you a photograph and I'd like you to talk about it.

**A**, here is your photograph. It shows **people learning a language**.

*Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1A**, in front of candidate.*

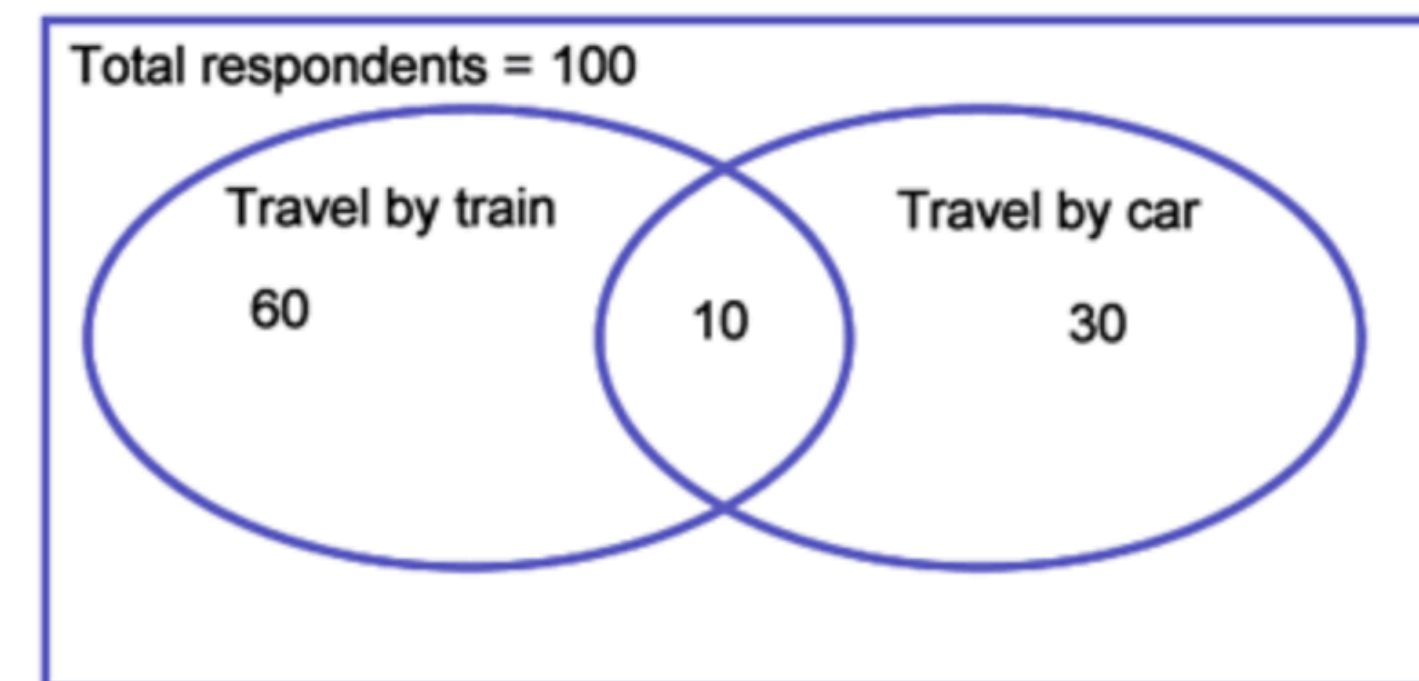
**B**, you just listen.

**A**, please tell us what you can see in the photograph.

You do the PTE Academic speaking test at a computer which records your answers. You are given an image or other information to look at and then describe.

Look at the diagram below. After 25 seconds, please speak into a microphone and describe in detail what the diagram is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response. Afterwards you can compare your recording to a model answer.

Mode of travel to university for second-year students





# TASKS

Long turns:

- Description
- Comparison

Task 3. These are photos from your photo album. Choose one and describe to your friend.

Photo 1



In this part of the test, I'm going to give each of you two photographs. I'd like you to talk about your photographs on your own for about a minute, and also to answer a question about your partner's photographs.

(Candidate A), it's your turn first. Here are your photographs. They show **people who are helping other people in different situations**.

Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of Candidate A.

I'd like you to compare the photographs, and say **how important it is to help people in these situations**.

All right?

**Task 4. Study the two photographs. In 1.5 minutes be contrast the photographs:**

- give a brief description of the photos (action, location);
- say what the pictures have in common;
- say in what way the pictures are different;
- say which of the celebrations presented in the pictures you preferred as a child;
- explain why.

**You will speak for not more than 2 minutes (12–15 sentences). You have to talk continuously.**

Photo 1



Photo 2



out something. I'm going to give  
k about it.

learning a language.

How important is it to help people in these situations?



your answers. You are given an image or other information and you have to describe it.

Look at the diagram below. After 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the diagram is showing. You have 40 seconds to give your response. Afterwards you can compare your recording to a model answer.

Mode of travel to university for second-year students

Total respondents = 100



# TASKS

## Collaborations

Now, in this part of the test you are going to talk together.

Place **Part 2** booklet, open at **Task 2b**, in front of candidates.

Here are some pictures that show **different holidays**.

Do you like these different holidays? Say why or why not.

Do you like these different holidays? Say why or why not.

All right? Now, talk together.

Do you like these different holidays?



**Activities to help the man relax**



Now, in this part of the test you're going to talk about something together for a few minutes. I'm going to describe a situation to you.

Place **Part 3** booklet, open at **Task 1**, in front of the candidates.

**A young man works very hard, and has only one free day a week. He wants to choose an activity to help him relax.**

**Here are some activities that could help him relax.**

**Talk together about the different activities he could do, and say which one is the most relaxing.**

All right? Now, talk together.

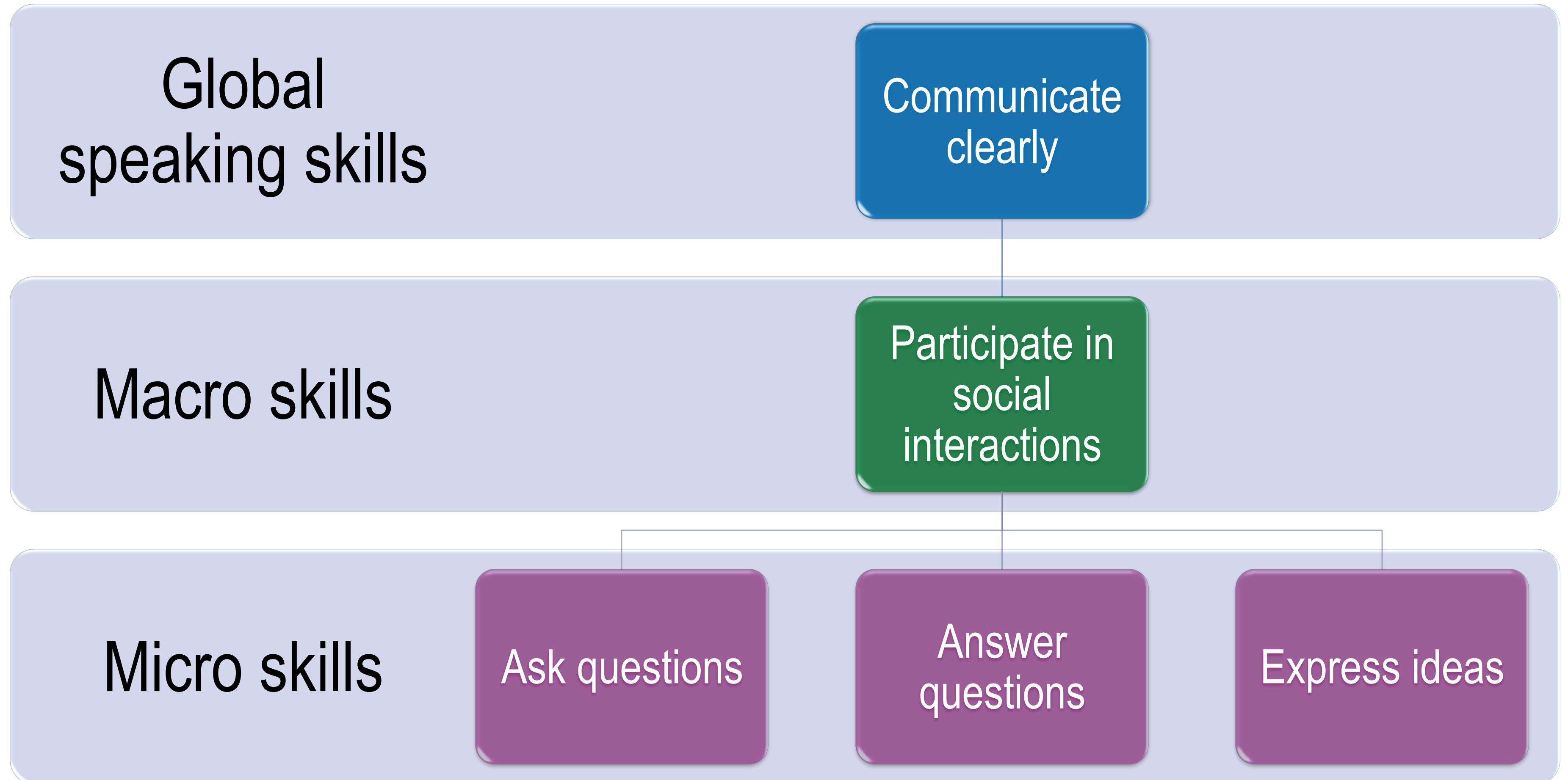


# THE ABILITY TO...

- ✓ Communicate clearly and express ideas coherently
- ✓ Communicate opinions and info on everyday topics and participate in a [simple] social interaction
- ✓ Ask and answer a range of questions on familiar experiences
- ✓ Express personal opinion, giving reasons for views and preferences
- ✓ Analyse, discuss and speculate about issues at length using appropriate language
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Pronu



# SPEAKING SKILLS





# MACRO SKILLS TESTED

- ✓ Speaking for a purpose
- ✓ Producing fluent speech
- ✓ Using correct pronunciation and stress patterns
- ✓ Asking questions
- ✓ Turn-taking
- ✓ Inviting ideas and opinions of a partner
- ✓ Analysing, discussing and speculation about issues at length
- ✓ Speaking under timed conditions



# MICRO SKILLS TESTED

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Pronunciation
- ✓ Stress and intonation

✓ Note-taking  
✓ Summarizing



## TASK 1.1

### Interactive reading

S1: reads aloud + answer questions

S2: asks questions + summarizes info

If you still doubt to come to Yekaterinburg, Russia because you think it is a small village somewhere in deep Siberia, where wild people with balalaikas walk along the streets teaming up with even wilder bears, you'd better learn some facts at first. May be you will change your opinion.

Yekaterinburg is a big industrial city with population about 1.500.000 people. It is unofficially named the "third capital" or the "capital of Urals". This is absolutely true as Yekaterinburg dominates the entire Ural region and has the most developed economy. It became the first city in the Soviet Union outside the two capitals to build a subway.

For several years in a row Yekaterinburg has been leading in the national rating of most attractive cities for business by RBC. In 2002, UNESCO recognized the city as one of the 12 ideal cities of the world.



## TASK 1.2

### Interactive reading

S1: reads aloud + answer questions

S2: asks questions + summarizes info

Red is a prominent colour in Russian culture and history. The Russian word for red, 'krasni', was in the past also used to describe something beautiful, good or honourable. Today, it is used mostly to indicate something red in colour. Yet, many important sites and cultural artifacts still reflect the combined usage of the word.

During the Soviet period, red became a part of daily life from an early age. Virtually all children were members of a communist youth group, Pioneers, and were required to wear a red scarf around their necks to school every day.

Many place names in Russia contain the root word for 'red' or 'beautiful'. The most prominent example is Red Square, or 'Krasnaya ploshad', which sits next to the Kremlin. The name of the Square originally comes from the beauty of it and predates the Bolshevik Revolution and communism associated with this colour.



# SKILLS

Interactive reading

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Pronunciation
- ✓ Stress and intonation

✓ Note-taking  
✓ Summarizing

## TASK 2.1

'Simultaneous' reading

According to a new study published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, cheetahs are heading toward extinction, and different conservation efforts are needed to protect the species. While acknowledging the difficulty in gathering data because of the cheetah's tendency to travel over vast amounts of territory, the study cites an alarmingly low population estimate of only 7,100 cheetahs remaining worldwide, with most found in six African countries.

## TASK 2.2

'Simultaneous' reading

Many people have heard of jet streams, which are rivers of air in Earth's atmosphere that travel at heights of between 20,000 and 45,000 feet. Meteorological jet streams separate colder air from warmer air, and the winds of these phenomena can reach speeds of up to 200 miles per hour. This time of year, those of us in the Northern Hemisphere are very familiar with where the polar front jet stream is, because it pulls rainstorms, ice storms, and blizzards into its path.



# SKILLS

Simultaneous reading

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ **Speak under timed conditions**
- ✓ **Fluency**
- ✓ **Pronunciation**
- ✓ **Stress and intonation**



# TASK 3

Bingo

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16

# TASK 3

Bingo

Location	Directions	Distance	Places to visit
Duration / length	Dates	Opening/working hours	Beginning/End of smth
Price / cost	Special offers / discounts	Entrance fee	Booking / cards acceptance
Availability of something	If ... is included	Age restriction	Accommodation



# SKILLS

Bingo

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ **Ask and answer questions**
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ **Fluency**
- ✓ **Pronunciation**
- ✓ **Stress and intonation**

✓ **Note-taking**



# TASK

## Situation puzzles

### 1. DO

- **Tell a story in your own words** (the main idea and keywords are given below)
- **Answer** your peers' **questions** if they are *grammatically correct*



### 2. DON'T

- Say **yes** and **no** words answering questions
- Give extra clues



### 5. END

Give this card to the person who asked the vast majority of grammatically correct questions



The person who gets more cards is the winner and will get a bonus.



### 1. DO

- **Tell a story in your own words** (the main idea and keywords are given below)
- **Answer** your peers' **questions** if they are *grammatically correct*



### 2. DON'T

- Say **yes** and **no** words answering questions
- Give extra clues



### 3. THE STORY



### 4. SOLUTION



### 5. END

Give this card to the person who asked the vast majority of grammatically correct questions



The person who gets more cards is the winner and will get a bonus.



# SKILLS

Situation puzzles

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ **Ask and answer questions**
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ **Fluency**
- ✓ **Pronunciation**
- ✓ **Stress and intonation**



# SKILLS TESTED

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Pronunciation
- ✓ Stress and intonation

# TASK

Picture description





# SKILLS

Animals and owners

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Pronunciation
- ✓ Stress and intonation

# TASK

## Speaking chess

### Шахматы болталка

послушай - задай вопрос - получи ответ - реши судьбу оппонента

where  
when  
who / what  
doing what  
common / different

- Поставьте фишку на одну из четырех угловых картинок
- Чтобы перейти на одну клетку, ее нужно описать или сравнить/сопоставить с той, на которой Вы находитесь.
- Круглая картинка для описания
- Квадратная картинка для сравнения
- Ходить можно в любом направлении
- Цель дойти до финиша своего цвета в противоположном углу поля

START FINISH START FINISH

FINISH

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START FINISH START



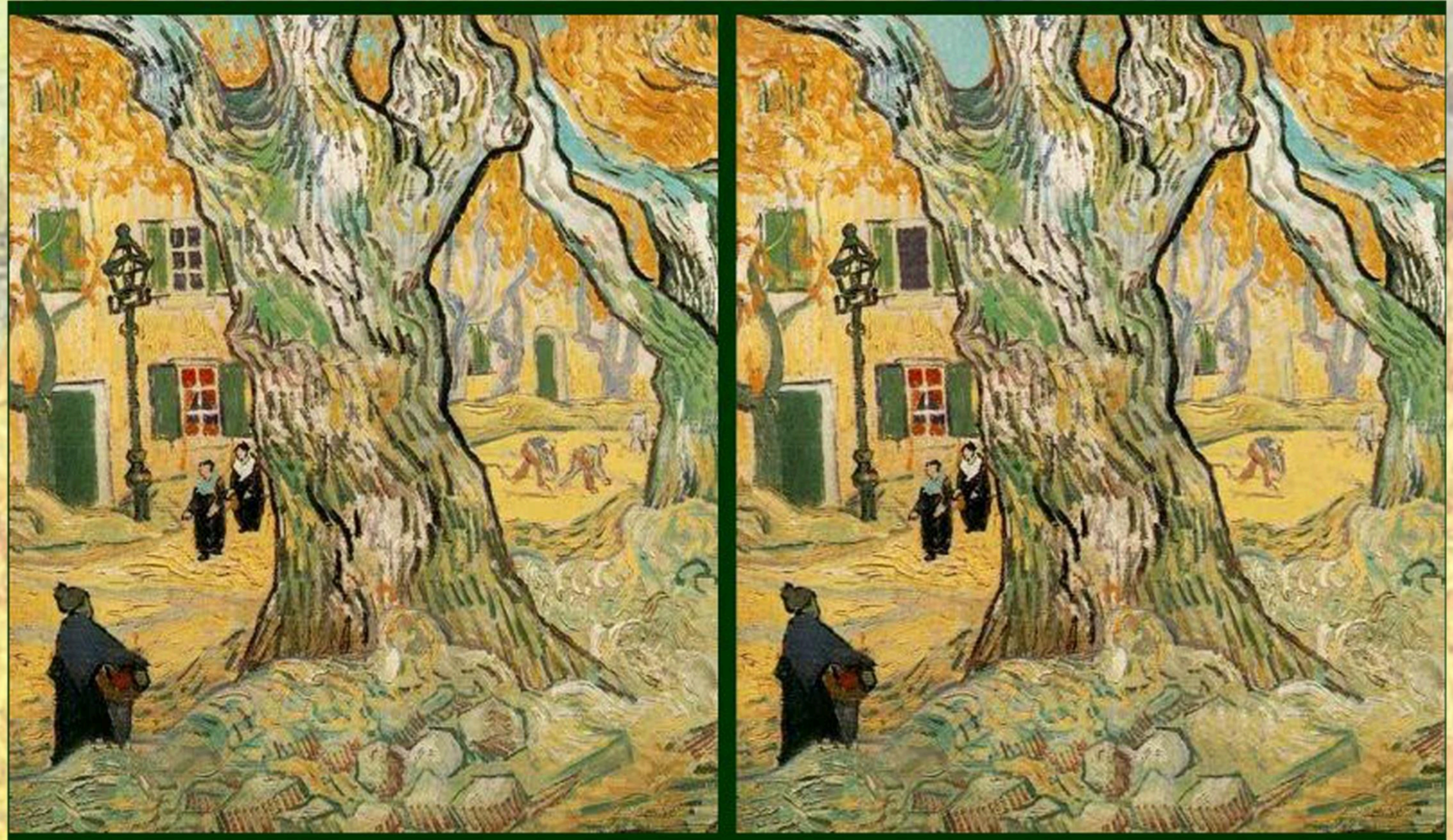
# SKILLS

Speaking chess

- ✓ Express ideas
- ✓ Ask and answer questions
- ✓ Express personal opinion
- ✓ Give reasons
- ✓ Analyse issues (compare and contrast)
- ✓ Speak under timed conditions
- ✓ Fluency
- ✓ Pronunciation
- ✓ Stress and intonation

# SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

*Van Gogh Spot The Difference...*  
*Can you find the 5 differences?*





# GUESS THE HAT

St1: Chooses a hat and describes

- a person wearing it
- country of origin
- social position
- occupation

St2: Guesses and describes a hat

## Hats



panama



boater



trilby



cowboy hat



bowler (BrE)  
derby (NAme)



top hat



mortar board



cap



cloth cap / flat cap  
(both BrE)



baseball cap



beret



hard hat



crash helmet



beanie



bobble hat



sou'wester



hood



sun hats



sombrero

## WORD CLOUDS

St1: Tell about N using as many words from the word cloud as possible

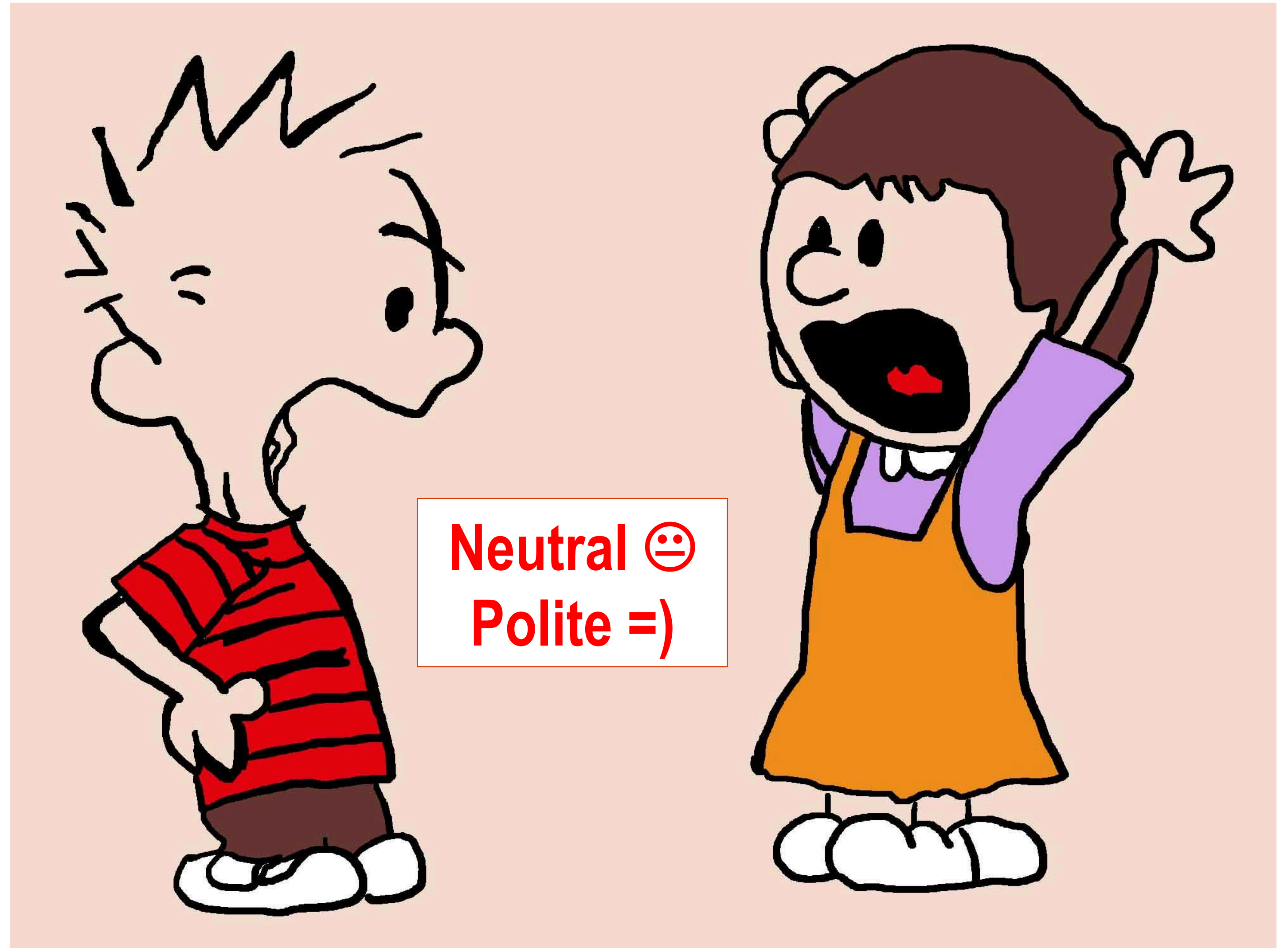
St2: Ask clarifying questions



# VIEWS AND PREFERENCES

St1: Expresses his/her opinion on the issue

St2: Contradicts + Justifies his/her view





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# Thank you!

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