

# **PREFACE**

The Stimulus-based Conversation (SBC) component of the PSLE Oral examination assesses students on their ability to give personal responses to a visual stimulus and engage in a conversation on a relevant topic with the examiners. Very often students are overwhelmed and are daunted by the thought of speaking in front of a stranger, let alone an examiner. As students are given limited time to prepare their responses to a given stimulus, many are often overcome with anxiety and lack the confidence to voice their thoughts or opinions in front of others.

This book will be an excellent resource in guiding students to prepare and answer questions for the Stimulus Based Conversation component. 25 topics have been carefully chosen following recent preliminary and PSLE exam trends. The sample responses use a strategic technique to answer the questions which will ensure that the students' answers are organised and well-structured. Some questions also contain alternative views which will encourage students to develop their critical thinking skills. Each topic also comes with a word bank which will contain key words with meanings that could be used for that particular topic.

This book will expose students to a wide variety of topics and provide ample practice in order to ace the SBC component of their PSLE Oral examination.

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## A must-read for parents

Parents, imagine being asked a tough question during your job interview! When this happens, you may feel like your brain had gone blank and that you can't think of an answer. Similarly, students may also face mental blocks when they are faced with difficult questions during their PSLE SBC component. In order to avoid such a predicament, it is important that you as parents develop their conversational skills gradually by engaging in conversations with them about their day-to-day life. For that, you need to be aware of the assessment objectives for the SBC component set by the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB).

### **Objective AO3: Express their personal opinions, ideas and experiences clearly and effectively.**

- The ability to articulate one's ideas and express one's opinions are critical life skills. Parents could initiate conversations with their child on matters relating to their friends, their CCAs and their activities in school or outside of their school.

### **Objective AO4: Speak fluently and with grammatical accuracy, using a range of appropriate vocabulary and structures.**

- When conversing with your child, remember to use grammatically correct sentences and varied vocabulary. **Avoid the use of Singlish.**
- In order to develop this skill, you should encourage your child to incorporate examples into daily conversations. Prompt them to share personal experiences, anecdotes, or observations when discussing various topics. By doing so, your child will gain the confidence and develop the habit of naturally incorporating examples into their speech.

### **Some questions that can be asked to elicit elaboration and personal opinions are:**

1. Why did you say that?
2. Why do you think like that?
3. Why do you think your friend said that?
4. How else do you think you could have handled that?
5. How has that affected your relationship with your ...?
6. In your opinion, what do you think could have been done?

# Practice 1 : Technology / Digital Addiction



## Questions

1. Look at the picture. Are you like the boy in the picture? Why or why not?
2. What age do you think is a suitable age to own a handphone? Why?
3. What do you think can be done to overcome digital addiction?
4. What are the advantages of online learning? If there aren't any, what are the disadvantages of online learning?

## 1. Would you like to attend this workshop? Why or why not?

**State:** Yes, I would like to attend this workshop.

**Explain:** First of all, I have never come across the term “upcycling”. I am only aware of what recycling is. Although they have explained what upcycling is in the poster, I would like to learn more about it. Secondly, the workshop is conducted free of charge which means I do not have to spend money to upcycle some of my waste materials into something useful. Thirdly, I would be able to hear from experts on why practising the 3Rs is important. I have read newspaper articles on climate change. However, I do not know the seriousness of it. By attending these workshops, I would be able to hear from experts about the current issues that we are facing with regards to climate changes and I will be more conscious in practising the 3Rs in my life.

**Experience/example:** I have never attended such a workshop before so I’m curious to know what I would get to learn. Furthermore, the workshops are conducted during the December holidays which means that I should be free to attend them. I’m usually cooped up at home during the school holidays apart from the occasional outings that my parents bring me out for during the weekends. As such, I’d be bored out of my wits trying to occupy myself with meaningful activities. If I learn how to upcycle waste materials in the workshops, I can even do more upcycling projects with my sibling at home when we are bored.

## 2. Do you think it is important to practise the 3Rs? Why or why not?

**State:** I think it is very important to practise the 3Rs.

**Explain:** Plastic pollution, climate change and many other drastic events are happening due to the lack of practise of 3Rs. When we practise the 3Rs, we are able to protect the environment by conserving the limited resources that we have. We will also reduce the space needed for waste disposal facilities. Furthermore, we can also lower the greenhouse gas emissions which accelerates climate change. Our environment is deteriorating at fast rate due to the inconsiderate acts of humans so we have an important duty to conserve our environment before it goes to a point of no return.

and other things in my room free of dust by regularly wiping all the surfaces. Through this way, I can keep myself healthy and ensure that I do not get any health issues.

<b>Word Bank</b>	
<b>Words</b>	<b>Meanings</b>
<b>spick and span</b>	neat and clean
<b>nook and cranny</b>	every part of a place
<b>cost an arm and a leg</b>	extremely expensive
<b>get the hang of</b>	learn how to do something
<b>tedious</b>	tiresome
<b>ingrained</b>	deep-rooted