

# IELTS Speaking

## Part 2 + 3

Topic from the IELTS Question Bank

# Colours





# IELTS Speaking

## Part 2



## Part 2 Cue Card

**Describe a place you remember well that was full of colours.**

You should say,

- where it was
- what it was like
- why you went there

and explain why you remember it well.



# 1. Ideas

## **You could talk about...**

A theatre, palace, museum,

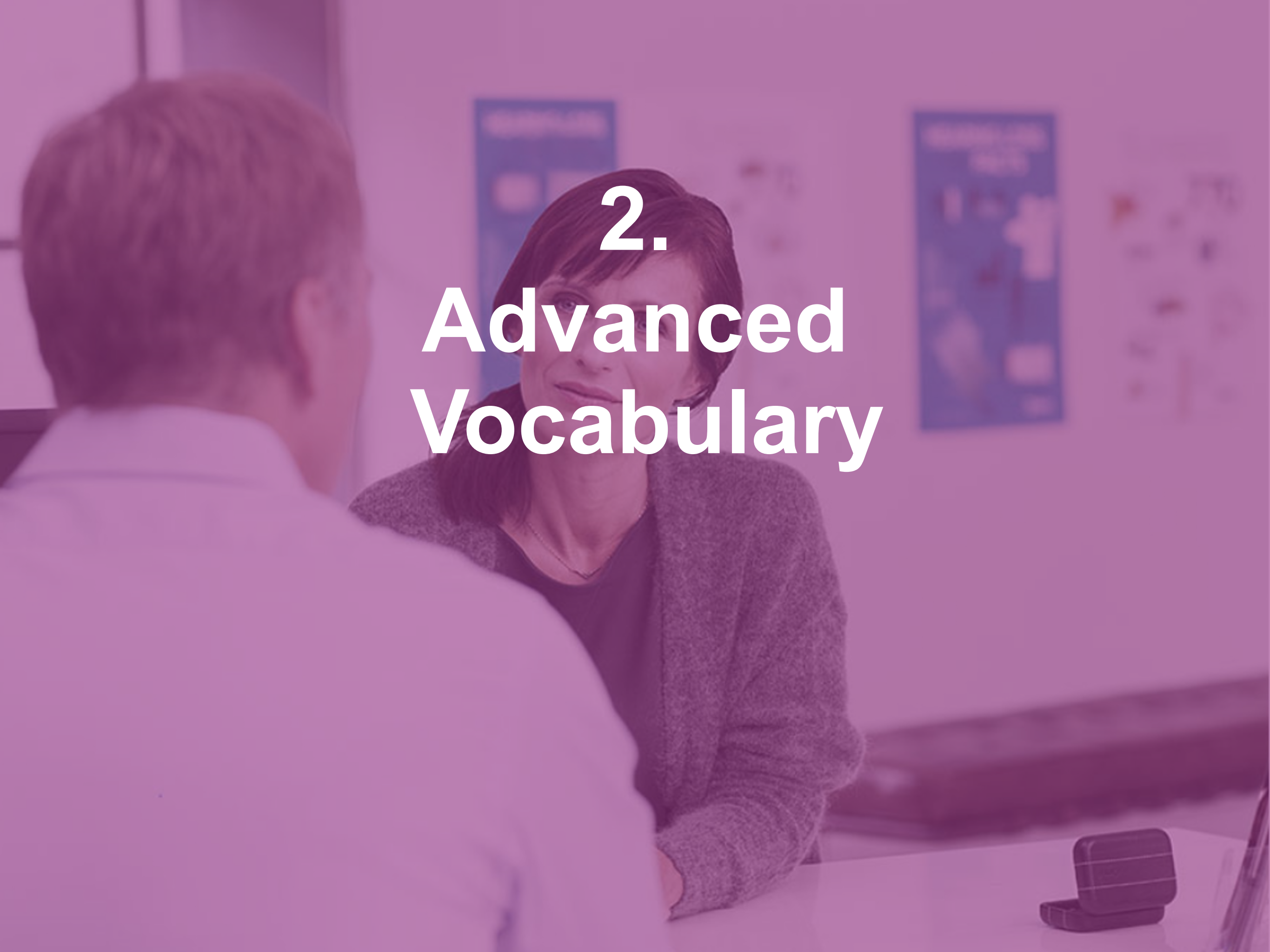
A classroom (pics on wall), art gallery (colourful paintings),

A temple/church/mosque,

A restaurant (pics on the wall - food/dishes)

***Remember to focus more on the place and the colours, rather than what you did there.***



A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a desk and looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man is wearing a white shirt. The background shows an office environment with blue posters on the wall. The entire image has a light purple overlay.

# 2. Advanced Vocabulary


## Colours

- Vivid
- Brash
- Multi-coloured  
(adj.)
- A range of colours
- A rainbow of  
colours




## Colour collocations

- Colours match
- Colours clash
- Bright blue
- Dark blue
- Neon blue
- Soft blue

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white table and looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man is wearing a white shirt. The background shows a white wall with two blue posters and a whiteboard with some papers. The entire image has a light purple overlay.

# 3. Model Answer

A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a white table and looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man is wearing a white shirt. The background shows a white wall with several blue posters or notices. The entire image has a light purple overlay.

# 4. Language Analysis

**I am going to tell you about** my daughter's classroom.

A few years ago, when my daughter was in Primary school, I was invited to attend an open day at the school. **This was an event where** parents could visit their child's classroom, **browse** projects the kids have done and talk to the teachers.

### **Signpost**

***I am going to tell you about...***

tell the examiner what you will say

### **Referencing**

***This was an event where...***

*'This' refers to the one day, and helps define it with a relative clause 'a place where...'*



When I got to my daughter's classroom, I was quite **taken aback** to be honest - it was just **overwhelmingly** colourful. There were these brash, bright colours **left, right and centre**.

#### **Idiomatic Vocabulary**

***To be taken aback***

= *to be surprised*

***left, right and centre***

= everywhere

#### **Advanced vocabulary**

***Overwhelmingly (adv.)***

= Too much of something

So, they **had decorated** the windows with all sorts of pictures painted by the children, **ranging from multi-coloured** houses to bright blue skies. Now I know kids love bright colours and teachers use them to promote learning but this **collage** was really spectacular.

### **Tenses**

***They had decorated....*** (done at a point before the time of the story)

**They had done...** (past perfect)

### **Vocabulary**

***Ranging from A to B***

= *including*

***A collage***

= *different pictures stuck together*

On top of that, the kids had painted each wall of the classroom a different colour. **Colours that don't** typically **match**, in fact they actually **clashed**. So **bright yellow**, neon blue, a **dull brown** and soft cream. I think each wall represented a theme of some kind.

### **Collocations**

***These colours match***

= colours that go well together

***These colours clash***

= *they don't go well together*

***Bright yellow = shiny***

***Dull brown = not shiny***

I remember feeling **a pang of regret**, wishing that my classroom had been like that when I was a kid. I sensed the kids really loved the glow of all the colours and obviously they **were proud as punch** of all the paintings they had done.

So, that's a place I remember well that was full of colours.

### **Idiomatic Vocabulary**

***to feel a pang of regret***

*= a sudden, sharp feeling of regret*

***To be proud as punch***

*= to be extremely proud*



A woman with dark hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, is seated at a desk and looking towards a man whose back is to the camera. The man is wearing a white shirt. The background shows an office environment with a whiteboard and some posters. The entire image has a purple tint.

# IELTS Speaking

## Part 3

1. Are colours important in your country?
2. What role can colours play in advertisements?



Are colours important in your country?

**Sure. I think** the most important colours are probably those of our national flag, red, white and blue. **I guess** people see them as representing our nation, and giving us a sense of nationality and unity. **On top of that**, the main political parties in my country have adopted one of those colours as a symbol of their party. **For example**, the Conservative party uses blue as their official brand colour, if you like, **so** people associate blue with conservatism and everything that party stands for.

**Give an opinion**

*Sure, I think...*

*I guess*

**Develop the answer**

*On top of that...*

**Give an example**

*For example,....*

*so...*

Are colours important in your country?

Sure. I think the most important colours are probably those of our national flag, red, white and blue. I guess people **see them as representing** our nation, and giving us a sense of nationality and unity. On top of that, the main political parties in my country **have adopted one of those colours as a symbol of** their party. For example the Conservative Party uses red in their official brand colour, if you like, so people **associate red with** conservatism and everything that party stands for.

### **Vocabulary**

*See them as representing something*

*= think they represent or symbolise...*

*Have adopted a colour*

*= use as an official colour*

*People associate red with...*

*= people connect red with...*



What role can colours play in advertisements?

**I'd say** colours are an essential part of any advertisement, mainly because they have a subliminal effect on the audience's behaviour. **This is why** marketing companies spend fortunes on getting the colours right in their logos and adverts. **For instance**, McDonald's deliberately use red and yellow in all their adverts. Red is associated with being active, whilst yellow is known to trigger feelings of happiness. **So this way**, they can create the right mood that will entice their customers to buy.

**Give an opinion**

*I'd say,...*

**Give a reason**

*This is why...*

**Give an example**

*For instance....*

**Give a consequence**

*...so this way...*

## What role can colours play in advertisements?

I'd say colours **are an essential part of** any advertisement, mainly because they have a subliminal effect on the audience's behaviour. This is why marketing companies **spend fortunes** on getting the colours right in their logos and adverts. For instance, McDonald's deliberately use red and yellow in all their adverts. Red is associated with being active, whilst yellow is known **to trigger feelings of** happiness. So this way, they can create the right mood that will **entice** their customers to buy.

### **Vocabulary**

*To be an essential part of...*  
*= to play an important role...*

*To spend fortunes on*  
*= to spend a lot of money on*

*To trigger feelings of*  
*= to create feelings of*

*To entice = to tempt, attract*

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