

English Language Skills Test [Speaking Test]

(Test Card)

Maki is a 16-year-old high school student. Up until entering high school, she was an active member of a local volunteer group, which supports younger children to study after school. Her future dream is to become a social entrepreneur to support children and improve society. She is working towards this goal by taking an online course for social entrepreneurs.

When she became a member of the student council at high school, she saw an opportunity to get involved and propose a plan to help pupils in local elementary schools.

Though it was initially difficult to persuade the council, who had their own busy calendar and traditions, she was able to gain their support to try something new after several meetings and discussions. They agreed to hold a trial event during the summer vacation to test out the study program with local elementary school children.

Two weeks before the one-day study program event, Maki was invited through her online course, to give a presentation at a national gathering of social entrepreneurs, where she would represent Tokyo. Unfortunately, this presentation is on the same day as the one-day study program and she hasn't found another person to replace her yet.

(An examinee reads the passage aloud.)

Question 1: What is Maki's dilemma?

Question 2: If you were Maki, what would you do?

English Language Skills Test [Speaking Test] **Sample Answers**

*Reading aloud: (4 marks)

Question 1: (6 marks)

Maki's dilemma is that she has two events scheduled on the same day. She is interested in both events. One event is giving a presentation at a national gathering of social entrepreneurs and the other is the one-day study program that she organized through her school.

Question 2: (10 marks)

If I were Maki I would attend the elementary school study program rather than giving the presentation for the online course for social entrepreneurs. My dream is to become a social entrepreneur and improve society by helping children. Even though the social entrepreneurs' course may help me achieve this goal, I think I would be more obligated to attend the one-day study event for a few different reasons.

First, I organized the one-day study program, so it would be irresponsible for me not to attend. Second, the study program was scheduled before the presentation, so I would politely decline the offer giving my previous engagement as an excuse. Third, the one-day study program event is also going to help me towards achieving my goal, to become a social entrepreneur to support children and improve society.