

Mayu is a second-year high school student. She initially chose this high school for two reasons. The first reason was to become a member of the dance club, which has won multiple national championships. The second reason is to participate in the school's exchange program to Australia.

Mayu has been a dedicated member of the dance club and has never missed practice. She was inexperienced at first, but with a lot of effort she improved significantly. Enough to earn a place on the team to perform in the championships. Only ten students are selected to participate in each team, and all team members rely on her dance skills and leadership.

On the other hand, Mayu is also interested in studying tourism at university in Australia. She believes that the exchange program will give her an opportunity to understand Australian culture and improve her English.

When the date of the dance competition was announced, Mayu realized that it was scheduled during the same time as the exchange program. She does not want to let the dance club members down since winning the national championship has always been their goal, but neither can she give up the exchange program as it relates to her future studies.

(An examinee reads the passage aloud.)

Question 1: What is Mayu's dilemma?

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

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

*Reading aloud: (4 marks)

Question 1: (6 marks)

Mayu's dilemma is that the National dance championships, in which she will be competing with her school's dance club will coincide with her High School's exchange program to Australia. Both events are important to her as the schools exchange program is important for her future and the dance club will be relying on her leadership and dance skills to win the national competition. Mayu has to decide which event to attend and which one to decline.

Question 2: (10 marks)

If I were Mayu, I would first list the advantages of each activity and the drawbacks of not attending them. I would have to evaluate the significance of each activity to myself and my teammates and then chose which activity would cause the most harm to miss. One of these goals is a personal goal that may affect my future, the other is a collective goal and missing it will disappoint all members of the dance club.

The dance club has been practicing hard for the past year and the members are relying on my leadership and skills. Winning this championship is important to me and to all members of the dance club, as well as the school, but there is no real detriment to anyone's future if this goal is not achieved. Just reaching the championships is still a great achievement. I believe the dance club members still have a chance of winning the championships without me.

On the other hand, the exchange program to Australia is related to my future and may influence the success of my university application. It is also an opportunity for me to improve my English skills for my future career. Unlike the dance championship, there is not just one consequence for missing the event. I will still be able to train with the dance club in preparation for the event and continue our improvement, and hopefully they can win the championship without me. If this happens I would still feel like I participated in winning the event.