



How to approach the OET speaking test



- ✓ Use the preparation time
- ✓ Be ready to start
- ✓ Listen to the patient
- ✓ Be ready to adapt

Exam format:

20 minutes:

3-4 minutes warm up section (not assessed)

2-3 minutes preparation time, 5 minute role play (x2)

What do you need to do?

- ✓ You will play the role of the healthcare professional.
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Give information to the patient.

How will you be assessed during the test?

- ✓ 2 sets of assessment criteria:
- ✓ Linguistic criteria
- ✓ Clinical communication criteria





What's on the role card?

- The setting
- Information about the patient
- Tasks

Find out...

Reassure...

Explain...

Suggest...

ROLE CARD

Setting: Accident & Emergency

Nurse: You are talking to the mother of a child who has had a flareup of eczema. The child has been scratching their skin, which is now weeping (has a discharge). The mother refuses to use steroid creams, because of concerns over steroids

Task:

- Find out about the current skin problem
- Explain the importance of using a moisturising cream
- Reinforce the occasional need for the steroid cream
- Give advice on managing eczema (temperature of room, cotton clothes, non-perfumed soap)

adapted from source: OET Speaking for Nurses 2, Virginia Allum

How should you approach the role play?

What should you do during the preparation time?

- Analyse task card
 - who are you?*
 - who is patient?*
 - what is the issue?*
- Underline key verbs
- Make a note of useful phrases or vocabulary
- Think about the 'flow' of the conversation

What should you do during the role play?

- Be ready to initiate the conversation
- Use the information on the role card
- Listen carefully
- Respond appropriately
- Be confident