



Lesson 4: Technology and Media

IELTS Speaking Part 3



The English Hub

What is IELTS Speaking Part 3?

IELTS Speaking Part 3 is the **discussion stage** of the test. It follows your Part 2 response and lasts **4–5 minutes**. The examiner will ask **deeper, opinion-based questions** connected to the topic of your Part 2 speech.

In Part 3, you must:

- Discuss ideas **beyond personal stories**
- Use **examples, comparisons, and arguments**
- Demonstrate **complex grammar and vocabulary**
- Speak with **confidence and structure**

Today's topic: Technology and Media – a common IELTS Part 3 theme.



Sample IELTS Part 3 Questions

Practice answering these common questions on this topic with your tutor:

- **How has technology changed the way people work or study?**
- **What are the dangers of relying too much on digital media?**
- **Do you think people will read fewer books in the future? Why or why not?**
- **Should children be allowed to use mobile phones in school?**

Tip: Give 3–5 sentence responses with opinions, examples, and logic.



Grammar Focus: Passive Voice

The **passive voice** is useful in IELTS Part 3 when discussing trends, systems, or actions where the doer is unknown or not important.

Structure:

be (is/are/was/were) + past participle

Present Passive:

- “Information is shared quickly on social media.”
- “Technology is used in classrooms to aid learning.”

Past Passive:

- “Newspapers were replaced by digital platforms.”
- “Old media was dominated by a few companies.”

Mini Task:

Say one sentence using present passive and one using past passive about media or technology.



Vocabulary for Technology & Media

Key Vocabulary:

- digital literacy, screen time, media bias, social platforms, streaming, cyber security
- online education, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, data privacy

Verbs & Phrases:

- consume media, stay informed, go viral, broadcast, rely on, access content

Activity:

Choose 3 terms and use them in your own example sentence related to tech or media.



Expressing Opinions & Speculations

IELTS Part 3 encourages you to **speculate about the future** or give **balanced opinions**.

Phrases to Use:

- “I suppose it might...”
- “It’s likely that...”
- “There’s a chance that...”
- “Personally, I feel that...”
- “Some people argue that..., but I think...”

Example:

“It’s likely that most news will be consumed online in the future, as people want faster updates.”

Task: Use one speculation phrase to predict how media might change in 10 years.



IELTS Practice: Technology Impact

Question:

How has modern technology changed communication between people?

Answer should include:

- 1 opinion phrase
- 1 passive sentence
- 1 example

Sample Answer:

“Technology has transformed how we connect. These days, messages are **sent instantly** via apps, and video calls are **used** regularly. Personally, I feel that although it's convenient, it sometimes reduces face-to-face interaction.”



Activity: Old vs New Media

Compare **traditional media** (newspapers, TV) with **modern media** (social media, online news).

Use:

- “Compared to...”
- “Whereas...”
- “On the other hand...”

Example:

“Compared to traditional newspapers, online platforms offer instant news. However, accuracy can sometimes be an issue.”

Task: Speak for 1 minute comparing two forms of media using at least two connectors.



Grammar Focus: Modal Verbs for Possibility and Obligation

Use modal verbs to discuss rules, predictions, and social opinions.

What are Modal Verbs?

- **might / may / could** – possibility
- **should / shouldn't** – advice or expectation
- **must / mustn't** – strong necessity

Examples:

- “Social media **might** be addictive for some users.”
- “News websites **should** be more responsible with facts.”
- “People **mustn't** share private information online.”

Mini Task:

Create one sentence with **might**, one with **should**, and one with **must**.



Discussion: Media Influence

Practice answering the following question:

Should governments control what we see in the media? Why or why not?

Instructions:

- Give your opinion
- Include one modal verb (e.g. should, must)
- Add one real or imagined example
- Use a contrast phrase

Example:

“I think governments **shouldn’t** control media completely. While it’s important to prevent harmful content, people also have the right to access different views. For example, in democratic countries, media freedom is respected.”



Roleplay Activity: Technology Debate

Situation:

Imagine your tutor is your classmate and they say: “Phones should be banned in schools.”

Respond to this opinion with:

- Opinion
- Reason
- Contrast idea
- Passive voice or modal verb

Example:

“I understand their concern, but I disagree. Phones **can be used** for educational purposes, like online dictionaries. Instead of banning them, schools **should** teach students how to use them responsibly.”

Idioms and Natural Expressions

Try these topic-related idioms:

- “glued to their screens” – always using a device
- “double-edged sword” – something with both pros and cons
- “spread like wildfire” – become popular very quickly
- “hit the headlines” – become major news
- “old-school” – traditional, not modern

Task: Use one idiom to describe how you or others use technology.

IELTS Speaking Drill

Answer the following question:

Do you think young people rely too much on technology these days?

Include:

- 1 passive sentence
- 1 example
- 1 contrast or speculation phrase
- Optional idiom

Aim for 4–6 full sentences



Pronunciation Practice: Media Vocabulary

Practise saying the following words:

- digital
- virtual
- broadcast
- controversial
- artificial intelligence
- platform

Task: Use two of the above in a full, well-structured sentence.



Grammar Challenge: Passive Voice & Modals

Fix these:

- “The internet must used for school.”
- “TV are watched by millions daily.”
- “Media should protect people privacy.”

Corrected:

- The internet **must be used** for school.
- TV **is watched** by millions daily.
- Media should protect people’s privacy.

Extension: Create your own correct sentence using both passive + modal.



Review Checklist

Ask yourself:

- Did I expand my answers with reasons and examples?
- Did I use complex grammar (passive, modal, comparison)?
- Did I use topic vocabulary and idioms naturally?
- Was my pronunciation and intonation clear?

Have a go at the question on the next slide if you wish to improve any of your concerns from the checklist, take turns with your tutor to give you further examples of answers!



Speaking Challenge:

Question:

What role does social media play in shaping public opinion?

Include:

- One speculation phrase (e.g. “might”, “could”)
- One passive voice sentence
- One example
- Optional idiom or comparison



Vocabulary Recap

media bias
screen time
digital platform
artificial
intelligence
content creator

online privacy
broadcast
streaming
consume
information
viral content

Task: Choose 3 and use them in a 3-sentence answer to a question of your choice.



Extra Practice

Task: Answer the following question with your tutor:

Do you think traditional media will disappear in the future? Why or why not?

Requirements:

- 1 opinion phrase
- 1 passive voice sentence
- 1 comparison
- 1 speculation or modal

Try to speak for at least 1.5 – 2 minutes

