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GCSE Speaking Test

Principal Examiner's commentary on Grade A test

Role Plays

Good set of responses . It is significant to note that the responses are not always totally accurate:

- *Cad é mar atá ag dul go dtí an cluiche/*
- *Cá mhéad ag sin?*

However the message is clear so marks are not lost.

This candidate gives very short and simple answers to the open ended and unpredictable elements.

- *Tá sé daor.*

This is one of the keys to success in these elements of the Role Plays.

The Presentation

Scoil s'agamsa

Develops the topic very well and very logically

- States where the school is situated
- Logistics of the school day
- Talks about her own experience of school (subjects etc)
- Talks about hopes for the future (what she wants to do next year)
- States her opinion and justifies it.

Uses Indirect Speech quite effectively when giving her opinion.

- *Tá áthas orm a rá go bhfuil sé -----*

Uses a variety of grammatical structures – Tenses(Present and Future) even though not essential, Clauses (*ba mhaith liom Dráma a dhéanamh*)

In terms of delivery, there are a couple of 'blips' however the candidate recovers well and the 'gist' of the presentation is not lost, therefore very few marks are lost.

Conversation

Lovely natural oral. Candidate develops each answer with a couple of sentences. The level of questions that are asked are relatively simple but she takes each one and 'runs with it, developing it and giving a little more information

- *Chuaigh mé go dtí an seomra folctha, nigh mé mé féin, d'ith mé mo bhricfeasta, d'ól mé sú oráiste.*

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It is significant to note that there is nothing sophisticated or complicated about this answer but it gives enough development to fulfil the criteria.

Candidate displays excellent ability to manage the tenses and she also manages the irregular verbs well.

- *Cad é a dhéanfaidh tú ?-----Rachaidh mé -----*

Candidate can also readily state and justify her ideas – she does so quite simply by saying what she thinks and why

There are of course a few mistakes and grammar is not 100% accurate in places, however it is evident that the candidate has a very good understanding and grasp of the language. There is a nice ‘natural feel’ to the conversation.