

Coronavirus – Pandemic Related Speaking/Writing Questions

Note: Personally, I don't think they will ask any precise questions about the coronavirus because the speaking section is not a test of specific technical knowledge. However, some possible overarching questions about health or dealing with a pandemic could be:

Possible Speaking Questions Part 1 or Part 3

How has quarantine changed people's daily behavior?

What effect has social distancing had on our everyday lives?

How have people tried to prevent the spread of the virus?

How can we maintain a positive state of mind during a pandemic?

What could have been done differently during the pandemic?

Which negative and positive reactions have you witnessed in response to the coronavirus?

What technology has been most helpful in dealing with the coronavirus?

How has education/schools been affected by the coronavirus?

How can we live our lives more healthily?

What type of activities do people engage in to remain physically healthy?

What type of activities do people engage in to remain healthy during the coronavirus?

Which is more critical to our well-being, mental or physical health?

Is there anything you would like to do to improve your health?

Since the pandemic occurred, how have you been more careful about your personal interactions?

How has the pandemic changed our lifestyles and personal relationships?

How can people be encouraged to stay healthy?

Do you pay attention to the public information about health?

Since the pandemic, have you changed any of your health habits?

If you catch a cold, what do you do to feel better?

So you think older people have to worry more about their health than younger people?

What can we do in the future to better deal with a pandemic situation?

Has the news media been a negative or positive influence during the pandemic?

What is the best way of helping someone who is going through a health crisis?

Do you think people have become more aware of health and medicine as a result of the pandemic?

Has the coronavirus pandemic brought us closer together or pulled us apart more?

Why do some people choose to disobey health rules and regulations?

Possible Speaking Part 2 Health Question:

I. Describe your (or your friend's) illness or injury experience. You should say:

1. was it
2. When did it happen
3. How did you (or your friend) handle it, and (4) state how do you feel about it now.

II. Describe a change you have made to improve your health and that you would recommend to others.

You should say:

what it is

why you decided to do it

how you have benefitted from it

and explain why you would recommend it to others.

Possible Writing Task 2 Health-Related Questions:

Despite huge improvements in healthcare, the overall standard of physical health in many developed countries is now falling. What could be the reason for this trend, and what can be done to reverse it?

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People behave differently when they aren't in health.

Do you agree that health status influences the way people behave? Use specific examples to support your answer.

Many different medical traditions are now widely known and used: Western medicine, herbal medicine, acupuncture, homeopathy, and so on. How important is the patient's mental attitude towards his/her treatment in determining the effectiveness of the treatment?

Some people believe that it is the responsibility of individuals to take care of their health and diet. Others, however, believe that governments should make sure that their citizens have a healthy diet. Discuss both views, and give your opinion.

Should parents be obliged to immunize their children against common childhood diseases? Or do individuals have the right to choose not to immunize their children? What is your view of this practice?

Despite health warnings, a large number of people continue to not behave in a healthy manner. Why should we be concerned about this? What solutions would you suggest? Give the reason for your answer and include any relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.

Modern children are suffering from diseases that were once considered to be meant for adults only. Obesity is a major disease prevalent among children. What are its causes, and what solutions can be offered?

In some countries, an increasing number of people are suffering from health problems. It is, therefore, necessary for governments to impose greater rules and regulations. Do you agree or disagree with this opinion? You should use your ideas, knowledge, and experience and support your arguments with examples and relevant evidence.

Today more people are sick with contagious diseases than ever before. In your opinion, what are the primary causes of this? What measures can be taken to overcome this epidemic?

People do many different things to stay healthy. What do you do for good health? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

High job demands, stress, and a sense of commitment are among the main reasons people go to work when they are ill. This way they accomplish important tasks but may infect others or get some serious health problems themselves. In your opinion should people go to work if they are sick? Support your point of view with relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.

Some people claim that the government should provide free health care. Others think that the government will not provide the most innovative methods of treatment and it's better to invest those funds in education and culture. What is your opinion?

Many people believe that every individual is responsible for his/her own healthy lifestyle. Others believe that governments should take care of it. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

The prevention of health problems and illness is more important than treatment and medicine. Government funding should reflect this. Do you agree or disagree?

Health care should not be provided for free regardless of a person's income. The health of a person is in their own hands, and government policy should reflect this. Do you agree or disagree?

Some people think that public health is the responsibility of the government while others feel the individuals are responsible for their own health. Discuss both sides and give your opinion?

Compared to the past, more younger adults take medications for degenerative diseases. Provide specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

In some countries, health care and education are only partially funded by the government. Which do you think is better in terms of quality: free public healthcare and education or privately paid health care and education? Provide specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Some people, including medical workers, argue against using animals and humans for clinical tests while others think it is necessary. Which are you in favor of? Provide specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

The rise of modern diseases is witnessed. The newer medicines are not able to combat these issues and people believe going back to traditional medicines is the answer. To what extent do you agree?

Health Vocabulary:

Definitions

aches and pains: minor pains that continue over a period of time

to be a bit off-color: to feel a little ill

to be at death's door: (informal) to be very ill indeed

to be on the mend: to be recovering after an illness

to be over the worst: to have got through the most severe or uncomfortable stage of an illness

to be under the weather: (informal) to not feel well

a blocked nose: when the nose has excess fluid due to a cold

to catch a cold: to get a cold

a check-up: a physical examination by a doctor

a chesty cough: a cough caused by congestion around the lungs

cuts and bruises: minor injuries

to feel poorly: to feel ill

as fit as a fiddle: to be very healthy

to go down with a cold: to become ill

to go private: to choose to be treated by commercial healthcare rather than by services offered by the state

GP: General Practitioner (family doctor)

to have a filling: to have a tooth repaired

to have a tooth out: to have a tooth removed

a heavy cold: a bad cold

to make an appointment: to arrange a time to see the doctor

to make a speedy recovery: to recover quickly from an illness

to phone in sick: to call work to explain you won't be attending work due to illness

prescription charges: money the patient pays for medicine authorized by a doctor

to pull a muscle: to strain a muscle

a runny nose: a nose that has liquid coming out of it

a sore throat: inflammation that causes pain when swallowing

healthy diet – mainly eating food that is nutritious and cutting down on sugar and fat.

Health problems (or **health issues**) – situations where the body is suffering from illness, injury, or disease.

Health risk – any factor that exposes a person to the increased chance of experiencing illness, injury, or disease such as poor nutrition, alcohol or drug consumption, unsafe water, poor hygiene and sanitation, unsafe sex.

Ill health – suffering from some form of physical or mental illness or disease.

Poor health – the general state of not being in good condition of health.

Unhealthy – harmful to health or not having good health.

Health scare – a state of alarm or anxiety caused by concern about the risk of developing or being diagnosed with a particular illness or condition.

Good health – the general state of being in good condition of health.

- Despite celebrating his 90th birthday, Peter had no medical problems and was in remarkably **good health**

healthy lifestyle (or **unhealthy lifestyle**) – a way of living that contributes to good health and well-being.

Health care – the services provided by governments or organizations for the treatment of illness, injury, disease, and maintaining well-being.

Health education – education that promotes an understanding of how to maintain personal health.

Health-conscious – to be concerned about how your diet and lifestyle are affecting your health and take an active interest in maintaining good health.

Health benefit – the positive effect on a person's health gained from food, activity, medical treatment, or therapy.

Mental health – the state of a person's emotional and *psychological* well-being. The health of the mind.

To look after your health / to take care of your health – to eat well, drink alcohol sensibly, and take exercise.

To regain your health – to recover from illness or injury.

to be under the weather – to feel unwell.

back on your feet – to be healthy again after a period of illness or injury.

to be on the mend – to be recovering after ill health.

to make a speedy recovery – to recover quickly from an ill-health.

road to recovery – the process of becoming healthy again.

clean bill of health – a decision by a doctor that a person is healthy.

fit as a fiddle – to be in very good health.

to feel washed out – to not have much energy after an illness.

policy advocacy: supporting a policy

proper role: what you should be responsible for

the seriousness merits: how important it really is

ultimately rest: finally must be responsible for

stick with: continue/maintain/keep up

cultivated: grown/made themselves

strong governmental intervention: the government making strong laws/policies

point out: argue/think

early intervention: taking action at an early stage

public schools: state funded schools

vast majority: most

implementing new policies: introducing new laws/rules

curbing: slowing down

total intake: the amount consumed

drastically cut down: decreased a lot

ubiquitous: common/everywhere

short term: not too far in the future

true effect: actual impact

eschew: avoid

healthier alternatives: more healthy options

meet the growing demands: supply the desires of consumers

increasingly health-conscious nation: a country more and more concerned with health

clear benefits: definite advantages

regulating: controlling

long-term: in the distant future

get around rules: avoid mandates

most basic desires: what people desire as humans

no matter what steps governments take: regardless of what governments try to do

crave: desire

hardwired: biologically fixed

imposed strict rules: enact harsh laws

served: given

facing obesity crises: lots of fat people

consistently combat poor health: often unhealthy

discipline: punish

worked out: figure out

imposed: force

at the behest of the government: at the government's request

large role: big part in

take control: be in charge

truly benefit: an actual positive impact on

standing back: doing nothing

self-reliant: depending on only yourself

long-lasting effects: impact in the future

empower: give power

More Health-Related Vocabulary:

Abnormal

Abstinence

Ache

Active

Activity

Acupuncture

Addictive

Aerobics

Aids

Alcohol

Allergy

Anemia

Anorexia

Antidote

Anxiety

Appetite

Athlete

Athletics

Authentic

Bacteria

Beauty

Bend

Blood

Blood Pressure

Body

Bones

Breath

Breathe

Calcium

Calorie

Cardiac

Cereal

Circulation

Clean

Component

Conditioning

Courage

Crouch

Cuisine

Culinary

Cure

Dangerous

Deadly

Decision

Defect

Dehydration

Depression

Diagnostic

Diet

Diner

Dinner

Disability

Discipline

Disease

Dish

Disorder

Doctor

Drinking

Drug

Eatery

Eating

Emotional

Energy

Enforce

Epidemic

Equipment

Erect

Exercise

Family

Fast Food

Ferment

Fit

Flex

Flexible

Folic Acid

Fracture

Fruit

Gain

Genetics

Gland

Goal

Grayness

Grip

Guideline

Gymnasium

Harmful

Headache

Health

Healthy

Herb

High Blood Pressure

HIV

Homemade

Hone

Hormone

Hungry

Hygiene

Hygienic

Immunity

Immunization

Improvement

Inactivity

Increase

Infancy

Infection

Infirm

Influenza

Ingredient

Inherent

Injury

Insulin

Integrity

Intimacy

Iron

Jargon

Jog

Joint

Judge

Jump

Kinesiology

Kinesis

Kinesthesia

Kinetic

Laziness

Lifestyle

Limit

Living

Lose

Loss

Lumbar

Massage

Masseur

Medical

Medication

Medicine

Memory

Mental Health

Metabolic

Method

Minimize

Mixture

Moisture

Mood

Movement

Muscle

Muscular

Nauseous

Nemesis

Nicotine

Nurse

Nutrient

Nutrition

Obesity

Obstacle

Offensive

Olfactory

Opt

Optimism

Option

Ossification

Outbreak

Outstanding

Override

Overweight

Panacea

Panic

Paraffin

Participation

Perspiration

Pessimism

Petrify

Pharmacy

Physiotherapy

Pilate

Pollution

Popularity

Portion

Positioning

Positive

Possibility

Potent

Power

Practice

Pregnancy

Prenatal

Preserve

Pressure

Prevention

Protect

Protection

Prowess

Psychology

Pulley

Puncture

Pyramid

Quad

Quick

Quiver

Radiation

Rebound

Recognition

Record

Recovery

Recreation

Regimen

Rehabilitation

Relationship

Relaxation

Research

Reserve

Resilient

Resistance

Respiration

Response

Restoration

Risk

Rivalry

Role

Routine

Rush

Safety

Sanitary

Sauce

Savvy

Scare

Scenario

Scoreboard

Scoring

Senile

Sensible

Sex

Shape Up

Shot

Sibling

Signal

Size

Sizzle

Skill

Skin

Sleep

Slide

Smog

Smoking

Smorgasbord

Specialty

Speculation

Speed

Spice

Spicy

Spirit

Sportsmanship

Spring

Squad

Squat

Stability

Stamina

Staple

Starve

Starving

Stimulate

Strategy

Strength

Stress

Strong

Struggle

Superstition

Support

Suspension

Swimming

Symptom

System

Tackle

Temptation

Tension

Terror

Testing

Therapeutic

Therapy

Time Out

Timing

Tobacco

Tone

Torso

Transplant

Trauma

Treatment

Tremor

Trend

Ultrasound

Unhealthy

Vaccination

Valiant

Valor

Vault

Vegetable

Vibration

Victory

Virus

Vitamin

Vulnerable

Walking

Warm Up

Watchful

Weigh

Weight

Wince

Winless

Winning

Wisdom

Witness

Work

X-Ray

Yoga

Zeal

Zest

Zinc

Zone