

Quick Introduction to OET Speaking

Linguistic criteria	Clinical Communication Criteria
how well you use and say English	 Relationship Building Understanding & Incorporating Patient Perspective Providing Structure Information Gathering Information Giving

OET Details: 2 tasks – 5 minutes / preparation time 3 minutes

Introducing Yourself

Initiating the interaction appropriately

Key aspects of understanding how to start your tasks:

Setting	- A&E / Emergency- Clinic / GP surgery- Home Visit	
	- School - Hospital ward - Pre - Op	
	- Outpatients - Nursing Home	
Situation	Understand what is happening and what stage we are at in the context	
Do we know the patient?	This will affect how you address somebody and how the conversation starts	
How do we get to first task?	Sometimes after we've initiated properly, we get stuck	



Introduction Tasks

This is a list of actions you might have to do at the beginning of each speaking task:

- Greeting
- Give your name & Confirm your role
- Ask patient name
- Confirm patient name
- Find out the reason for the patient visit
- thank you for letting me....
- Provide context

We choose a combination of the above as suitable for the task

Understanding the relationship & choosing appropriate introduction tasks:

You have a relationship with the patient	 Greeting: Hi + name Thanks for Find out: How can I help? / Context statement: I'm aware that Is that correct? Signpost into the 1st task: OK! I'd like to
You know patient name but have no relationship – appointment / referral	 Greeting: Hi + name & role (Thanks for) Confirm name: Can I just confirm your name / Is it ok to call you? Context statement: I'm aware that Is that correct? Signpost into the 1st task: OK! I'd like to + action
You have no relationship or name	 Greeting: Hi + name & role Ask / Confirm name: Can I just confirm your name / Can you tell me your name? / Is it ok to call you? Find out the context: How can I help you?
You're in the middle of a consultation – normally after a physical examination /	 Acknowledgement: Thank you for letting me / After Providing structure/Signposting 1st task: I'd like to + task



Exercises

Can you understand the situations and choose an appropriate start?

OET SAMPLE TEST

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1 NURSING

SETTING Accident and Emergency

NURSE You see a 25-year-old patient who is a model. He/she tripped at work and sustained a

laceration above his/her left eye that required steri-strips. The patient is ready to go home

but looks worried.

TASK
 Ask the patient how he/she is feeling.

It is likely that you know this patient and have treated them earlier. This means we need:

• Greeting: Hi + name Thanks for

• Find out: How can I help?

OET SAMPLE TEST

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1 NURSING

SETTING General Practice Clinic

NURSE Your patient is 39 years old. He/She has come to the clinic with complaints of abdominal

discomfort and change in bowel habit over the last couple of weeks.

• Greet patient. Find out what he/she wants to speak to you about.

You don't know this patient and you don't know their name:

• **Greeting:** Hi + name & role

• Ask / Confirm name: Can I just confirm your name / Can you tell me your name? / Is it ok to

call you.....?

• Find out the context: How can I help you?



OET SAMPLE TEST

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1 MEDICINE

SETTING Doctor's Clinic

DOCTOR This 64-year-old patient has hypertension (high blood pressure) and dyslipidaemia (high

cholesterol). You have just completed a basic cardiovascular risk assessment of the

patient and found him/her to be at high risk of cardiovascular disease.

Give findings of your assessment (e.g., high risk of cardiovascular disease, 1 in 7 chance of heart attack/stroke within 5 years, etc.).

You are in the middle of a consultation and you have just completed an assessment:

- Acknowledgement: Thank you for letting me / After
- Providing structure/Signposting 1st task: I'd like to + task

OET SAMPLE TEST

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 2 MEDICINE

SETTING Emergency Department

DOCTOR This parent has brought in his/her four-year-old daughter with a ten-hour history of vomiting

and fever. The child was triaged by the nurse and a urine culture was taken. Preliminary urinalysis indicates the presence of leukocytes. You have read the notes and are now going

to talk to the parent. The child is not present during this discussion.

You do not have a relationship with the patient/family. However, you know the name:

- **Greeting:** Hi + name & role (Thanks for)
- Confirm name: Can I just confirm your name / Is it ok to call you.....?
- Context statement: I'm aware that Is that correct?
- Signpost into the 1st task: OK! I'd like to + action