

## 4.2 Speaking

### Preparing extended speech

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**Focus:** *how preparation can help speaking skills.*

1. Before writing a text, either in class or for homework, we usually make notes; do a rough draft and then a final draft. Sometimes preparation techniques can help, if we need to **speak** on a topic.

For the Junior Cert, you will do written tests, not oral tests. However, the following exercise may help when you do want to speak in class.

First, in pairs, look at the words in the jumble below and organise the words according to what they do (their function).

#### Word jumble

although

and

as a result

as well as this

firstly

for example

for instance

in addition

lastly

moreover

next

on the one hand

on the other hand

secondly

therefore

#### Function

##### **1. putting ideas in order**

*firstly*

##### **2. signalling different ideas**

##### **3. giving examples**

##### **4. signalling additional information**

##### **5. signalling results or consequences**

2. Work in pairs. Take a text book and select a chapter you recently studied. Search for questions in the chapter. Or, you can select from the examples below:
  - ❖ What is history? (History textbook, chapter 1)
  - ❖ What do the excavations at Pompeii and Herculaneum tell us about Roman life? (History, chapter 3)
  - ❖ Describe two of the uses of natural stone in your environment (Geography, chapter 2)
  - ❖ Explain what the term Greenhouse effect means? (Geo, chapter 10)
  - ❖ What is drama (English, chapter 4?)
  - ❖ What did you think of the story (English, any story you have read)
  - ❖ How can you save energy at home? (CSPE, study 10)
  - ❖ What is a community? (CSPE, study 14)
3. Work in pairs. Practise answering questions. Give yourself two minutes to prepare your answer but don't write anything down, this isn't a writing exercise. Your answer must have at least two sentences. Try to include some of the words from exercise one above.
4. Next, practise answering questions in front of the whole class.

**Remember:** Only answer the question you have been asked. Don't waffle!  
(*Waffle = to talk or write a lot and say nothing important!*)