

**Prompts for Part One of the AE1 Speaking exam**  
**SZTE Institute of English and American Studies**  
**Spring and Fall Semesters 2020**

1. Szeged is a magnet for foreign students. Nonetheless, some foreign students complain that their Hungarian counterparts are not very open to them, while some Hungarian students say the same about foreign students. What do you think is the cause of this lack of connection? Support your position with examples, details, stories, and/or things you have read from both sides. What ideas do you have to get these two groups interacting with each other more? Support your proposal(s).

2. Beyond attending classes, in what other ways have you taken part in the life of the university? Have you attended events, clubs, or showings? Have you tutored others, met in a study group, or done research on your own? How have these things benefited you, or (if you have not done these things) how could they benefit you? Support your claim with examples, details, and/or stories (your own or other people's), or from things you have read. What is the best way for the university to encourage students to take an active part in university life? Support your proposal(s).

3. Some instructors require homework to be submitted handwritten; others ask students to hand in homework in a printed form or electronically. Which form do you think is most beneficial for university instruction and why? Consider the issue from both students' and instructors' sides. Support your claim, making sure to note the advantages and disadvantages of each.

4. Some students work while studying at university, while others focus entirely on their studies. In your experience and/or the experiences of people you know, what are the drawbacks and benefits of working while studying. Conclude with a claim about whether working or not is preferable; make sure to support your claim.

5. Some people feel that competition is an important part of adult life and that children should be exposed to competitive activities at a young age. Others feel that competition is harmful to young children and that promoting cooperation is more important. Based on your own experiences (or those of other people), do you believe that early exposure to competition is beneficial or not? Make sure to support your claim.

6. Studies have shown that Hungarian university students tend to experience a certain amount of anxiety when communicating in a foreign language. Have you noticed this phenomenon in your own experience and/or among your peers? What do you think the root(s) of this anxiety might be? How do you think this anxiety can be reduced? Support your positions with details, examples, stories, and/or things you have read.

7. Education systems in Europe have been criticised for not developing students' 21st-century skills, including creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and others that enable people to adapt to a changing world. Have your university classes aimed to develop those skills in you, or not? Provide specific examples to support your claim. In what ways could they do more? What can you do to develop those skills yourself?

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8. The University of Szeged does not have a campus like some universities do. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the university being spread around the city? Would it be more advantageous for the University of Szeged to be contained on a single campus? Support your claim with specific details, examples, stories, and/or things you have read about university campus life.

9. Over the course of your educational experience, you have had many teachers. Talk about a teacher who had a strong impact on you. What lessons (academic or otherwise) did you learn from him or her? Support your claim with specific details, examples, and/or stories.

10. Motivation is vital for people who are learning foreign languages. What do you believe is the most important or effective motivation, and how do you think language teachers can assist students in finding that motivation? Support your claim(s).