With Audio CD

220 IELTS SPEAKING TOPICS

With Practical Tips & Useful Expressions

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Introduction

The present book is compiled to help IELTS candidates have easy access to ample IELTS Speaking samples, collected from various IELTS preparation course books. It contains **220 IELTS Speaking Topics** that are arranged alphabetically to enable candidates to find the topics of their interest very quickly and easily. This book also aims to build up the candidates speaking skill as well as their confidence by exposing them to useful expressions, and suggested tips. It has an audio CD which contains 10 sample tests. The main purpose of the audio CD is to give the candidates enough confidence to organize their mind and answer the questions especially in part 2 & 3, when they are given intangible and abstract topics.

The book consists of three chapters. **Chapter 1** starts with the format of the IELTS speaking module, scoring of the test, some suggested tips, and ends with the useful expressions. **Chapter 2** contains compiled topics which are sorted alphabetically and divided into three parts: part 1, part 2 and part 3 of the IELTS speaking test. The reference of each topic card is written right below the box and the reference of the round-up questions are brought in front of the questions. For the questions which lack reference and page number, the reference is already given in bolded form in front of the previous questions. **In Chapter 3**, the real test topic samples are sorted alphabetically for the easy use. At the end of the book, there is a check list of Dos & Don'ts which is strongly recommended.



Chapter 1

IELTS SPEAKING TEST

The speaking test of IELTS is an interview which assesses how well a candidate can communicate in spoken English. It is a general speaking skill and is broadly the same for all candidates. In the Speaking Module, each candidate has a face-to-face interview with an examiner. The interview consists of three parts and takes between 11-14 minutes. The examiner records the interview for remarking, if necessary.

FORMAT OF THE TEST

Part 1: Introduction & Interview

In this part, the examiner will ask you some general questions about yourself such as your home, family, education, job, interests/hobbies, and a range of similar topic areas. The questions on familiar topics will give you chance to convey a lot of information about yourself and your life. This part lasts between 4-5 minutes.

Part 2: Individual Long Turn

In this part, you will be given a task card (cue card) and asked to talk on a particular topic for **about 2 minutes**. You have **one minute** to organize your mind and prepare yourself before speaking at length, for 1-2 minutes. This part will last between 3-4 minutes.
The examiner then asks one or two rounding-off questions.

For example:

Describe a TV program that you watch or know about
You should say:

- When it is on and which channel it is on
- What kind of program it is
- What kind of people watch it

And say if you think that program is popular in other countries or not, and why

Part 3: Two-way Discussion

In this part, the examiner and candidate engage in a discussion of more abstract issues and concepts which are thematically linked to the topic prompt in Part 2.The discussion lasts between 4-5 minutes. In this part, the candidate's ability to justify opinions, analyze, discuss, and speculate about the issues will be assessed. The follow-up questions related to the above topics could be:

- Why do you think some countries produce TV programs for another country?
- What factors do you think TV program producers consider for preparing a certain program?

However, recently it is understood that the above format is not fully observed by the examiners. The reason might be that the examiner can not be sure of the candidate's ability and level of proficiency from only part 1. Moreover, most of the candidates are fully prepared for this part and sometimes they memorize certain samples. Therefore, examiners may ask candidates their names, candidate numbers, and directly start with Part 2. So, as preparing yourself for some general questions, such as the reason for taking IELTS test, your country, your town, your past studies, and your plans for future; be mentally prepared to skip this part if necessary.



How Speaking Is Assessed

The speaking proficiency is evaluated on the following criteria:

- **Fluency and Coherence:** Express your ideas and opinions coherently and clearly, without long pauses and hesitations.
- **Lexical Resource:** Use correct expressions and wide range of vocabulary.
- **Grammar & Accuracy:** Use wide range of structures with the minimum number of mistakes.
- **Pronunciation:** Make sure your conversation is understood.

The Result is translated into a score on the IELTS nine-band scale. There is no pass mark for the IELTS exam. Different universities and colleges will have their own IELTS score requirements.

Band 9- Expert User
The candidate has fully operational command of the language and is fluent with a complete understanding of English.
Band 8-Very Good User
The candidate is a good user' of English with only occasional mistakes with accuracy and appropriateness. but his overall command of English is excellent and he can handle complex detailed arguments well.
Band 7-Good User
The candidate is a 'good user' of English. He can use English well in most situations but occasionally make mistakes with accuracy and appropriateness of language and has misunderstandings in some situations.
Band 6-Competent User
The candidate has effective command of language despite some inaccuracies and misunderstandings. He can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.
Band 5-Modest User
The candidate is a 'modest user' of language. .He has some command of English and can cope with the overall meaning in most situations, though he is likely to make some mistakes. He is able to handle basic communication in his won field.

Band 4-Limited User
The candidate is a 'limited user' of language. He has a basic ability to use English in familiar situations. He may have frequent problems with understanding and expression and is unable to use complex language.
Band 3-Extremely Limited User
The candidate is an 'extremely limited user' – this means that he can express and understand only general meaning in very familiar situations. He will have frequent breakdowns in communication.
Band 2-Intermittent User
The candidate is an 'intermittent user' – this means that no real communication is possible except for expressing the most basic information using isolated words or short basic sentences in familiar situations. He will have a lot of difficulty understanding spoken and written English.
Band 1-Non-User
The candidate is at the lowest level and means he is a 'non-user' – this means he does not have the ability to use English except for a few isolated words.
Band 0-Did not attempt the test
The candidate has no assessable information and production.

NOTE

From 1 July, 2007, a small but important change has been made in IELTS Band Scores. Scores for each part of the test will be reported on the scale from 1 to 9, but **now the Writing & Speaking modules** will be reported in **whole or half-bands** in the same way as the Reading and Listening modules. There will be two main benefits to the new arrangements:

a) Recognized Organizations will be able to meet their requirements for admission, and recruitment more precisely, based on more detailed information about the test-taker's performance.

b) Test takers will get a report that gives them more information on their strengths and weaknesses.

Description of Band Scores

You belong to Band 0 if you do not attend the interview.

You belong to Band 1 if you can not communicate in English in any way.

You belong Band 2 if you

- Pause lengthily before most words
- Have little communication ability
- Produce isolated words or memorized sentences
- If you can not produce basic sentence forms
- Your speech is unintelligible

You belong to Band 3 if you

- Speak with long pauses
- Have limited ability to link simple sentences
- Give only simple response and unable to convey basic message
- Use simple vocabulary to express personal information
- Have insufficient vocabulary for less familiar topics
- Make numerous errors

You belong to Band 4 if you

- Can not respond without noticeable pause and may speak slowly, with frequent repetition and self-correction
- Link basic sentences but with repetitious use of simple connectives and some breakdowns in sentences
- Produce basic sentence forms and some correct simple sentences but subordinate structures are rare
- Use limited range of pronunciation features
- Have frequent mispronunciations

You belong to Band 5 if you

- Keep sentences coming slowly (without pauses)

(See item 3, tips for part3) ,use repetition, and correct yourself

- Can use simple sentences easily, but complex sentences are difficult for you
- Can not say the same thing in a different way (rephrase) or use a synonym for a word
- Use grammatically correct simple sentences most of the time. It is rare that you use more complex sentences and when you do, you make grammatical errors or it is difficult to understand what you're saying.

You belong to Band 6 if you

- Can speak for some time keeping the right speed (like in your first language), with little difficulties when you repeat words, correct yourself or get lost in words and stop making mistakes.
- Use some connecting words, even if it is not always appropriate
- Can discuss topics (familiar or not) for a long time, using wide range of vocabulary and making yourself clear
- Successfully rephrase and use synonyms
- Mix simple and complex sentences when you ask, but in making complex ones, you make mistake. Mistakes are mostly grammatical and examiner can still understand you.**(See Item 9, Tips for part 3)**

You belong to Band 7 if you

- Have no problem speaking for some time keeping the right speed (like your first language); your speech is smooth and easy to understand; it is rare that you pause and look for a word to say, repeat or correct yourself.
- Can discuss any topic using a lot of smart words, use English expressions correctly.
- Use complex sentences without a lot of grammatical mistakes. There are more correct sentences in your speech than incorrect.

You belong to Band 8 if you

- Speak fluently with only occasional repetition or self-correction
- Develop topic coherently and appropriately
- Use a wide range of vocabularies
- Can use paraphrases effectively as required
- Use a wide range of structures
- Use a wide range of pronunciation features
- Can produce a majority of error-free sentences with only occasional mistakes



You belong to Band 9 if you

- Speak fluent with only rare repetition or self- correction
- Develop topic fully and appropriately
- Use vocabulary with full flexibility and precision in all topics
- Use a full range of structures naturally and appropriately
- Produce consistently accurate structures apart from "slips"- characteristic of native speaker speech
- Use a full range of pronunciation features with precision and subtlety
- Are effortless to understand

IETLS SPEAKING TIPS

Before the Interview

1- Be present at the venue at least 30 min. before the interview.

2- Before going into the interview room, **take a DEEP breath**!

3- Dress appropriately: neither too casual nor too formal.

4- Greet the examiner. Say "**Good Morning Sir/Madam or "Good Afternoon**".

5- Be polite, friendly, and relaxed.

During the Interview

TIPS for Part 1

1. Make **eye contact with the examiner**. Although theoretically you can speak great English with your head down, the fact is you may not seem as confident. Although there is no mark for confidence, you need to present yourself in as positive way as possible.

2. Make sure you **understand the examiner** and are able to communicate without grammar mistakes.

3. Consider this part of the test as meeting someone for the first time and telling him about yourself. Try to be **relaxed and keep conversation going.**

4. **Speak clearly and don't worry about your accent**. Everyone has an accent when they speak English. The important point is that you enunciate the best you can so the examiner can understand you. Rehearse in advance to overcome any obvious problems. If you make a mistake, don't worry, just correct yourself and keep going.

5. If the examiner asked you questions about your home town, neighborhood, or city; use good words about your home town, etc. to impress the examiner. Do use negative expressions to talk about your country or city. If you express all bad things always when you

are talking, the examiner won't be impressed by your words unless you are asked to explain the problems.

Tips for Part 2

1. **In part 2**, you have one minute to think about the topic and organize your mind. The examiner will give you a piece of paper and a pencil to take notes because speaking for two minutes without stopping is not easy. The biggest mistake students make is **not to take notes.** Candidates who do not take notes often say, "Uh, I think may be, um,... well,..., Ur..., It seems to me, ...".
"Um and Uh" are the sign of hesitations. It means you are not sure of what to say or you do not have any ideas to express. In both cases, you are most likely to lose scores with long pauses and hesitations. Therefore, use notes to help you organize your mind and ideas, remember what to say and how to say.

2. In this part, use **P.R.E.P." method**. Start with "P"- make one sentence about your main **Point**/ topic. Then give two or three sentences to provide "R", a **Reason**. You need to support your ideas. Next give "E", an **Example**. Describe the example using two or three sentences. Finish by repeating "P", your main **points**, but use a different sentence. If you have extra time, give a second example.

3. **Do not memorize answers to prepare for the test.** The interviewer has enough experience to recognize that you are not speaking naturally and will change the subject or give you a lower score.

4. Avoid **short, "yes" , "no" answers.**

5. **Explain names or words which are in another language**. For example, if you are asked to speak about a festival, which involves using words in your language, say the words clearly and give the meaning so the examiner can follow your expressions.

6. Try to make good sentences to make good impression. For example, in part 1, if you give easy answers, the examiner can not be sure of your level whether you are Band 4 or may be Band 5. But if you **give good and specific answers** with short explanations, the examiner will think you could be Band 6 or even Band 7.

7. Keep a steady pace. Do not speak **too fast or too slow.**

8. Do not take so much time. Two sentences for each answer are usually enough. If you have a long time introduction, the examiner may think you do not know how to answer the questions.

9. Remember you **do not need to present true ideas** or facts. Some times, you do not have any personal idea or example on a certain topic to say.
Avoid words such as: I have no idea. I don't know what to say, etc. Try to make up your own story related to the topic and explain the connection.
For example, if you are asked to talk about a foreign country you have been to, but in fact you have never visited a foreign country before, try to make your own story.
10. **Do not worry about the time**. Try to organize your conversation for about 2 minutes but the examiner will stop you when time is up.

11. **Record yourself.** Play the recordings back to see how easy you are to understand and how you could improve. You should practice one or two topics every day before your exam.

12. Avoid **using slang or very informal language.**

13. **Use easy words and expressions** if you are not very confident.

14. Remember to **practice. Use a watch**; give yourself one minute to take notes on a topic, and then two minutes to make four or five sentences to express your ideas on the topic. Make sure to provide answers to all of the questions in Part 2.

Tips for Part 3

1. In part 3, which seems to be the most difficult part of speaking test, when the examiner says "Now, I would like to ask you some more questions related to part 2, you know that Part 3 is starting. Be ready!

2. In **Part III,** you could be asked to talk about changes either in your country or in International trends. Remember in this part, you need to justify and support what you say by **examples, explanation, story, and statistics.**

Example 1: Tell me about the recent changes in university graduation in your country.

Answer: Well, not only in my country but also around the world, there is a remarkable increase in the number of university graduates. I can't speak for the world, but in my country this is partly due to subsidized study costs. Only 10-15 years ago, the option of going to university was open to those who were wealthy enough, but now people from all backgrounds have an equal opportunity to follow their education. I think, this is definitely a step in the right direction, although there are still potential students who don't have the means.

Comment: As you see, the first sentence includes the candidate's main idea and the following sentences are supporting the main idea.

Example 2: Do you prefer to watch a movie on TV or in the cinema? Why?

Answer: Actually, I much prefer to go to cinema because the screen is bigger than any TV, and the sound is really good. For example, I thought the film "Titanic" was great because the music was romantic, and it just wouldn't have been the same if it was played at home on a normal television.

3. Try to use "**FILLERS**" instead of pausing and hesitating. **Fillers** are set of the words which can give you the opportunity of filling the gaps you face during speaking such as:
I mean……; You see….; Well, let me see…..; If you see what I mean…; Let's get this into perspective,….; You know,….; Well,……; Uh,….

4. Before you start speaking, **think of different tenses**. You must use past and present tenses to compare two aspects of a topic.

For example, if you are asked:
"How has the method of teaching changed in recent years?"
You should say:
Well, in the past teacher **used to be** the only speaker in the class, **whereas nowadays**, students **are also involved** in teaching and learning process."

5. Use the General-Specific technique. As soon as you hear the question, give **a general opinion** about the topic. Then give **a specific reason** or example in the next sentence or two. **Among other things in part 3, you will be asked to speculate about the future, give opinions, suggest a solution to a problem, or describe a process or a procedure**. Try to come up with a complete answer. For example, if you are asked how you would solve traffic problems world wide, don't just talk about buying more buses; consider where the money for

the buses would come from, explain how you would raise the money for the buses and persuade people how to use them. This certainly impresses the examiner.

6. You **can not ask questions** on part1 and Part 2, but you **can** ask questions on **Part 3** if you do not understand the question or you do not know the meaning of a word.

For example, the interviewer says. "Do you like traveling on the tube?"
You can say that you don't understand:

-'I'm sorry. I don't understand.

-'I'm sorry, I don't follow.'

- I haven't come across that word / expression before." Could you explain what you mean?"

If you just didn't understand what the interviewer has said**, ask him to repeat the question:**

"Sorry, I didn't catch that. Could you say that again?

"Excuse me. Could you repeat that?

If you are looking for clarification, ask the interviewer to confirm what you think:

"Do you mean....."

"When you say....., are you asking/ do you mean.....?"

Hopefully these simple questions will get the interview back on track and you can also impress the interviewer with your conversation skills.

7. If you are asked a question about a subject for which you have no idea to express, use the following expressions to **give yourself time to think** more or remember what to say:

- Well, it's difficult to say, but...
- I don't have any idea, but I suppose,...
- I am no expert to comment, but...
- Actually, that's not something I've really thought about, but...
- Mmm... I am not really sure, but...
- I dot know much about that, but...
- That's an interesting point and I think I would have to say that ....
- I'm not exactly sure what you mean, but...
- That's a rather difficult question, but perhaps...

If you still can not think of anything to say after a few seconds, you should focus on the question or an aspect of the question and move your answer onto a related but more familiar topics. This is not ideal, but it is still better than saying nothing.

8. When you **can not remember an English word, use other words**. Try to explain or give examples. Sometimes you can use the opposites. For example, if you forget to say the word "**tidy**" while you are describing your roommate or your neighbor, you can say "**clean**" or "**not messy**".

9. Part 3 is where the final score is given to you. So, try to **use a wide range of vocabularies, different expressions, and also various structures** to present your ability in using language in different situations.

For example, if you are asked, "what do you think about the balance between the work and leisure", you can say:
"I am a big table tennis **fan**, even though I am not very **good at** playing table tennis myself. I love to watch the match on TV.I play table tennis whenever I get a chance. Playing table tennis **not only refreshes** my body and makes me mentally alert, but it also makes me ready and **eager** to **engage** in the work of day. **In addition**, a reasonable amount of exercise prepares the body for a good night sleep. **However**, **over-indulgence** in physical exercise can do more harm than good because it will make you too tired to stay awake during the work.

10. Try to see the following **websites** which offer in-depth articles on a variety of topics of general interest. Read some of the articles, check the vocabulary you don't know, try to get a general understanding of what an article is about and understand some of the specific details. Try to pick up something from the articles there in order to improve your general knowledge. If you remember just one fact that you can use in the test, it will improve your confidence!

- The Economist: *www.the economist.com*
- National Geographic :*www.nationalgeographic.com*
- New Scientist: *www.new scientist.com*
- Go articles: *www.goarticles.com*
- Find articles: *www.findarticles.com*

After the Interview

1. At the end of the interview, you should say "**Thank you and Goodbye.**"

2. Do not ask the examiner about your score because he is not in a position to tell you.

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR SPEAKING

1- Sentence Building:

Make a better sentence, get a better score.

The following questions and answers will give you hints on how to improve your performance and therefore get a better score.

Question: Tell me about your family.
Common Answer: There are two people in my family.
Better answer: In Iran today, a majority of families have two members and my family is no exception.
OR: A typical Iranian family has two members; however, my family is an exception. I am from rather a big family.

Question: What is your home town like?
Common Answer: It is very nice and clean.
Better answer: it is a populous city with variety of things to do. It has many parks, restaurants, and shopping centers. However, traffic and pollution are two disadvantages of my hometown.

Question: How do you feel about your job?
Common Answer: I like my job very much.
Better answer: I really enjoy what I am doing everyday. Believe me, although it has long working hours, it is a very well-paid job and it is very rewarding.

Question: What do you dislike about your classes?
Common Answer: Studying is very difficult.
Better answer: When I think about how hard my lessons are, I feel like quitting, which is one reason I've decided to go abroad.
Note: the question is about your feeling and the answer is correct. So, it shows the candidate has understood the question and has given correct and good reply.

Question: What do you do in your free times?
Common Answer: I go jogging and sometimes read papers.



Better answer: I rarely have free times. If I got free time, I would probably do many different things, including playing sports, going out with my friends, listening to music, and so on.

Question: What do you want to do in future?

Common Answer: I want to be a lawyer.

Better answer: when I was a child I have always wanted to become a lawyer. Now after many years of study, I plan to have become a lawyer. I hope my dream comes true.

Note: Excellent! Compare the past dream with the present; hard work to show the bright future.

Question: Tell me about a celebration or a holiday in your country.

Common Answer: The New Year Holiday is the biggest and the most famous festive in my country.

Better answer: When spring comes and the nature is green, it means it is the time to celebrate the biggest Iranian Festival, known as Nowrouz. It is the time when people dress new clothes, children receive gifts from the elders, and people visit their relatives.

Note: Good Job! Not only have you named the specific holiday, but you also have provided explanations with few sentences to show how the Holiday is celebrated in your country.

Question: Do you like shopping?

Common Answer: I hate shopping, but I have to do it.

Better answer: When I think of shopping, I think of crowds, all the difficult choices, and the money I have to spend, so I hate shopping.

2- Do not use too many connectors when you speak. It may sound unnatural.

For example:

Say: After resting all the night, waking up every morning, and doing my chores, I look forward to a new day.

Don't say: After resting all the night **and** waking up every morning, and after that doing my chores, I look forward to a new day.

3- It is important to **use different structures and various tenses** to present your speaking ability. Moreover, you have to be sure of a tense and grammar you are using. It is important to be correct and accurate. For example, when you are asked to compare recent changes in

your country with the past, you have to start with the past tense and simply shift to present tense.

Example: How has travel changed in your country over the last 20 years?

Answer: Well, the first thing is that there are more and more cars on the road, so traffic congestion is becoming a serious issue. We used to have a good and smooth public transportation system, but fewer people use it now; the numbers of services have been reduced.

4- Try to use **a wide range of vocabularies** throughout the test. Use different expressions and vocabularies, but make sure you know the correct usage of the words you are using. In this way, you can avoid repeating yourself.

5- Try to improve your **pronunciation** by listening to native speakers. Listening will help you to learn how to stress important words, how to speak naturally and even how to organize your speech. When you learn a new word, learn how to pronounce it correctly. Then, make sentences with the new vocabulary. After that practice pronunciation every week (3-4 times a week) by reading out loud a short passage.

MOST COMMON CONNECTING WORDS

"After " or " Before"

- After the car hit me, I was taken to the hospital.
- Before she goes to school, she has to review her lessons.
- After that, I took a deep breath and started speaking.
- Before that, I was working as a clerk in an office.

"Although" , " even though", " However, "yet" , "but" , "while", and "whereas" (For Contrast)

- **Although** my hometown is very small, it has many interesting places to visit.
- **Even though** I was tired, I managed to give him a ride.
- I basically agree with you. **However**, I don't know if that will be true in future.
- That is what I have thought most of my life. **Yet**, I wonder if I am wrong.
- This is usually true, **but** I think we have to consider another aspect of it.
- In most cases that is true, but....
- In a typical situation that may happen, but....
- In an ideal situation we can do it that way, but....
- While the number of cars is increasing, the quality of life is decreasing.
- The number of unemployment is on rise, where as the life standards are increasing.

Note : Notice the use of " In contrast" and " On the other hand"

Many candidates often make mistakes when using "on the other hand" and "in contrast". If you are contrasting ideas about the same general subject, use "on the other hand" if you are contrasting the ideas (the object) , use " in contrast".

Ex: I am improving my vocabulary. **On the other hand**, I am getting worse in grammar.

Ex: The Company lost 20%, in contrast to last year, when it gained 80%.

"Another"

- **Another** good thing about my job is flexi working hours.
- **Another** way to solve the problem would be to relocate the factories.

"As with "or" just like"

- **As with** the first question, we must consider this one very carefully.
- **Just like** Tokyo and London, Sydney has fast and developed transportation system

"At the same time"

- I wanted to be frank with him. **At the same time** I didn't want to offend him.
- There are too many cars in Tokyo. **At the same time**, the city is building subway lines and adding more buses.

"Besides" or "In addition to" (to add extra information)

- **Besides** that fact, here is another interesting point that I would like to mention and that is the low rate of unemployment.
- **In addition to** that law, there are many other laws to prevent traffic accidents.

"Because" or "the reason is" (to give reasons)

- Many people believe that is true. I disagree **because**...
- My point of view is……**The reason** I believe that is because……
- **The reason** I doubt that is….
- I do not agree with that at all. **The reason** is that….

"Except for"

- **Except for** that one case, I do not know of any other problems.
- **Except for** the main character, all the others were bad people.

"For example"

- I believe that moving the factories to the remote areas is the best way. Let me give you **an example.** ...

"When" or "whenever"

- **When** I think about such a topic, I think about…..
- **When** I remember how I grew up, I realize….
- **Whenever** I think about my studies, I wonder how I survived!

Some Useful Expressions

Some useful expressions you need to know to give personal or non-personal information especially in **PART 2 & PART 3**, when you need to give reasons and support your statements.

"Introducing"

- I'm going to talk about ....
- I've chosen to talk about...
- The aspect/factor/ issue I've looked at is...
- What I'm going to cover is...
- I've decided to talk about...
- I remember ...
- There are a lot that I've enjoyed, but the best one was...

"Opening expressions to get going"

- One of the most important things I did was to...
- I did a number of important things such as...
- Last year was an important year because i...
- Of all the things I did, I enjoyed skydiving the best.
- There are a lot that I've enjoyed, but the best one was...

"Explaining"

- The main reason why there is much traffic in this city is lack of roads and proper public transportation.
- Most importantly, ...
- Last but not least...
- The only explanation I can think of is...
- My impression is that...

"Exemplifying"

- Consider..., for example.
- Take...as one example of...

- In the case of...,
- For instance, industrial factories have to be displaced to remote areas.
- I, personally believe that several factors such as...

"Expressing a Preference"

- I prefer A **to** B because.....

  (I prefer watching TV to reading newspapers in my free times.)
- If I have a choice, I will .....(a real possibility)

  (If I have a choice, I will swim in the pool not in the sea because sea sometimes has rough waters, but the indoor pool is always calm.)
- If I had a choice, I would.....

  (not a real possibility, just whishing)

  (If I had a choice, I would travel by plane not by train since airplane is safer, faster and more convenient in long distances.
- For me, A is much more attractive/ interesting/ preferable than B because.....

(For me, watching a film is more entertaining than reading a book because when I watch a movie, I can see different scenes and special effects whereas; in a book I have to imagine the characters to follow the story line.)

- I would much rather do/have/eat/ listen to.....A **than** B.

Note: "Would rather" is always followed by an **infinitive WITHOUT "TO".**

(I would rather shop in an old market than in a modern shopping mall.

Expressing Opinions"

- This is only my opinion but....
- After a lot of thought, I have come to the conclusion that ...
- I've never thought about this question much before, **but it seems to me** that there ought to be some facilities for senior citizens such as free medication.
- In my opinion/ in my view...
- Personally, I think/ believe...
- To my mind.....
- As far as I am concerned.....
- From my point of view....
- I think/ reckon/ presume...
- I (strongly/personally/honestly/firmly) believe that...



- I'm convinced that …
- My own feeling is…

"Comparing and Contrasting"

- **A** is much **better/ worse** than **B**
- **A** is not nearly **as** good **as B**
- When I **compare** these two items, it's clear that ….
- E-mails and memos can **be equally** effective as means of communication.
- **But/while/ whereas:** communication by fax is almost instant, whereas letters can take days to arrive.

"Describing likes/ Dislikes"

- I'm keen on… (ex: fishing)
- I'm fond of… (ex: watching TV)
- I'm into… (ex: mountain climbing)
- I adore… (ex: snorkeling)
- I am interested in … (ex: swimming)
- What I love to do is…(ex: jogging)
- I'm not keen on…(ex: playing chess)
- I can't stand…(ex: waiting in the queues for a long time)
- I hate/ dislike…(ex: watching football match)
- I'm not into…(ex: fashion/cooking)

Describing the Past & Present Events (PART III)

"Describing the Past"

- In those days,…
- It was common to see...
- Once,…
- Back in… (Period of time or past memory), they would…
- They used to…
- Until quite recently…

Describing the Present

- Nowadays, …
- They no longer have to…
- Since then, …
- Things are getting (better/ worse/improved)…
- People are becoming…
- These days…

Giving reasons (Justifying opinions) (for part III)

- **The (main) reason:** The reason I believe this is low crime rate.
- **That's because of** …..
- The **most important evidence** supporting my belief is…
- **Because:** because children spend so much time indoors, they may have health problems.
- **Because of/ as a result of:** their schoolwork can suffer because of/ as a result of having incompetent principle.
- **So/such:** some games are so realistic that children may…..
- **That's why**...: Fatty foods are fattening .That why I usually avoid them.

Speculating / Making Prediction about the future

- I'm not sure what might happen, but one possibility is…
- It's hard to predict the future, but I suppose it/ we might…
- I don't really know whether …
- It's quite likely that …
- It's possible that …
- It's not very likely that ….
- In the future, I think …
- I doubt whether ……..would happen.
- In the long run…
- In years to come….

Analyzing (for part III)

- There are several points to consider, first of which is…
- We can break this question down into several parts. First, …
- Let's look at this step by step. To begin with…



"Conversation Repair"

- May be I'm not making myself clear. I want to say that…
- What I mean to say is…
- What I'm trying to say is…
- Another way to put it is…

"Opening the Discussion"

- Well, in my view there's one main...
- I think it depends on…
- It's difficult to say because I've never…
- I don't …..but…
- I think there are a number of reasons……
- It's hard to say whether…
- It seems likely that…

"Describing Feelings & Concerns"

- I feel very strongly that….
- I'm rather concerned / worried about…
- ……..makes me feel a bit (worried/ upset)…..
- I'm very much in favor of …
- I don't have terribly strong views about….
- For me, this was interesting/horrible/fantastic/special because…

"Expressing the effects of something"

- It was then that I saw the value of…
- It taught me how to…
- I realized the importance of…
- From that point on, I've always...
- I was touched because the movie was based on true story.

"Expressing your Agreement"

- Yes, absolutely (because)….
- Yes, I think we should actually, (because)…..
- Yes, I personally like this (because)….

- I completely agree with this idea.
- I couldn't agree more on this.
- I can't agree more.
- My view about this is positive.
- I think it is a good idea because…
- There's a lot to be said for it, for instance…

"Expressing Disagreement"

- Not really, (because)….
- I don't really think….
- I'm afraid I can't agree with that idea (because)…
- I'm not sure that I agree with…
- To be honest, no (because)…
- I partially agree with you.
- That's one way of looking at it, but…
- I guess this idea is impractical.
- I am (completely) against it because…
- There are too many drawbacks/ dangers such as…

"Expressing your Partial Agreement (Hedging)"

- I'm not so sure. You could say…, but…
- It's hard to say. One way of looking at it is…, but…
- You may have a point, but…
- I partially (partly) agree with you.

"Making a suggestion Or Giving Advice"

- Maybe, Perhaps, Possibly
  Ex: perhaps you have to work hard to gain success.
- One possibility that I can think of is…..
- Another idea to think about is……
- I think we should…
- One idea would be to…



- One thing we could do, would be to…
- It would be a good idea to…
- I'm not an expert, but…
- Yes, in theory….but in practice…
- I read somewhere that …
- It's important / essential/ a good idea to…
- Try to (avoid/use/buy/ spend), etc…
- When (traveling/ on holiday), people shouldn't/ ought to, ought not to, must/ must not….

Summarizing

- Altogether, there were…
- In the end, they had to …
- Considering all of these factors, may be the best thing would

Chapter 2

IELTS SPEAKING
PART I

Warm-up

1. Can you tell me your name? **(IELTS Test Builder 2: 35,64)**
2. What's your name?
3. Where do you come from?
4. Tell me something about your family. **(High Impact IELTS: 8, 118)**
5. Tell me something about your parents.
6. What is your full name? **(IELTS practice test: 68)**
7. What do people usually call you?
8. Where are you from?

ANIMAL

1. What is your favorite animal? Why? **(IELTS Test Builder 2,:64)**
2. Do you like the same animal you liked when you were younger?
3. What can you learn about people from the animals they like?
4. Which animals are popular as pets in your country?

BICYCLE

1. Tell me about the use of bicycles in your country.**(IELTS Test Builder 2:119)**
2. How popular are bicycles in your country?
3. Are they used more now than in the past? Why?
4. What do bicycles mean to you?

BOOK

1. What kinds of things do you enjoy reading in English?**(IELTS Masterclass : 171)**
2. Are you someone who can read any where, or do you have a favorite place?
3. Do you need peace and quiet place to be able to read, or can you concentrate even in noisy situations?
4. How did you first learn to read? **(Step Up to IELTS:79)**
5. What did you prefer reading as a child?
6. Has your reading habit changed since you were a child?

COLOR

1. What is your favorite color? Why? **(Cambridge 5:54)**
2. Do you like the same colors now as you did when you were younger? Why?
3. What can you learn about people from the colors they like?
4. Do colors have special meaning in your culture?

COMPUTER

1. When did you first use a computer? **(Step Up to IELTS: 97)**
2. Do you think computers are bad for your health?
3. Which computer software do you use more?
4. What purpose did you use your computer for?

CLOTHING

1. How important are clothes and fashion to you? **(Cambridge 5: 100)**
2. What kind of clothes do you dislike? Why?
3. How different are the clothes you wear now from those you wore10 years ago?
4. What do you think the clothes we wear say about us?
5. How do you feel about shopping for clothes? **(Focus on IELTS: 132 (new)**
6. Would you prefer to have a lot of clothes or only a few, better quality ones?

CITY

1. Which town or city do you come from?**(Focus on IELTS: 30)**
2. What's the best thing about living there?
3. Is there any thing you don't like?
4. Which places would you recommend a tourist to visit?

DAILY ROUTINE

1. What would you like to change in your daily routine?**(Cambridge 3: 99)**
2. Are all your days the same?
3. Tell me about your typical weekday and your typical weekend.
4. What is the balance of work/ study and free time in your normal days?

DANCE

1. Do you enjoy dancing? Why? **(Cambridge 6: 32)**
2. Has any one ever taught you to dance?
3. Tell me about any traditional dancing in your country.
4. Do you think that traditional dancing will be popular in the future?

DREAM

1. How often do you have dreams?**(IETLS Objectives: 66)**
2. What do you dream about?
3. Why do some people have nightmares?
4. Is dreaming important to our well-being and health? Why?

EATING HABIT/ FOOD

1. What are your most/ least favorite foods? **(Focus on IELTS: 16)**
2. If you invite a friend round for a meal, what are you likely to offer him?
3. Do you prefer eating at home or in a restaurant? Why?
4. What special dish from your country would you recommend to a visitor?
5. What sorts of food do you enjoy eating more?
6. Do you spend much time shopping for food?
7. Which one do you prefer, eating at home or eating out?
8. Do you think people should be careful about what they eat?
9. Who prepares the meals you eat? Do you ever cook?
10. What do you think makes cooking easy, and what makes it difficult?
11. What is your opinion of time-saving kitchen equipment, such as a dishwasher or food processor? **(Qs 5-12, Exam Essentials IELTS: 130)**
12. What types of kitchen appliances and gadgets do you think will be useful in the future? **(Qs9-12, IELTS Objectives:52)**
13. What kind of food do you like? **(High Impact IETLS: 118)**
14. What do you know about Genetically Modified (GM) food?
15. What are the purposes of GM food?
16. Do you think there are any potential dangers of GM food? What are they? **(Qs 14-16, Instant IELTS: 29)**

17. What are your favorite foods? **(IELTS practice test: 68)**
18. Is there anything you never eat?
19. Where do you normally eat? Why?
20. In what ways are people's eating habits changing these days?
21. What kinds of foods do you like to eat? **(Cambridge 4: 56)**
22. What kind of new food would you like to try?
23. What was the last meal you cooked?
24. Do you prefer home-made food or food from restaurants? Why?

FRIEND

1. Do you prefer to have one particular friend or a group of friends? **(Cambridge6:100)**
2. What do you like doing most with your friends?
3. Do you think it's important to keep in touch with childhood friends?
4. What makes a good friend?
5. Tell me about your best friend. **(404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT:83)**
6. Are you friends mostly your age or different ages? **(Cambridge 4: 33)**
7. Do you usually see your friends during the week or at weekends?
8. The last time you saw your friends, what did you do together?
9. In what ways are your friends important to you?

FAMILY

1. Who do you live with? **(404Essential Tests for IELTS: 38)**
2. Do you spend much time with your family?
3. Is your family small or quite large? **(IELTS practice test: 68)**
4. What do you do when you are all together?
5. Do you have a large or small family? **(Cambridge 3: 29)**
6. What sort of things do you do with your family members?
7. Do you get on well with your family? Why?

FAVORITE/ SHOP

1. Are you loyal to any brands, i.e. do you always try to buy that particular brand? **(IELTS Objectives: 20)**
2. Do you want other people to know you buy a particular brand?

3. Do you buy any products without considering the brand name?
4. How do you feel about going shopping?
5. Do you like buying clothes or goods on the Internet? Why?
6. What don't you like about shopping?

FESTIVAL

1. Can you describe one of the main festivals celebrated in your country?
(IELTS Strategies For Study: 129)
2. Tell me something about the most important festival in your country?
3. What special food and activities are connected with this festival?
4. What do you most enjoy about it?
5. Do you think festivals are important for a country? Why? **(Qs 2-5, Cambridge 3: 53)**

FILM /MOVIE

1. Are film stars paid too much money, in your opinion?
2. Do you think there is too much violence in modern movies?
3. What do you think about film censorship? Is it necessary? **(Qs 1-3, Focus on IETLS: 165)**
4. What was the last film you saw? Did you enjoy it? **(Step Up to IELTS: 68)**
. Which actor do you like the most?
6. What do you know about Hollywood?

JOB

1. Can you tell me about the job you are doing? **(IELTS Masterclass : 34)**
2. What do you like or dislike about it?
3. What plans do you have for your career in the future?
4. How serious is unemployment in your country? **(IELTS Strategies For Study:129)**
5. Is English important in your chosen career? **(Test builder: 69)**
6. What do you hope to do in future?
7. Have you ever given up anything you used to do in free time? if so, what?
8. Which other hobbies or sports would you like to do?
9. Do you share similar interests with your friends?
10. How serious is unemployment in your country? **(IELTS Strategies for study:129)**

HEALTH/ KEEPING FIT

1. What kind of exercise do you do regularly? **(Focus on IELTS :9)**
2. What kind of exercise do you enjoy least?
3. Why is exercise good for health?
4. What kind of exercise would you suggest to someone who is very unfit?
5. What are the best ways to get fit and stay healthy? **(IELTS Masterclass: 33)**
6. Can attempts to improve fitness and health be dangerous?
7. What are the biggest dangers to our health these days?
8. What are the most significant recent breakthroughs in medicine?

HOBBY/ LEISURE ACTIVITY

1. What do you do in your spare time? **(IELTS Masterclass : 136)**
2. How long have you been interested in this activity?
3. Do you do this alone or with other people?
4. How much time do you spend doing this activity?
5. Where do you do it?
6. Do you need any special equipment to do it?
7. What is it about this particular activity that suits your personality?
8. Why is it generally beneficial for people to have hobbies?
9. How do you benefit from yours?
10. Is it an expensive hobby?
11. What are the disadvantages of your hobby?
12. What hobbies are popular in your country?
13. Which hobbies or interest you enjoy? **(Exam Essentials IELTS, 170)**
14. Which hobbies or interest you had when you were a child?
15. Do you think parents should encourage their children to have a hobby or interest?
16. Talk about your hobbies.**(High Impact IELTS: 213)**
17. Do you prefer to be indoors or outdoors? **(404,GT,:68, 83)**
18. How do you keep fit?
19. What do you do to relax in the evenings?
20. Do you like to relax with others or by yourself?
21. How do you spend your free times? **(Barron's IELTS: 118)**

22. How often do you do this activity or hobby?
23. Do you do it on your own or with other people?
24. Do you belong to a club related to this hobby/ activity?
25. How did you learn about how to do this hobby/ activity?
26. Do you need special equipment for it?
27. What do you like most about it?
28. What kind of things do you do in your free time? **(Test builder:126)**
29. How long have you been doing them?
30. What is it about them that you enjoy particularly?
31. What you do in your spare time? **(IELTS practice test: 36)**
32. Do you have any hobbies or interest?
33. How did you first become interested in that?
34. Do you have any hobbies or interests? Why? **(Cambridge 4: 80)**
35. How did you become interested in (whatever hobbies the candidate mentions)?
36. What is there in your country/ hometown to do in your free times?

HOMETOWN / BIRTHPLACE

1. Describe a place where you were born? **(IELTS Test Builder 2 :35)**
2. Tell me about the main types of buildings there.
3. How have buildings in your hometown changed since you were a child?
4. Can you describe your home town for me? **(404, GT:38)**
5. Which part of your country do most people live? **(Cambridge 5:31)**
6. Tell me about the main industries in your city.
7. Tell me about your hometown. **(High Impact IETLS : 58, 118, 213)**
8. Can you describe your home town?
9. Where is your hometown? **(Step Up to IELTS: 97)**
10. Where were you born?**(IELTS Strategies for study :121)**
11. What part of the city do you live in?
12. What are the main tourist attractions in your country?

MUSEUM

1- Which museums have you visited recently? **(IELTS Masterclass : 158)**

2- What did you enjoy seeing there?

3- Which famous museum would you like to visit?

4- Which collections would you particularly like to see there?

MUSIC

1. Which instruments do you like listening to most? Why? **(Cambridge 6 : 54)**

2. Have you ever learned to play a musical instrument at school? Why?

3. Do you think children should learn to play a musical instrument at school?

4. How easy would it be to learn to play an instrument without a teacher?

5. What is the national music of your country? What instruments are used?

6. How important is music in your culture and traditions?

7. On what occasions does music play an important role in your country?

(Qs 5-7, Focus on IELTS:56)

8. How important is music in your life? **(IELTS Objectives:58)**

NEWS

1. Where do you normally get news from? **(IELTS practice test:68)**

2. How do you think news reporting in your country differs from the abroad?

3. Tell me about an interesting news items you've read or heard recently?

PHOTOGRAPH

1. Is photography becoming more popular these days, in your experience?

(Focus on IELTS :165)

2. Would you agree with the saying:" Camera never lies"?

3. Would you say photography is an art?

SCHOOL

1. Do you enjoy your time at school? **(IELTS Practice Test: 129)**

2. Would you recommend your school to others?

3. What subject did you find most interesting when you were at school?
4. Apart from classes, what else did you enjoy at school?
5. Do you think you will stay friends with people from your school?
6. What study or training would you like to do in the future?

(Qs 3-6, Exam Essentials IELTS: 130)

7. What were your favorite subjects at school? **(404 IELTS, GT: 68)**
8. Did you learn a language at school? **(Test builder: 37)**
9. How long have you been studying?
10. What subject did you find the most difficult to study?
11. What do you like/dislike about studying?
12. Do you hope to gain any qualifications?
13. Do hope to do any further studies in the future? **(IELTS Practice Test:95)**
14. What do you remember about your first school, when you were a child?
15. In what ways have life changed since you were a child?
16. What was your favorite subject? Why?
17. What did you study at high school? **(IELTS Strategies for study:127)**
18. Which is the most popular sport in your country?
19. How do people spend their weekends in your home town?
20. Could you tell me why you choose to study at ……University?

SEA

1. Do you live near the sea? **(Step Up to IELTS: 28)**
2. How do you feel when you are near the sea?
3. What do you like/ dislike about the sea?
4. Would you like to live on an island? Why?

SPORT

1. What sports do you like? **(High Impact IELTS: 34)**
2. What sports are played in your country?
3. What are sporting facilities like in your home town? **(IELTS Strategies for Study: 128,129)**
4. What is your favorite sport? **(Step Up to IELTS:9)**
5. When did you become interested in it?
6. How often do you participate in this sport?

7. What equipment do you need for that sport?
8. Where do you do this sport?
9. What sports are played in your country? **(IELTS Strategies for study :128-129)**
10. What are sporting facilities like in your home town?

TELEVISION

1. Do you watch a lot of TV? **(IELTS Test Builder 2:92)**
2. Tell me bout TV in your country.
3. Do you watch a lot of TV?
4. What is your favorite TV program?
5. Is TV more important to you now than in the past?
6. How often do you watch TV? **(High Impact IELTS:213)**

TRAVEL/TOURISM/HOLIDAY

1. What are the benefits of visiting different countries? **(IELTS Foundation: 36)**
2. What are the negative effects of tourism?
3. What do you need to do before you go abroad on holiday?
4. What type of problems can people have on holiday?
5. How should countries encourage tourists to come to their country?
6. How do you think tourism in your country will change in the future?
7. How easy is it to travel around your country? **(Cambridge 5:31)**
8. Where would you like to travel in future? **(404, GT:83)**
9. What role does tourism play in your country's economy? **(IELTS Strategies For Study: 128)**
10. Is there any thing you don't like doing on holiday? **(Step Up to IELTS:9)**
11. Do you prefer to spend your holidays alone or with your friends?
12. What is your favorite holiday activity?
13. Do you enjoy traveling? **(Step Up to IELTS:22)**
14. Tell me about the best place you have ever visited.
15. Do you agree with the saying" Travel broadens the mind"?
16. What experience do you have of traveling to other countries?
17. Country would you especially like to visit? Why? **(Qs 16-17, IELTS practice test:95)**
18. What are the main tourist attractions there? **(IELTS practice test :117)**

IETLS SPEAKING TOPICS
PART 2

ACCIDENT

Describe a minor accident that you had in the past.
You should say:
How the accident happened
What you did about it
How long you took to recover
and explain how you felt about the accident

Step Up To IETLS: 55

ADVERTISEMENT

Describe an advertisement that you
have seen recently. You should say:
What the advertisement was about
Where you saw it
How effective the ad was
and explain how you felt about it

404 Essential Tests for IELTS: 83 **(Real Test)**

Describe an advertising photo or TV image
you have seen and you think was effective
You should say:
Where you saw it
What it was advertising
What it showed
and explain why you think this photo
or TV image was effective

Focus on IELTS: 132 (new)

AMBITION

Describe an ambition you have for the future.
You should say:
What this ambition is
When you expect to achieve it
How it will change your life in the future
and explain why this ambition is important to you

IELTS Objectives: 89

ANIMAL/ PET

Talk about a pet that you once had.
You should say:
What kind of animal it was
What kind of care it needed
What you liked/didn't like about it
and say whether it is a popular pet to own or not
and why.

Barron's IELTS :120 **(Real Test)**

APARTMENT/ HOUSE

Describe a house/ an apartment you have lived
You should say:

Why you liked living there
When you lived there
How it looked inside
and explain what kind of area it was in.

Focusing on IELTS: 93

AMBITION

Describe an ambition you have for the future.
You should say:
What this ambition is
When you expect to achieve it
How it will change your life in the future
and explain why this ambition is important to you

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Talk about a pet that you once had.
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What kind of animal it was
What kind of care it needed
What you liked/didn't like about it
and say whether it is a popular pet to own or not
and why.

Barron's IELTS :120 **(Real Test)**

APARTMENT/ HOUSE

Describe a house/ an apartment you have lived
You should say:

Why you liked living there
When you lived there
How it looked inside
and explain what kind of area it was in.

Focusing on IELTS: 93

BOOK

Describe a book you enjoyed reading
You should say:
What the book was
What it was about
When you read it
and explain whether you liked it or not and why.

Focus on IELTS : 118

Describe an important book you have read.
You should say:
What it was about
Why you read it
When you read it
and explain what impact it had on you.

High Impact IELTS : 152 **(Real Test)**

Describe a book you have read
You should say:
What type of book it was
What it was about
When you read it
and explain how you liked it.

Step Up to IETLS: 78

Describe a book you have read.
You should say:
What the name of book is
What it is about
When you read it
and explain whether you like it or not, and why.

Preparation and Practice: 58

Describe a book you have enjoyed reading.
You should say:
What the book was and who it was written by
What it was about
When and where you read it
and explain what you liked about it.

IELTS Masterclass: 172 **(Real Test)**

BUILDING

Describe a building or construction you have seen that impressed you.
You should say:
What it was an old or new construction
Where it was
How big it was
and explain what you liked or disliked about it.

IELTS Preparation And Practice: 65 **(Real Test)**

CHOICE

Describe an important choice you had to make in your life.
You should say:
When you had to make this choice
What you had to choose between
Whether you made a good choice
and explain how you felt about your choice.

Cambridge 6 :100

CHILDHOOD

Describe something you enjoy doing as a child.
You should say:
What you did
When you did it
If you still do it
and explain why you enjoyed it so much.

High Impact IELTS :51

Talk about a person from your childhood whom you particularly admired.
You should explain:
Your relationship to him or her
What he or she did
What you admired about this person

IELTS Practice Test : 27

CITY/ TOWN

Describe a city you know well.
You should say:
How big the city is
What kind of building it has
What transportation is available there
and explain what you particularly like or dislike about that city.

IELTS Objectives: 60

Describe a city that you would like to visit in the future.
You should say:
Where the city is
How you would travel there
What you would do there
and explain why you would like to visit this city.

Insight into IELTS: 148 **(Real Test)**

Describe a place you have lived in that you particularly liked.
You should say:
When you lived there
Who you lived with
What was most memorable about this place
and explain why you liked it so much.

New Insight into IELTS:148

Describe a city you have visited which has impressed you. You should say:
Where it is located
Why you visited it
What you liked about it
and explain why it impressed you.

IELTS practice test: 50 **(Real Test)**

Describe a town you have enjoyed visiting.
You should say:
Why you went to the town
Who you saw there
What you did there
and explain why you enjoyed visiting the town.

Exam Essentials IELTS:130

COMPETITION

Describe a competition that you have entered
You should say:
When the competition took place
What you had to do
How well you did it
and explain why participated in that competition.

IELTS Practice test:71

DREAM

Describe a dream you remember well.
You should say:
What it was about
How you felt about that
What it could indicate
and explain why you remember it so well.

IELTS Objectives: 69 **(Real Test)**

DAY

Describe a typical day at work, school or college.
You should say:
What you do
When you do it
How long you've had this routine
and what would you like to change in your work or study routine.

IELTS Plus 2:37

EVENT-EXPERIENCE

Describe a memorable event in your life.
You should say:
When the event took place
Where the event took place
What happened exactly
and explain why this event was memorable for you.

Cambridge 3: 75

Describe a particular event in which you were successful,
eg. an exam, sport event, etc.
You should say:
What the situation was
When and where it happen
What preparation was involved
and explain how you felt about achieving this success.

IELTS Foundation: 144

Describe a special occasion for which you arrivedlate.
You should say:
What occasion you were late for
When it happened
How you felt
and explain why you were late.

IELTS Test Builder 2 :64

Describe an exciting experience in your life.
You should say:
When the experience took place
Where the experience took place
What happened exactly
and explain why the experience was so exciting.

Instant IELTS:121

Describe an interesting or important event in your life.
You should say:
What the event was
Where and when it took place
Who else was there at the time
and explain what made it so interesting for you.

Preparation and Practice: 66 **(Real Test)**

Describe a big public event that you have attended.
You should say:
What it was
When it was held
What happened
and describe why it was held.

Focus on IELTS :70

Describe an enjoyable event that you experienced when you were at school.
You should say:
What happened
What was good about it
Why you particularly remember this event.

IELTS Practice Test: 129

Describe a family event you are looking forward to.
You should say:
What the event is
Where it will be held
What you will do at this event
and explain why you are looking forward to this family event.

IELTS Plus 2:127

EVNIRONMENT

Describe a serious environmental problem
in your country. You should say:
What it is
What the effects of this problem are
What causes that problem
and explain what can be done to solve this problem.

Step Up to IETLS : 80 **(Real Test)**

FAMILY

Describe someone in your family who you like.
You should say:
How this person is related to you
What this person looks like
What kind pf person he/she is
and why you like this person.

Cambridge 6: 32 **(Real Test)**

Describe the member of your family who is the most successful.
You should say:
Who this person is
How often you see each other
What this person does
and explain why he/ she is successful.

New Insight into IELTS : 147

Describe the person in your family who you most admire.
You should say:
What their relationship is to you
What they have done in their life
What they do now
and explain why you admire them so much.

Instant IELTS: 119 **(Real Test)**

Describe the member of your family who is
the most successful.
You should say:
Who this person is
How often you see each other
What this person does
and explain why he/she is successful.

New Insight into IELTS:147 (Real Test)

Describe a special family member.
You should say:
Who the person is
Why they are so special
What you usually do together
and describe a special time you have spent with that person.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT:52

FAVORITES

Describe your favorite television program
You should say:
What type of program it is
What happens during the program
When you watch it
and explain why you enjoy it so much.

Instant IELTS : 39 **(Real Test)**

Describe your favorite way to relax.
You should say:
What it is
When you started doing it
How often you do it
and explain how it relaxes you.

High Impact IELTS: 119

Describe your favorite subject at school.
You should say:
When you studied it
What the subject was
What the teacher was like
and explain why it was your favorite subject.

High Impact IELTS: 133 **(Real Test)**

Describe your favorite type of dress.
You should say:
What kind of clothes you like to wear
What fabrics and colors you prefer
What / who influences you in your choice of clothes
and explain whether clothes are important for you.

Focus On IELTS:158-9

FAVORITE/ SHOP

Describe your favorite shop.
You should say:
Where it is
What things it sells
What sort of people are its customers
and explain why you like the shop so much

Instant IELTS :120

FESTIVAL/ CELEBRATION

Describe a festival that is important in your country.
You should say:
When the festival occurs
What you did during it
What you like/ dislike about it
and explain why this festival is important.

Cambridge 5:100 **(Real Test)**

Describe an important traditional festival from your country.
You should say:
When it happens
Why it is celebrated
What is special about it
and explain why it is more important
than other festivals.

High Impact IELTS: 95 **(Real Test)**

Talk about your favorite festival.
You should say:
Where it is
What it is celebrating
What makes you enjoy the things that happen
and explain why this festival is important to you.

Prepare for IELTS:130

Describe a festival or cultural event that you celebrate in your country.
You should say:
What the event is
How often the event takes place
Who participates in this event
and explain why this festival/event is important for you.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT: 38

Describe a celebration you remember.

You should say:
What event was being celebrated
Where the celebration took place
Why it was enjoyable
and explain why it is memorable for you.

Test Builders :99

FILM -SEE MOVIE

FOOD

Describe a special dish from your country.
You should say:
What it is
How it is prepared
Where it is served
and explain if you recommend it to a visitor or not, and why.

Focus on IELTS: 16 **(Real Test)**

Describe a traditional meal in your country.
You should say:
How it is prepared
When it is usually eaten
What, if any, is the significance or importance of the meal
and explain whether you enjoy the traditional food of your country.

Test builder:126 **(Real Test)**

Describe how to cook a meal you like
You should say:
What it is
When you eat it
What you need to make it
and explain how you made it.

High Impact IELTS : 107

Describe typical dish from your country that you would like to give a visitor from another country. You should say:
What it is made from
When it is eaten
Why this dish is popular
and explain how you like this dish.

IELTS Foundation: 11

Describe a popular food from your country.
You should say:
What it is
How it is made
When it is eaten
and explain why it is more popular than other dishes

Impact IELTS:95 **(Real Test)**

Describe how to cook a meal you like.
You should say:
What it is
When you eat it
What you need to make it
and explain why you like it.

Impact IELTS: 107

Describe a traditional meal in your country.
You should say:
What the meal is
How it is prepared
When it is usually eaten
and explain what, if any, is the importance of the

Test Builder:126

FREE TIMES/LEISURE ACTIVITY/ HOBBY

Describe a leisure activity that you enjoy
You should say:
What the activity is
Where and when you take part in it
What it involves
and explain why you enjoy it so much

Focus on IELTS:51

Describe your favorite leisure activity.
You should say:
What it is
How often you so it
When you first started doing it
and explain why it is important to you

High Impact IELTS: 39

Describe what you most enjoy doing in your free time. You should say:
Why you enjoy it so much
When you do it
What the activity consist of
and explain how you took it up in the first place

Instant IELTS: 39 **(Real Test)**

Describe something you do in your free time.
You should say:
What kind of activity you do
When you do it
Where you do it
and explain why you like doing it.

Focus on IELTS:59 (new)

Describe a leisure activity (a game, hobby, or sport) that is popular in your country. You should say:
What this activity is and what people
Where they do it
Why people enjoy doing this activity
and explain what you like/dislike about this activity.

IELTS Foundation:11 **(Real Test)**

Describe an activity such a hobby you like doing.
You should say:
What the activity is.
When you started doing it
What you like about the activity
and explain why this activity is important to you.

IELTS Test Builder 2:92

Describe an interest or hobby that you enjoy.
You should say:
How you became interested in it.
How long you have been doing it?
Why you enjoy it.
and explain what benefits you get from this interest or hobby.

(Cambridge 4: 56)

Describe the thing you most like to do when you have time some free time.
You should say:
What it is
What you do
What makes you enjoy the activity
and explain why this activity is important to you.

Prepare for IELTS:129

GAME/ SPORT

Describe a game/sport you enjoy playing.
You should say:
What kind of game or sport it is
Who you play with
Where you play it
and explain why you enjoy playing it.

Cambridge 6:77

GIFT/ PRESENT

Describe a present you bought which gave someone a lot of pleasure. You should say:
What the present was
Who it was for
Why you chose it
and explain why the person who received it was so pleased.

Focus On IELTS : 183 **(Real Test)**

HAZADR/ RISK/ DANGER

Describe a natural hazard you have experienced.
You should say
What it was
When and where it happened
What happened
and explain how you felt about that.

Focus On IELTS : 80

HEALTH/ Keeping Fit

Describe something healthy you enjoy doing
You should say:
What you do
Where you do it
Who you do it with
and explain why you think doing this is important.

Cambridge 6 : 54

Describe an activity you have done to keep fit
You should say:
What activity it was
What you did exactly
How long you did this activity
and explain whether the activity was successful.

IELTS Foundation: 94

HOLIDAY

Describe a family holiday you have been on which you particularly enjoyed. You should say:
Where you went
How you traveled there
What you remember most about the family
and explain why you particularly enjoyed this holiday.

New Insight Into IELTS : 150

Describe the best holiday you have had.
You should say:
Where you went
What it was like
What you did
and explain why it was the best holiday you have had.

High Impact IELTS: 177

HISTORY

Describe life in a particular period of history.
You should say:
Which period you have chosen
What were the benefits of life then
What were the drawbacks of life then
and explain if you would like to have lived then.

Objective IELTS:133 **(Real Test)**

JOB

Describe the job you most like to have.
You should say:
What this job would be
Where you would work
Which qualifications you would need
and explain Why you like to have this job.

Exam Essentials IETLS:170

Describe your first day in a new job.
You should say:
What the job was
What you expected before you started
What happened on the first day
and explain how you felt at the end of the day.

IELTS OBJECTIVES: 125 **(Real Test)**

Describe what you regard as the ideal job
You should say:
What job it would be
Why you consider it ideal
What other people think of that job
and explain how you would benefit from having that job.

IELTS Objectives : 127

Describe a job you have done in the past which you particularly enjoyed. You should say:
What the job consisted of
Who you worked for
What part job was challenging
and explain why you find this job so enjoyable.

Instant IELTS : 27

Describe a job which you would like to do in future. You should say:
What the job consists of.
Where you would like to do
What qualifications are needed for that job
and explain what attracts you to that job.

IELTS Foundation: 54 **(Real Test)**

Describe a job you would like to do in future.
You should say:
Why you are attracted to this job
How much training would be necessary
What kind of personal qualities it would require
and explain why you would like to do this job.

New Insight into IELTS: 148

Describe the job or career you have, or hope to have.
You should say:
What the job is
What it involves
Why you chose it
and explain why it is rewarding.

TEST Builders :68

Letter-E-Mail

Describe an important letter you received
You should say:
Who the letter was from
What it was about
Why it was important
and explain how you felt about it.

Focus on IELTS: 118 **(Real Test)**

Describe an e-mail or a letter you wrote to a particular person.
You should say:
Who the person was
What you usually wrote
How often you communicated with him
and explain why you sent an e-mail/a letter to him.

IELTS Foundations : 122

MOVIE /FILM

Describe a film you have enjoyed watching.
You should say:
What type of movie it was
What was it about
When and where you saw it
and explain how you liked it.

Focus on IELTS:164

Describe a film you have seen.
You should say:
What it was about
How popular it was
What you thought about the actors
and explain why you remember it.

Focusing IETLS:93

Describe a movie that had a great impression on you.
You should say:
What type of movie it was
Why you saw it
What it was about
and explain why it made such a strong impression on you.

High Impact IELTS : 164 (Real Test)
& Cambridge 3: 53

Describe a film that you particularly like.
You should say:
What it was about
What happened in the film
How did you liked it
and say what sort of people you think would enjoy this film.

Step Up to IETLS: 72

MUSIC

Describe a song or a piece of music you like
You should say:
What the song/ music is
What kind of song or music it is
Where you first heard it
and explain why you liked it.

Cambridge 5: 54

Describe a popular musical instrument in your country.
You should say:
What it is
How it is played
What sort of music can it play
and explain why is it so popular.

Focus on IELTS: 56 **(Real Test)**

Describe a music or concert that has made an impression on you.
You should say:
What kind of music it was and who performed it
What it was like musically
What it was like virtually
and explain why you liked or disliked it.

IELTS Practice Test:69 **(Real Test)**

MONEY

Describe an occasion when you couldn't pay for something you wanted.
You should say:
What you wanted to pay for
Why you weren't able to pay
What you did
and explain how you felt about the situation.

IELTS Objectives:34

MAGAZINE/ NEWS PAPERS

Describe a newspaper or magazine you enjoy reading.
You should say:
What kind of newspaper or magazine it is
How often you buy it
What articles and information it contains
and explain why you enjoy reading it

Instant IELTS: 121 & IELTS Masterclass : 172 (Real Test)

MUSEUM

Describe a museum or an art gallery that you have visited.
You should say:
Where it is
What the building is like
Why you went there
and explain what you particularly remember about the place.

IELTS Practice Test: 111 (Real Test)

Describe a museum that you have visited.
You should say:
Where it is located and what kind of museum it is
What specific you can see there
When and why you last visited it
and discuss how it compares to other museums you have visited

Barron's IELTS:119 (Real Test)

NATURAL SCENERY

Describe a natural feature of an area or country that you know.
You should say:
Which are you are going to describe
What natural features the area has
What the natural features look like
and explain how you feel about it.

IELTS Objectives: 73 **(Real Test)**

Describe a river, lake or sea which you like.
You should say:
What the river, lake or sea is called
Where it is
What the land it is like
and explain why you like this river , lake or sea.

Cambridge 4:80

Describe a river, lake or beach that you know.
You should say
Where it is
What it looks like
What people use it for
and explain whether you like it or not.

Focusing: 93

Describe an area of country side you know and like.
You should say:
Where it is
What its special features are
What you and other people do in this area
and explain why you like it.

IELTS Master Class : 28

Describe a place you know that has a beautiful environment
You should say:
Where it is located
What it looks like
When you first went there
and explain why you find this place beautiful.

Focus on IELTS :62 (NEW)

OBJECT/ GADGET/MACHINE

Describe an object that you particularly like.
You should say:
What it is and what it looks like
What it is made of
What it is for
and explain why it is special to you

IETLS Master Class: 148

Describe a machine that has made a big impact on your life.
You should say:
What this machine is and what you use it for
Why you bought this particular machine
How often you use it
and explain what difference it has made to your life.

IELTS Foundation: 108

PARTY

Describe a party you particularly remember
You should say:
Why the party was held
Who attended the party
What happened there
and explain what made it memorable.

Focus On IELTS: 70 **(Real Test)**

Describe a birthday celebration that you attended recently.
You should say:
Whose birthday it was
Who attended the party
Where the party took place
and describe some activities that happened at the party.

Barron's IELTS:120

Describe a celebration you remember.
You should say:
What it was
Where the celebration took place
Who was there
and explain why it is memorable for you.

Test builder:98

PERSON (FAMOUS/ INFUENTIAL)

Describe a well-known person you admire
You should say:
Who this person is
What this person has done
Why this person is well-known
and explain why you admire this person.

Cambridge 5 : 31

Describe a person who had great influence on you.
You should say:
Who the person is
When you met
What they were like
and explain why they had such an influence on you.

High Impact IELTS: 213 (Real Test)

Describe a famous person you know, who has achieved great success.
You should say:
Who they are and what they do
Where they come from: their background
How they became successful
and explain why you admire this person.

IELTS Practice Test:37

Describe someone who is popular in your neighborhood.
You should say:
Who this person is
When you first met this person
What sort of person s/he is
and explain why you think this person is popular.

Focus on IELTS:40 (new)

Describe a person that you met recently and liked.
You should say:
Who this person is
What you were doing at the time
How you met him/her
and explain why you liked this person

IELTS Plus 2:87

Describe a person who has had a great influence on your life.
You should say:
Who the person is
Why the person has had such an influence on your life
How you know the person
and explain how you feel about the person.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT:68 **(Real Test)**

Describe a well-known person from the world of sport (or film) that you would like to meet.
You should say:
Who this person is
What this person has done
Why this person is well-known
and explain why you would like to meet this person.

TELTS Test Builder 2: 119

Describe an artist or an entertainer you admire.
You should say:
Who they are and what they do
How they become successful
How you found out about them
and explain why you admire them.

IETLS Master Class: 52

Describe a famous person that has/ had great influence on the people of your country.
You should say:
Who that person was
What that person did
How you feel about that person
and explain whether or not that person will continue to be an influence in the future.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS, Academic: 38

Describe a friend who is very important to you.
You should say:
Who they are
How you met
What they are like
and explain why they are special to you.

Impact IELTS:26

PERSONAL POSSESION

Describe something you own which is very important to you.
You should say:
Where you got it from
How long you have had it
What you used it for
and explain why it is so important.

Cambridge 3: 99 **(Real Test)**

Describe a personal possession which means a lot to you. You should say:
What the item is
What it looks like
Where you keep it
and explain why it's important to you.

Focus on IELTS : 63

Describe something you own that has a special significance for you.
You should say:
What it is
Where you got it
How you got it
and why it has special significance for you.

High Impact IETLS : 21 **(Real Test)**

Describe a piece of equipment you use at home
You should say:
What it is
How often you use it
Where it can be bought
and explain how it is used.

Impact IELTS : 108

Describe your favorite possession.
You should say:
What it is
When you obtained it
What you liked it about
and explain why this item is important to you.

IETLS Tests Builder 2:35

Describe something you owned that it is or was important to you.
You should say:
What the item is
When and how you got it
and say if you still have it.

Preparation & Practice : 61

PLACE

Describe an interesting historic place.
You should say:
When it is
Where it is located
What you can see there now
and explain why this place is interesting

Cambridge 4:33 (Real Test)

Describe a place you would like to visit.
You should say:
Where it is
What you can do there
What is special about it
and explain why you would like to go there more than any where else.

High Impact IELTS :74

Describe a place you have lived in that you particularly liked.
You should say:
When you lived there
Who you lived with
What was memorable about this place
and explain why you liked it so much.

New Insight Into IELTS:146

Describe a beautiful place to visit in your country.
You should say:
Where it is
How to get there
What there is to do
and explain why you recommend this place.

Instant IELTS: 118-119



Describe a part of the world you would like to visit.
You should say:
Where it is
How and what you know about it
What you would like to do there
and explain why you would like to visit this part of the world.

IELTS PLUS 2:65

Describe a place you would like to visit.
You should say:
Where it is
What you can do there
What it special it
and explain why you would like to go there more than any where else.

Impact IELTS:74 **(Real Test)**

Describe a place that has a special meaning to you.
You should say:
What kind of place it is and where it is
What it looks like
What sounds you associate with it
and explain why you particularly like the place.

IELTS Practice Test: 96

PHOTOGRAPH

Describe a photograph you have taken which is important to you.
You should say:
What the picture shows
When and why you took it
Where you kept it
and explain what is special about it.

Focus on IELTS: 164 **(Real Test)**

SCHOOL

Describe a teacher who has influenced you in your education.
You should say:
Where you met him/ her
What subject he/she taught
What was special about them
and explain why this person influenced you so much.

Cambridge 3 : 29 **(Real Test)**

Describe a teacher who has had an important influence on your education. You should say:
What he/ she was like
What subject he taught
What you liked about his teaching
and say in what way this teacher influenced you

Focus on IELTS : 96 **(Real Test)**

Describe a special school or college event that you remember well.
You should say:
What the event was
What happened during it
Who was there
and explain why you remember this event so well.

Focus on IELTS:78 (new) **(Real Test)**

Describe the most important thing you learned at school.
You should say:
What it was
When you learnt it
How you were taught
and explain how it has been important to you in your life

High Impact IELTS:142

Describe your school life.
You should say:
How long your school day was
What subjects you studied
Who your favorite teachers were
and explain whether or not you think that your education was useful.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT:83

Describe a subject you enjoyed studying at school.
You should say:
When and where you started studying it
What the lessons were like
What made this subject different from other subjects
and explain why you enjoyed the subject.

IELTS Masterclass : 76 **(Real Test)**

Describe a job you would like to do in the future.
You should say:
What the job is
Why you would like to do this job
What skills are needed to do this job well
and explain why you would like most about this job.

IELTS Foundation: 76

Describe a school which you went to.
You should say:
What it was like
How many people studied there
How long you spent there
and say what you liked and disliked about it.

Instant IELTS: 121

Talk about your favorite subject at your school.
You should say:
When you studied it
What the subject was
What the teacher was like
and explain why it was your favorite subject.

Impact IELTS:142

Describe an educational course you have done.
You should say:
What kind of course it was
Where you did it
Why you did it
and explain what you liked/ disliked about the course.

Instant IELTS: 62

Describe a school you once attended.
You should say:
What the school classrooms looked like
What the teachers were like
How the subjects were taught
and explain whether it was a good school or not, and why.

Step Up to IETLS :50

SHOPPING

Describe something you bought that you were not happy with.
You should say:
What you bought
Why you were not happy with
What you did with it
and explain how you felt about the situation.

IELTS Plus 2:108

SKILL

Describe a skill you have developed.
You should say:
What it is
How you learnt it
When and where you learnt it
and explain how it affected your life.

IELTS Objectives : 79 **(Real Test)**

SPORTS

Describe a popular sport in your country
You should say:
What it is
What equipment is needed for that sport
How is it done
and explain why it is so popular.

Focus On IELTS : 15 **(Real Test)**

Describe a memorable sporting event that you participated in or watched.
You should say:
What the event was
Why the event is memorable
How you felt at the event
and explain whether winning or losing is a significant memory or not.

404 Essential Tests for IELTS :68

STRESS

Describe how you behaved in a stressful situation.
You should say:
What the situation was
How you behaved
How other people might have behaved
and explain how you felt about your behaved afterwards.

IELTS Objectives : 104

TRAVEL/TRIP/TOURISM

Describe a tourist attraction site you have visited.
You should say:
What the attraction was
When you visited it
What you saw and did there
and explain how you liked it.

Focus on IELTS :148

Describe a tourist attraction you would like to visit.
You should say:
What the attraction is
What can you see and do there
How you know about it
and explain why you would particularly like to go there.

Focus on IELTS: 148

Describe a place you would like to visit.
You should say:
Where it is
What you can do there
What is special about it
and explain why you would like to go there more than any where else

High Impact IELTS: 74 **(Real test)**

Describe a holiday you would like to go on.
You should say:
What place you would like to go
How you would like to get there
What you would like to do there
and explain why you liked it.

Exam Essentials IELTS:110

Describe a trip you have taken recently.
You should say:
Where you went
Who went with you
Why you went there
and describe some things you saw and what you did on your trip.

Barron's IELTS :121

Describe a tourist trip that you have been on which you particularly enjoyed.
You should say:
Where you went
Why you took the trip
What you remember most about the trip
and Why you particularly enjoyed the trip.

New Insight into IELTS:148 **(Real Test)**

Describe a family holiday you have been on holiday which you particularly enjoyed.
You should say:
Where you went
How you traveled there
What you remember most about the
and explain why you enjoyed it

New Insight into IELTS:148

TRANSPORTATION/ VEHICLE

Describe your favorite way to travel.
You should say:
What it is
When you first did it
How often you do it
and explain why it is your favorite.

TEST Builders:36

Describe the main forms of transport in your hometown.
You should say:
What the different forms of transport are
How often you use them
Which type of transportation is most popular
and explain whether or not the transportation system is satisfactory.

Impact IELTS: 190 **(Real Test)**

Describe a vehicle you would like to have.
You should say:
What type of car it is
What it is like
What its features are
and explain why you like to have it.

Step Up to IETLS :62

Describe a transport problem in your city/town
You should say:
What the problem is
What the causes are
How it affects you
and explain how you think it might be solved.

Focus on IELTS :115 (new)

Describe your journey to school or work.
You should say:
What form of transport is involved
What the importance of that is
and explain how you would make your journey more pleasant if you could.

Test builder: 37

WRITING

Describe something you have written that you are proud of.
You should say:
Where and when you wrote it
Why you wrote it
What it was about
and explain why you were particularly proud of that.

Step up to IELTS : 96

WEB SITE

Describe a useful Website your have visited.
You should say:
What the website was
How you found the address for this site
What the website contains
and explain why it was useful to you.

Cambridge 4:102 **(Real Test)**

IETLS SPEAKING TOPICS PART 3
(Follow-Up Questions)

ANIMAL/PET

1. In what ways are humans different from other animals? **(IELTS Masterclass:124)**
2. What are the main roles of animals in your country?
3. In what ways humans are different from other animals?
4. Which species are endangered in your country? Why?
5. Do you think modern farming methods are cruel to animals?
6. Why do many people refuse to eat meat?
7. Why do people have pets? **(Barron's IELTS p.127)**
8. In your opinion, what kind of animal makes the best pet?
9. In what different ways have animals been useful to people throughout history?
10. How are people attitudes toward animals different now than they were in the past?

ADVERTISEMENT

1. What's the most popular form of advertising in your country?**(404 ,Academic 83)**
2. Would you like to work for an advertising company?
3. Do you agree that advertisements for smoking should be banned?
4. What role does advertising play in your society?
5. How has advertising contributed to globalization?
6. How might advertising change in the future?
7. Some people think advertising can be dangerous. Would you agree or disagree with that? **(Focus on IELTS: 133(new)**
8. Do you think that governments should use laws to protect people from advertising?
9. How well people be able to resist advertising in the future?

1. Can you describe some of the benefits of living in an apartment, as opposed to a house?**(Step Up To IELTS: 88)**
2. In the last century, why do you think we more skyscrapers were built?
3. These days we see more "green" buildings that are environmentally friendly. What do you think is the reason for this?
4. Why do many people leave home when they are still quite young? **(IELTS Practice Test: 96)**
5. What personal qualities do you feel are required for a young person to live alone?

BOOK

1. Why do you think some people write books? **(Focus on IELTS : 118)**
2. What type of books do you read often?
3. Do you prefer to read a book or watch a movie on the same subject and why?
4. Are books essential in the 21st century? **(IELTS Objectives: 118)**
5. Can the books we read tell us about real life?
6. Is it possible to define literature?
7. What benefits are gained from studying literature?
8. How important is it for children to learn to read? **(IELTS Masterclass: 172)**
9. What are the disadvantages for adults who can not read?
10. How can children be encouraged to read for enjoyment?
11. How reading books is different from watching TV or playing computer games?
12. Do you think reading will become an important ability in the future?
13. Do you think a time will come when people get all factual information from the Internet?
14. Why do you think some people decide to write a book? **(Step Up to IETLS: 78)**
15. Do you think newspapers are a good source of information?
16. How often do you read a newspaper?
17. Should newspapers contain illustrations? Why?
18. What can we do to encourage young people to read more?**(New Insight into IELTS: 156)**

BUILDING

1. How do people in your country feel about protecting historic buildings?
2. Do you think an area can benefit from having an interesting historic place locally? In what way ?
3. What do you think will happen to historic places or buildings in the future? Why?**(Cambridge 4: 33)**
4. What sort of historical buildings are popular in your country? **(Focus on IELTS : 64)**
5. Why do you think cultural and historical buildings should be maintained?
6. What are some popular cultural places in your country?
7. What kinds of cultural programs/ activities are common in your country?
8. Why do you think governments like to create impressive buildings...such as art gallery or a huge sports stadium? **(Step Up To IELTS: 88)**
9. Could you describe that traditional architecture of your country **(IELTS Strategies For Study:128)**

CHOICE

1. What are the typical choices people make at different stages of their lives? **(Cambridge 6:100)**
2. Should important choices be made by parents rather than by young adults?
3. Why do some people like to discuss choices with other people?
4. What kind of choices do people have to make in their everyday life?
5. Why do some people choose to do the same things everyday? Are there any disadvantages in this?
6. Do you think that people today have more choices to make today than in the past?

CITY

1. In many countries there has been large-scale migration from the countryside to the cities. Do you think this is positive or negative? **(IELTS Practice Test: 96)**
2. Do you think that the possibility of working from home via the internet will lead to many people going back to the countryside?
3. In what ways do the new megacities of Asia, Africa, and South America differ from older ones such as London or New York?

4. Should there be a limit on the size of cities? **(IELTS Objectives: 114)**
5. Why do people immigrate to other countries?
6. What's your government's current policy towards immigration?
7. How can migrants help a country's economy?
8. Do you like cities generally? **(IELTS practice test :50)**
9. Would you like to live in the city you spoke about? **(IELTS Practice Test: 29)**
10. How does living in a city compare with living in a small town?
11. How can we encourage more people to use public transport?
12. Do you believe that it should be compulsory to study a foreign language?
13. What role do museum play in our society?
14. How important is sport in the school curriculum?
15. In your opinion what are the most serious problems associated with modern city life?

(IELTS strategies for study:129)

16. What are the kinds of things people like to do when visiting towns and cities?
17. Why do many people to live in cities rather than in the countryside?
18. Can you identify some of the main problems of living in large cities?
19. What measures could be taken to reduce problems of congestion in the cities?

(Qs 15-18, Exam Essentials IELTS:130)

COMPETITION

1. Do you enjoy entering competitions? **(IELTS practice test:71)**
2. Have you entered any other competitions?

COMPUTER/ INTERNET

1. What is the role of advertising in internet? **(Cambridge 3:99)**
2. How do you think the internet will affect buying patterns in the future?
3. What effect has the internet had on the way people generally communicate with each other? **(Cambridge 4:102)**
4. Why do think the internet is being used more and more for communication?
5. How reliable do you think information from the internet is? Why? What about the news on the internet?

6. Why do you think some people use the internet for shopping? Why doesn't everyone use it in this way?
7. What kinds of things are easy t buy and sell online? Can you give me some examples?
8. Do you think shopping on the internet will be more or less popular in the future? Why?
9. What other uses will computers have in future?

(IELTS Foundations: 122)

10. Do you think children will benefit more from using computers?

COMMUNICATION

1. What are different ways of communications? **(Focus on IELTS: 118)**
2. Do you prefer to write a letter to a friend or send an e-mail and why?
3. How technology affected the way people communicate?

DREAM

1. What can dreams tell us about ourselves? **(IELTS Objectives: 69)**
2. Why dreams considered important in many cultures?
3. Do you think it is helpful to interpret someone's dreams for tem?
4. Are psychological issues more prevalent in modern society?
5. How far should we try to investigate our inner selves?

ENVIRONMENT

1.How aware do you think people are nowadays about environmental issues?

(IELTS Strategies For Study:128)

EVENT-EXPERIENCE

1. In what ways is life becoming safer, and in what ways is it becoming more dangerous?

(Instant IELTS: 121)

2. Should people always avoid dangers, or is it a good idea to take a risk?
3. What risk should people try to avoid?
4. Do you think people take fewer risks as they grow older? Why?

5. How important is it to have adventure in our lives?
6. What do people learn about themselves from having adventures?
7. What kind of public events are popular in your country? **(Focus on IELTS: 70)**
8. What is the importance of attending such public events?
9. What would you regard as the most significant events in your country's recent history?

(IELTS Strategies For Study:128)

FAMILY

1. In what ways can a family be similar to each other?**(Cambridge 6: 32)**
2. In terms of personality, are people more influenced by their family or by their friends?
3. Do you think that daughters are always more similar to mothers than to male relatives? What about sons and fathers?
4. Where can people in your country get information about genetic research?
5. How do people in your country feel about genetic research?
6. Should this research be funded by the governments or private companies? Why?
7. In what ways have families in your country changed in recent years?**(Instant:119)**
8. Should husbands and wives have different roles within the family?
9. Which are more important to you: your family or your friends?
10. What conflicts can arise between a person's family and a person's friends?
11. What responsibilities do parents have towards their children?
12. What responsibilities do children have towards their parents?
13 Do you think the family unit is less important in modern life now? **(404,GT:52)**
14. Should children look after their parents when they get older?
15. What qualities should a parent have?
16. Do you spend more times with your family or friends?
17. How have families changed over the last 50 years? **(High Impact IELTS:213)**
18. Do you think it is important for young children to have a role model?
19. What are the advantages and disadvantages of being

FESTIVAL/ CELEBRATION

1. Do you think new festivals will be introduced in the future? **(Cambridge 5: 100)**

2. Why do you think festivals are important in the working year?

3. Would you agree that the original significance of the festivals is often lost today?

4. How may globalization affect different festivals around the world?

5. What roles do media play in festivals, do you think?

6. What events in a person's life are most celebrated in your country?

7. What about the significance of gifts, are their particular presents that are given on particular occasions? **(Test Builders:98)**

8. How have cultural celebrations and festivals changed in your country?**(404: 38)**

9. Is it important for the immigrants to adopt customs and festivals that are celebrated in their new country?

10. Are there many other festivals in your country?

11. What type of special occasions are generally celebrated in your country?

12. How important is it for families to celebrate occasions together? Why?

13. Are family occasions as important today as they were for former generations?

(Qs 11-13, IELTS Plus 2:127)

14. Are birthday celebrations important in your country? **(Barron's IELTS: 126)**

15. How are older people treated in your country?

16. Are birthday celebrations different now than they were in the past? Why or why not?

17. In your opinion, how will the role of older people in your culture change in the future?

18. What events in a person's life are most celebrated in your country?

19. What about the significance of gifts, are there particular occasions?

20. Celebrations such as wedding are often times when families gather together, 21. What effect does this have on family relationship?

22. How is the way we celebrate events such as birthdays and religious days changing?

23. Do you think such changes are good or bad thing?

24. Which celebrations do you think will change the most in the next few years? 25. How do you think they will change and why?**(Qs 18-25, Test builder:97)**

FOOD

1. If you invite a friend, what meal are you likely to offer them? **(Focus on IELTS: 107)**

2. What kinds of food are popular in your country?

3. What is the eating habit of people like in your country?

4. Do you prefer eating at home or in a restaurant?

5. Are there any type of food which we should not eat too much of? **(Instant IELTS: 31)**
6. How important is to be careful about what we eat?
7. Do you think the quality of food is better now than it was before?
8. What do you think a healthy diet consists of? **(Instant IELTS: 120)**
9. Which one do people in your country prefer: fast food or traditional food?
10. Do you think children should be taught healthy diets and cooking at schools? Why?
11. At what age do you think children should be taught to cook?
12. What can be done to prevent poor people in the world going hungry?
13. Should rich countries help poor countries with more than just food?
14. What kinds of food do you think we should eat, and which should we avoid?
15. What role does food and drink play in your culture? Do you think people in your country eat better or worse nowadays than they did in the past?
16. Do you think science is improving the quality of the food we eat, or making some foods danger to our health? **(Qs: 14-16, IETLS Masterclass: 40)**
17. What foods do you consider are good for you? Why?
18. Why do you think people eat such things, if they are good for them?
19. How do you think people's eating habits have changed over the years?
20. How could the eating habits of children be improved?
21. If you could, how would you change your own eating habits?

(Qs 17-21, Test builder:126)

22. Do you think the way people eat now is different from the way they ate in your grandparents' day? **(Focus on academic IELTS -NEW: 33)**

FREE TIMES

1. Is watching television a good way of relaxing? **(Focus on IELTS : 51)**
2. What leisure activities would you recommend as a way of combating stress?
3. Do young people get enough physical exercise these days?

FRIEND

1. How do people usually meet new friends where you live?**(IELTS Plus 2:87)**
2. Is it easier for adults or children to make new friends? Why?
3. how are relationships with friends different from relationships at work/ college?

4. Is it possible for people to be close friends with their boss or teacher? Why?
5. Some people believe that friends can never be as important as family. Do you agree?
6. How are responsibilities towards friends and family different?
7. Will the relative importance of friends and family change in future societies?
8. What are the qualities of a good friend? **(Barron's IELTS:127)**
9. What role do friends play in most people's lives?
10. What differences are there between men's and women's friendship?
11. Do you think the nature of friendship is changing?

GIFT/ PRESENT

1. What kind of presents do children ask for today? **(Focus On IETLS: 183)**
2. What effect was advertising had on this?
3. Is there a case for banning advertising directed at children?
4. Which do you enjoy more: giving or receiving presents? **(IELTS Practice Test:118)**
5. Do you like presents to be a surprise, or do you prefer to choose what you are given?
6. On what occasions do people in your country give each other presents?
7. Do you feel the commercialization of gift-giving, e.g. Charismas in certain countries, has gone too far?
8. What is the role of charities nowadays?
9. Which charity would you like to be able to give a lot of money to?
10. Should rich countries give more financial assistance to poorer ones?
11. How can we encourage more young people to do voluntary activities?

HAZARD/ RISK/ DANGER

1. How important is risk management? **(IELTS OBJECTIVES: 99)**
2. What can be done to prevent natural disasters?
3. What are the impacts of natural hazards on the surrounding areas?
4. What is your attitude towards taking risk at work or in your hobbies?

HEALTH/ KEEPING FIT

1. What do most people in your country do to keep fit?**(Cambridge 6: 54)**

2. How important is it for people to do some regular physical exercise?
3. Why do you think that modern lifestyles are not healthy?
4. Why do some people choose to lead unhealthy lives?
5. Should individuals and governments be responsible for making people's lifestyle healthy?
6. What could be done to encourage people to live in a healthy way?
7. What are the best ways to keep healthy? **(IELTS Foundation: 94)**
8. What type of food and drink should be avoided in a healthy diet?
9. Do you think healthcare facilities such as hospitals need to be improved?
10. How important is alternative medicine in today's society?
11. What will medical treatment be like in 50 years' time?

HISTORY

1. Studying history can help countries to avoid repeating past mistakes. Do you agree or not? **(IELTS Objectives_: 130)**
2. Could you comment on suggestion that studying your own country's history can help us to understand present-day situations?
3. How important do you consider it to study the history of other countries?
4. How has life changed for young people in your country since your parents' time?
5. In which other period of history would you like to have lived? Why?
6. What do you think future historians will say about the way we live now?

(From Qs 4-6, IELTS Masterclass : 160)

INFLUENTIAL PERSON

1. Is it important for young children to have a role model?**(Impact IELTS:213)**
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a child?
3. How do you imagine traditional relationships changing in the future?
4. Why do you think celebrities become role models to so many people?
5. What is the importance of having friends?
6. How have families changed over the last 50 years?
7. What factors do you think are important in a good relationship?

JOB

1. What is the best way to prepare for a job interview?**(IELTS Foundation: 54)**
2. Which jobs do you think are the most dangerous?
3. How can employers keep their staff happy?
4. Do you think pop and sports stars earn too much money?
5. How important is appropriate dress at work?
6. Is it better to stay in one job for a long time to have many different jobs?
7. Describe the range of job opportunities in your country?**(IETLS Objectives :124)**
8. If you ran your own business, what would it be?
9. What things are important to consider before setting up your won business?
10. How possible developments in your country may affect the types of work available.
11. What is the best way to prepare for a job interview? **(IELTS Masterclass: 54)**
12. How can employers keep their staff happy?
13. Which jobs do you think are the most dangerous?
14. How important is appropriate dress at work?
15. Is it better to stay in one job for a long time or have many different jobs?
16. What do most people consider as important when deciding on a job or career?
17. In modern life a lot of people work too hard. What are the effects of this?
18. At what age do you think people should retire from work?
19. How could the problems of overworking be avoided?
20. Do you think this should be the same for all jobs?
21. How has technology changed the way that people work?
22. What further changes in the way work do you think we will see in the future?

(Qs 16-22, IETLS Test Builder: 68)

23. Do you think people are happy to stay in the same job for a long time these days?

(IETLS Test Builder 2 : 119)

24. What types of jobs are popular these days? Why?
25. Which jobs do you think will be popular in future? Why?
26. Do you value the experience you have in this job? **(IELTS practice Test:90)**
27. Would you consider doing the same type of job again?
28. Which jobs are most respected in your country? **(Exam Essentials IELTS:170)**
29. How important is it to enjoy your work? Why?

(New Insight into IELTS:152)

30. Do you think schools provide enough advice and support about future career?
31. What changes have there been in recent years in employment in your country?
32. Do you agree that for a job should reflect the level of contribution to community the job makes?
33. What do most people consider as important when deciding on a job or career?
34. In modern life a lot of people work too hard. What are the effects of this?
35.How could the problems of overworking be avoided?
36. At what age do you think people should retire from work?
37. Do you think this should be the same for all jobs?
38. How has technology changed the way that people work?
39. What further changes in the way people work do you think we will see in the future?

(Qs34-39,Test builder:68)

LUCK/ SUPERSTITION

1. Do you think people in your country are superstitious? **(Step Up to IELTS:97)**
2. Can you describe a superstition that they believe in?
3. Do you think people are less superstitious than they uses to be?
4. Will the future bring any new types of superstition?
5. What activities do people take-part that are based on luck?
6. Is there a difference between luck and judgment?
7. Is it ever possible for people to create their own luck?
8. What sort of famous people would you describe as lucky?

MAGAZINE/ NEWS PAPERS

1. In what ways are newspapers better for learning about the news than listening to the radio or watching?
2. Do you think newspapers should be completely free to say whatever they want?
3. What do people enjoy reading in your country?
4. Do you think it is important for people to read a lot?
5. What sort of stories do newspapers and magazines publish about well-known or famous people in your country?

6. Do you think the media should be allowed to publish stories about the private lives of public figures? **(Qs 1-6, Instant IELTS: 121)**

MOVIE, FILM

1. Do you think the cinema has increased or decreased in popularity in recent years?
(Qs 1-6, Cambridge 3:53)
2. In your opinion, will this trend continue into the future?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of making films of real-life events?
4. How important do you think it is for a film-maker to remain true to the original story?
5. Should films and television be censored or should we be free to choose what we see?
6. How do you think censorship laws will change in the next 20 years?
7. How important a form of entertainment is film for you and your friends? Do you think film is effective as a carrier of a message?
8. Is film a useful medium for education? What sort of things cab be usually taught by film?
9. Do you think there is too much violence in films? Do you think such portrayals are harmful to anyone?
10. What do you think of the way men and women are portrayed in film?
11. What sort of things do you believe should be censored out of films?
(Qs 7-11, IELTS preparation and Practice: 60)
12. Would you recommend others to watch it? Why.
(Focus on IELTS: 164-5)
13. How the movie industry has changes in recent years in your country?
14. What types of movie is more popular among the young?
15. Do you prefer watching films in the cinema or on videos?
16. Do you think television and video will kill the cinema?
17. Special cameras are sometimes used to film everything that goes on in the street and in shops. Do you think this is a good idea?

MONEY

1. Do you think other people would feel the same in that situation? **(Qs 1-6, IELTS Objectives : 39)**
2. Have you had a similar experience since then?
3. How would you account for the popularity of credit cards?

4. Can you outline the methods used to encourage people to borrow money?
5. Can you suggest ways to educate people about dangers of borrowing a lot of money?
6. Could you speculate on whether people will change their attitudes towards borrowing money?
7. How do you think developments in information technology will alter the way individuals deal with their money in the future?
8. How do you predict people's shopping habits will change in the future?

(Qs 7-8, IELTS Master Class :100)

MUSIC

1. What kinds of music are popular with young people in your country?
2. How gas technology affected the kinds of music popular with young people?
3. What do you think influences a young person's taste in music?
4. How important is it for a culture to have musical traditions?
5. Why do you think countries have traditional anthems or songs?

(Qs 1-5, Cambridge IELTS 5 : 54)

6. What is the national music of your country? **(Focus On IELTS: 56)**
7. How important is music in your culture and traditions?
8. On what occasions does music play an important rile in your country?
9. Is there enough time in the primary school curriculum to introduce music?
10. Does every school have the financial resources to support such a program?
11. What are the benefits of learning a musical instrument at a young age?
12. What are the challenges in teaching music to young children?
13. How important is music in your life? **(Qs 9-13, IETLS Objectives: 43)**
14. When and where did you see it? **(IELTS Practice Test: 69)**
15. Have you ever seen anything else similar to it?

MUESUM

1. Do you like museums/ art galleries? **(IELTS Practice Test: 111)**
2. Would you recommend this museum to other people?

NATURAL SCENERY

1-How does water transport, like boats and ships, compare with other kinds?

2-Are there any advantages/disadvantages of water transport?

3-How important is it for a town or a city to be located near river or the sea? Why?

4-Have there been any advantages in the number of jobs available in fishing and water transport industries, do you think? Why do you think this is? **(Qs 1-4, Cambridge 4:80)**

OBJECT/ GADGET/MACHINE

1. What do you think are the most important inventions of the last 50 years?
2. How have mobile phones made communications easier?
3. Which household appliances do you think people need most?
4. What are the disadvantages of modern technology?
5. Do you think we rely too much on technology?
6. What technological developments might happen in the future in transport, education or health? **(Qs 1-6, IELTS Foundation: 108)**

PARTY

1. What types of parties are popular in your country? **(Focus On IELTS: 70)**
2. What sort of activities do people do at parties?
3. What do you think of attending parties?
4. What do people wear in parties?

PERSON (Famous/ Influential)

1. What kind of people become famous these days? **(Cambridge 5: 31)**
2. What are good things about being famous?
3. How media in your country treat famous people?
4. Why do you think ordinary people are interested in the lives of famous people?

5. How do you think people will become famous in future?

6. Has this person had to make sacrifices in order to achieve success?

7. Do most people in your country share your admiration for him/her?

(Qs 6-7, IELTS Practice Test:37)

8. What would you do if you met a famous person?

9. Do you think you'll ever be famous?

10. If you could meet anyone famous who would it be and why?

11. Should people loose right to privacy just because they are famous?

12. In your opinion, do certain personality types handle fame or attention better than others?

(404 Essential Tests for IELTS, Academic: 38)

13. Do you think you can have a good influence on people?

14. What qualities does influential person have?

15. Do you think young people of today are too easily influenced?

16. What sorts of things do young people get influenced by?

(Qs 13-16, 404 Essential Tests for IELTS, GT :68)

PERSONAL POSSESION

1. What are the valuable personal possessions in your country?

2. How your attitude toward keeping personal possessions has changed?

3. Why do you think people keep valuable things? **(Qs 1-3, Focus on IELTS: 63)**

4. What kinds of products are manufactured in your home country?

5 How important are they for local or national economy?

6. is manufacturing more important in your country than it was in the past? Why?

(Qs 4-6, IETLS TETS BUILDER 2:35)

7. What kind of possessions shows status in your country?

8. Do you think it was different for your grand parents?

9. Modern society is often called 'materialistic'. Why do you think this is?

10. Do you think consumerism is a positive or negative development?

(Qs 7-10, Cambridge3: 99)

PHOTOGRAPH

1. Are you a keen photographer? **(Focus on IELTS: 164)**
2. Do you like looking at people's photograph?
3. Do you prefer to take a photo or film? Why
4. Do you think advertising can have harmful effects?
5. News photographers sometimes take pictures of people in distress, after a disaster, etc. Do you think this is justified?

SCHOOL

1. Do you think too many subjects are taught at school?**(Impact IELTS:143)**
2. Have there been any major changes in the education system in your country?
3. Should everyone be entitled to go to university?
4. Do you think school uniforms are important?
5. How has education changed in your country in the last 10 years? **(Qs 5-10, Cambridge 3: 29)**
6. What changes do you foresee in the next 50 years?
7. How do the expectations of today's school leavers compare with those of the previous generation?
8. What role do you think extracurricular activities play in education?
9. What method of learning works best for you?
10. How beneficial do you think it is to group students according to their level of ability?
11. How were you taught history when you were at school?**(Cambridge 4 : 33)**
12. Are there other ways people can learn about history, apart from at school? How?
13. Do you think history will still be a school subject in the future? Why?
14. What subjects did you find the hardest at school?**(Focus on IELTS: 96)**
15. What did you enjoy the most about your school?
16. What makes a good teacher?
17. Should a teacher encourage students to treat him /her like a friend?
18. Do well-behaved children deserve more of a teacher's attention than badly behaved children?
19. Which subjects at school do you think are the most important?
20. How strict should school teachers be?

(Qs 19-20, IELTS Foundation:76)



21. How has education changed in your country in the last ten years?
22. Is a good education more important to a boy or girl?
23. How well do you think schools prepare young people for working life?
24. Do you think schools should teach subjects like art, music and dancing?
25. How important is it for schools to have computers for their students?
26. Is the Internet a valuable educational tool? **(Qs 21-26, Instant IELTS: 121)**
27. Did you find studying English at school?**(404, GT:83)**
28. Is there any subject that you wish you could studied?
29. School years are the best years of your life. Do you agree?
30 What qualities do you think a good teacher needs to have?
31 Do you think school gives you the skills to succeed in life?
32 What other subjects do you think schools should teach to prepare students for life?
33. Describe your old school uniform. **(Step Up to IETLS : 50)**
34. Describe a special ceremony that took place at your school.
35. Describe a school assignment that you once did.
36. Describe a student you remember well.
37. Describe the sports or social facilities at your school.
38. Describe a school trip that you went on.

SHOPPING

1. Do you enjoy shopping for clothes?**(Instant IELTS : 120)**
2. What kind of clothes do you feel least comfortable in?
3. How much do you judge a person by his appearance?
4. Do you think people should be free to wear what they want? Why.
5. Do you think it is important to wear formal clothes for a job interview? Why.
6. What typical things can visitors to your country buy?
7. What things do young people like to buy in your country?
8. What can shops do to make shopping more pleasant for their customers?
9. Do you think that in the future people will do most of their shopping using the Internet? Why?
10. How could government protect the rights of customers?**(IETLS Plus 2:108)**
11. Are there more goods available in the shops now than in the past? Why?
12. Do people generally prefer to buy products from their own or from other countries?

13. What kinds of products are most affected by fashions from other countries?
14. Will overseas trends and fashions have more or less impact on what people buy in the future?
15. What kind of techniques do advertisers use to persuade people to buy more?
16. Who should be responsible for the quality of products: producers, shops or customers?

SKILL

1. Could you comment on the idea that children shouldn't waste their time trying to develop a skill if they lack natural ability? **(IELTS Objectives: 79)**
2. Is it important to learn a skill?
3. What do you think are the most important skills for children to learn in the modern world? Why?
4. Which skills do you think children should learn at schools and which at home? Why?
5. Do you think future generations will need to acquire new skills? What kind?
6. What role do you think skills play in the modern work place?
7. Do you think skills people need to learn have changed compared to the past?
8. What do you think has brought about these changes?

(Qs 3-8, IETLS TEST BUILDER 2 :92)

SPORT

1. How have games changed from time when you were a child? **(Cambridge 6:77)**
2. Do you think this has been a positive change? why?
3. Why do you think children like playing games?
4. Do you think competitive games are good or bad for children? In what ways?
5. How can games sometimes help to unite people?
6. Why is competition often seen as important in today's society?
7. Why is exercise good for the health?**(Focus On IELTS: 15)**
8. Which is more exciting to watch: athletics or gymnastics?
9. Is it better to attend a sporting event or watch it on television? Why
10. Some people say children shouldn't be encouraged to play competitive games. What do you think?
11. What are the benefits of becoming a member of a sports club?

12. Do you think enough sport is taught in schools nowadays?

13. Why do international sports competitions sometimes encourage strong nationalism?

14. Is it always important to win at sport? Why? **(Qs 11-14, IETLS Objectives : 17)**

15. Do sportsmen and women make good role models for young people? Why?

16. Are we too concerned with the sports stars rather than the sports themselves?

17. Why do you think sports stars are paid so much? Is this justified? Why?

(Qs 15-17, IELTS TEST BUILDER 2: 119)

18. Do you often go to sporting event? **(404 Essential Tests for IELTS :68)**

19. Are you very competitive?

20. Governments allocate large amounts of money to sporting events such as the Olympics. Do to agree or disagree?

21. A significant amount of time is spent on testing for the use of drugs in sport. How important is it?

22. Can sport play a significant role in developing international relations?

23. Large companies now sponsor major sporting events and teams. Can this sponsor ship lead to problems?

TRAVEL/ TOURISM/HOLIDAY

1. Would you recommend it to other people to go there?**(Focus On IELTS :148)**
2. Do you enjoy sightseeing in general?
3. Have you been to a place like that before?
4. What new developments will there be in tourism in future, do you think?
5. What changes have there been in the last 50 years or so in the way people travel?
6. What would you do to prepare yourself before you visited another country?
7. How do you prefer to travel, by road, rail or train?
8. Do you like traveling in general?
9. Which places in your country do you think visitors would enjoy visiting most?
10. What are the benefits of going away on holiday?
11. What kinds of benefits might a significant increase in tourist numbers bring to a location?
12. What developments affecting international travel might there be in the future?

(Qs 9-12, Exam Essential IETLS : 110)

13. Why do you think people want to visit other countries?**(IELTS Plus 2:65)**
14. What makes some places very attractive to tourists?

15. Will international tourism decrease or increase in future?
16. How can tourism benefit local people and places?
17. Are there any drawbacks of tourism?
18. Does tourism help to promote international understanding? Why?
19. How reliable is tourism as an industry?
20. Does tourism bring mainly positive or negative things to a country?

(New Insight into IELTS:152)

21. Why do people travel?**(Barron's IELTS :127)**
22. What are some transportation problems in your
23. How has plane travel changed the way people live?
24. What are some advantages and disadvantages that tourism can have for a specific place?

TRANSPORTATION

1. Do you think getting to work is easier or more difficult than it used to be?
2. How methods of transports been improved?
3. Are there any problems that have been created by new transport systems?
4. Do you think these problems can be solved?
5. What about the cost of traveling, do you think it is too high?
6. What about your ideal journey, how and where would you like to travel?

(Qs 1-6, IELTS TEST BULIDER : 36)

7. Do you prefer traveling by public transport or by car?
8. What are the benefits of traveling by public transport?
9. In your opinion, in what ways can governments encourage people to use public transport?
10. Having too many cars in the roads causes air pollution. What are some of the other causes of pollution?
11. How are environmentally –friendly practices encouraged in your country?

WRITING

1. What effect have computers had on the way we write? **(STEP Up to IETLS: 79)**
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of e–mail?
3. Will writing remain an important skill in the future?
4. What are the features of good writing?
5. Why do many companies rely on written communications?

Chapter 3

REAL TEST (PART 1)

WARM-UP

1. Could you tell me your full name please?
2. What is your name?
2. Does your name have any special meaning?
3. Why do many people change their names?
4. Is your name important to you?

BUILDING

1. Can you tell me an interesting building in your hometown?
2. Why should we preserve historical buildings?
3. How the architecture and building material have changed in your country?
4. What type of building do you prefer to live in? Why?

BOOK

1. Do you read books? What kind of books do you read?
2. Did you read books when you were a child?
3. Do children love reading nowadays?
4. Would you give a book as a gift?
5. Do you read more for pleasure or for study?

CLOTHES

1. What types of clothes do you like to wear?
2. What kind of clothes do people in your country usually wear?
3. How important is fashion to you?
4. What kind of clothes do you dislike?
5. Do you think people behave differently in different kinds of clothes?
6. What kind of clothes do people wear to work in your country?
7. Are clothes expensive in your country?
8. Do you think the way we dress is important? Why?

9. Have the type of clothes people wear in your country changed during the last twenty years?

DAILY ROUTINE

1. Describe your daily routine?
2. What do you usually do?
3. What do you do on weekends?
4. What is your typical weekday like?
5. Does you life change much from week to week?
6. Do you have any free times during a week?

EDUCATION

1. What have you studied?
2. What is you major?
3. What kind of school did you use to go?
4. What was your favorite subject?
5. Who was your favorite teacher?
6. What is the educational system like in your country?

FAMLIY

1. Describe your family.
2. Do you have a large or a small family?
3. How much time do you spend with your family?
4. What do you like to do together as a family?
5. Do you get along well with your family?
6. Are people in your country generally close to their families?

FESTIVAL

1. What is the most important festival in your country?
2. How do people celebrate this festival?

3. What special food is associated with this festival?
4. What do you enjoy most about this festival?
5. Do you think festivals are important for the society?

FRIEND

1. Do you have many friends?
2. Do you prefer to stay with your family or with your friends? Why?
3. Can you talk about your best friend?
4. How do you make friends?
5. Is the time you spend with your friends as much as the time you spend with your family?

FOOD

1. Do you like cooking?
2. Who does the cooking in your home?
3. Do you think family meals are important?
2. What kind of food do you like?
3. Is cooking a man's job or a woman's?
4. How do you like foreign food?
5. What is the most popular food in your country?
6. What are some of the famous dishes in your country?
7. How have people's eating habits changed in your country in the last twenty years?

GAMES

1. Do you enjoy playing games?
2. What kind of games do children play in your country?
3. Do you think adults should play games?
4. What kind of games was popular when you were younger?
5. What games are popular in your country?
6. Do you think board games like chess is good for you? Why?
7. Should adults spend time playing with their children? Why?

HEALTH

1. Is your health important to you?
2. What do you do to improve your health?
3. What is a major health concern in your country?
4. What can be done about it?
5. What sorts of things do you do to keep healthy?
6. How do you think we can encourage people to be healthy?

HOMETOWN

1. Where do you come from?
2. Where do you live?
3. Can you tell me something about your hometown?
4. Can you tell me some famous landscapes or scenic spots in your city?
5. Can you tell me some history of your hometown?
6. Where is your hometown located?
7. Is it easy to travel around your hometown?
8. Is your home town a good place to live? Why?
9. What are some good things about your city?
10. What do people do in your hometown?

HOME

1. Describe your house.
2. Do you live in a house or an apartment?
3. What kind of building do you live in?
4. Do you like your neighborhood?
5. What are the advantages of living in a house?

HOBBY

1. Do you have any hobbies?
2. What are some of your hobbies?
3. What do you usually do in your spare time?

4. Do you prefer to stay alone or with your friends?
5. What do you usually do on weekends?
6. What do you usually do when you go out?
7. What do you usually do with your friends?

INTERNET

1. Do you use internet much during the day?
2. What is the website you have recently visited?
3. What are some advantages of Internet?
4. Do people in your country use Internet a lot?
5. Do you do any shopping on the Internet?
6. What are the disadvantages of the Internet?

JOB

1. Do you work or are you a student?
2. What do you do?
3. What are your responsibilities?
4. What is difficult about your job?
5. Do you like your job? Why?
6. Would you like to change your job? Why?
7. What do you dislike about your job?

MOVIES

1. Do you enjoy watching movies?
2. Do you prefer to see a movie alone or with your friends?
3. Do you like to watch a movie in the cinema or you prefer to rent a video home?
4. What is your most/least favorite type of movie?
5. Who is your favorite movie star? Why?

MUSIC

1. Do you like music?
2. What kind of music do you like?
3. When do you usually listen to music?
4. What kind of music is popular in your country?
5. What are the benefits of listening to music?
6. Do you play any musical instruments?
7. Do you wish you could play any musical instruments? Why?

NEWS

1. Are you interested in the news? What kind of news?
2. From what sources do you get the news?
3. Are elders interested in news more than young people? Why?
4. What part of newspaper do you read first?
5. Which part of the newspaper do you find most useful?

SHOPPING

1. Do you like shopping? Why?
2. Do you like shopping on the Internet?
3. What don't you like about shopping?
4. What time do you do the shopping? Why?
5. What are different types of shops you often go?

SPORTS

1. Do you like sports?
2. Do you enjoy watching sports?
3. Do you enjoy participating in any sports?
4. What is your favorite sports activity?
5. When did you first become interested in sports?
6. How often do you participate in sports?

7. What equipment do you need for your favorite sport?

TELEVISION

1. Do you watch television a lot?
2. What do you usually watch on TV?
3. What are the most popular programs in your country?
4. What are some advantages of television?
5. What did you last watch on TV?
6. What are some disadvantages of television?

TRAVEL

1. Do you like traveling? Why?
2. Do you like to travel alone or with your friends?
3. Have you traveled to other places? What are they?
4. What do you usually do when you first arrive in a new place?
5. What are the benefits of traveling?
6. What's the best place you have ever visited?

TRANSPORTATION

1. Can you say some thing about the transportation in your hometown?
2. What is the common means of transportation in your country?
3. Do traffic jams often occur in your city?
4. How can we solve this problem?
5. Is bicycle a good means of transportation?
6. Do you think there should be separate lanes for bicycles?

WEATHER

1. What's the weather like in your country?
2. Does the weather affect your mood?
3. What's your favorite season of the year?
4. What do you usually do in winters?
5. What do you like to do when it's hot?

IETLS Speaking: Part 2 & Part 3 (Real Test)

Describe an **advertisement** which has influenced you
You should say:
What it was advertised
What it was like
What the effect of advertisements was on you
and explain if you think it was an effective advertisement or not, and why.

Follow up Questions:

- Do you think advertisements influence what people buy?
- What do you think are the criteria of assessing a good piece of advertisement?
- What will happen if authoritative advertisements prevail in the market?

Talk about a piece of **advice** you received that was helpful to you.
You should say:
Who gave this advice to you
When you were given this advice
What it was about
and explain why the advice was helpful for you

Follow up Questions:

- Does he still give you advice?
- Is it helpful to learn from others experience?
- What kind of advice do parents give to their children?



Describe the best **age** of your life.
You should say:
What age it was
What you did in that age
and explain why it was the best age of your life.

Follow up Questions:

- Did you like to do more things at that age?
- What can people do to make the best use of their life?
- What is the most important event for a teenager?
- Will people behaviors change over years? How?

Describe your favorite **animal.**
You should say:
What kind of animal it is
What it looks like
Where and when you saw it
and explain why you like it.

Follow up questions:

- What do you need to do to take care of it?
- What's the future trend of the animal?
- What do you think of poaching of some precious animals such as pandas?
- Earlier people used animals for their work. Now, what people use to do their work?
- Is it a good idea to carry out research on animals? Why?

Describe an **article** you have recently read in a **newspaper.**
You should say:
What it was about
Where and when you read it
Why you read it
and explain how you liked it.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you prefer, reading a newspaper, watching TV, or listening to radio? Why?
- What will happen to newspapers in future with coming of the Internet?
- With popularity of Internet, do you think newspaper will disappear?

Describe a **book** you would like to read in the future.
You should mention:
What it is
Why you would like to read that book
Why you have never read it before
and say how you to think it can be compared to other books you have already read.

Follow-up questions:

- What kind of books do you read?
- What types of books do children like?
- Should we encourage children to read books? Why?
- How has children's reading habit changed in recent years?

Describe a **child** you know well.
You should say:
Who the child is
What he/she is like
How you are related
and explain whether you like her/him or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- What kinds of children's activities are there available in your city?
- What do you need to do to interest a child in such activities?
- How do you think adults should improve their relations with children?

Describe if you could **change** one thing in the world, what it would be.
You should say:
What it would be
How you would change it
Why you want to change that
and explain why you think it is the most important thing you could change.

Follow-up questions:

- Talk about one thing you could change in your life.
- If you could change your negative personality trait, what would you have changed?
- If you could live your life over again, would you do the same things you are doing now? Why?
- Why do you think some people resist against changes?

Describe an item you have **collected**.
You should say:
What it is
Where you collected it from
How the collection is stored
and say what kind of person would enjoy collecting that thing, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Do you think you will ever have the biggest collection in the World?
- How valuable your collection would be in future?
- Why do you think some people collect things?
- Should archeological findings be kept in museums? Why?
- How do people in your country collect things?
- Are young people interested in collecting items as much as old people?

Describe a folk **dance** that you know or you do.
You should say:
What it is
When and where it is performed
How it is performed
and explain whether you like this type of dance or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- What dances are popular in your country?
- What is the common people's attitude towards dancing in your country?
- Do young people dance any differently from 10 years a go?

Describe the most important **decision** you made in your life.
You should say:
What it was
When and how you made that decision
Who helped you with that decision
and explain if it was a good decision.

Follow-up questions:

- What is the importance of decision making in our life?
- How can we make good decisions?
- Do you think parents should allow their children to make their own decisions?

Describe something you often do in the **evening**
You should say:
What it is
Where you usually do it
Who you usually do it with
and say if you enjoy doing it or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Are you a morning or evening type of person?
- What activities people often do in the evening in your country?
- Is evening a good time for doing exercises?

Describe an important **environmental issue** in your country:
You should say:
What the problem is
Why it happens
How it can be solved
and explain what the effects of that problem on people are.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the effects of human activities on the environment?
- What can be done to protect the environment?
- What would be the impact of global warming on the environment?

Describe **a piece of equipment** you often use at home.
You should say:
What it is
How long you have had it
Why you use it at home
and explain how important it is to you.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the differences of the life in the past and present?
- What are the impacts of electrical equipment on our life?
- How will technology change our life in future?

Describe something that makes you **excited.**
You should say

How often you do that thing
Where you do it
Who you do it

and say if other people who do the some thing feel exactly the same way or not, and why?

Follow-up questions:

- What generally makes people in your country excited?
- Are the people in your country calm or they get excited easily?
- How do you think people show their excitement?

Describe something you think is a good way of doing **exercise**.
You should include in your answer:

What this exercise is
Where people usually do this form of exercise
What equipment is needed

and say if you think this form of exercise is getting more or less popular, and why?

Follow-up questions:

- How can regular exercise improve your health?
- What are the benefits of doing exercises?
- How do you think the types of exercises people do has changed in recent years in your country?

Talk bout a form of **exercise** you used to do.
You should say:
What it was
Where you did it.
Why you stopped it
and say if you would like to restart that sport or not, and why?

Follow-up questions:

- What forms of exercises are popular among the young?
- Has the people's attitude toward doing exercise changed in your country in recent years?
- What makes a sports club popular?

Talk about your **favorite place** that you would like to spend your free time.
You should say:
Where it is
How you can get there
What you do there
and say how you would improve that place if you could.

Follow-up questions:

- Where do people in your country prefer to spend their holidays?
- What activities do people do to entertain themselves?
- What should the government do to attract tourists?



Describe your **favorite sports activity**.
You should say:

What it is
What equipment is needed
How it is played

and say if you think it is an easy sport to learn or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- What kinds of sports are popular in your country?
- Is doing sports an expensive activity in your country?
- How has the type of sports young people do in your country changed over the last 10 years?

Describe a **film** or a **TV program** which has made a strong impression on you.
You should say:

What kind of movie/ program it was
When you watched it
What it was about

and explain why this movie made strong impression on you.

Follow up questions:

- What types of movies are popular in your country?
- Do you think what children see on TV affects their behavior?
- In your opinion do children watch too much TV?
- Should the government control what we watch?

Talk about a **film** or a movie that you never seen but would like to see.
You should say:
What kind of movie it is
How famous it is
Why you want to see it
and say if you will see that movie in the near future or not, and why.

Follow- up questions:

- What type of movies do you like? Why?
- What do you think of violent movies?
- What is the impact of technology on movie Industry?
- How do you think the types of movies produced have changed in recent years?

Describe a **flower** you often buy for other people.
You should say:
What it is
What it is like
When you give it
and explain why you choose and like to buy this flower.

Follow-up questions:

- What is a national flower in your country and what is it the symbol of?
- In What occasions do people give flowers to each other in your country?
- Is there a special kind of flower that is used for special occasions?
- Is there a special color that associates something bad in your culture?

Describe an activity you enjoy doing in your **free times.**
You should say:
What it is
Who you do it with
Why you enjoy it
and say if you think the things you do in your free time will change as you get older or not, why.

Follow-up questions:

- Do you think should have more free times nowadays? Why?
- How do you think the way people spent their free times has changed in recent years?
- What type of activities people enjoy doing in their free times?

Describe a **friend** in your school time you liked most.
You should say:
Who he/she is
When you became friends
Why you liked him/ her
and explain how he/she influenced you.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the differences between adults and children in terms of making friends?
- What are the most important factors in making friends?
- What factors cause break-up of friendship?
- Why is it difficult for adults to make friends?

Describe a **game** children play in your country.
You should say:

What it is
Where it can be played
What you can learn from the game

and explain how it is played.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you think of benefits of games for children?
- Nowadays children have less and less time for game, what do you think?
- How has the types of games children play changed in recent years?

Describe a **happy event** in your life.
You should say;

What it was
When it happened
What happened

and explain why you think it was a happy event.

Follow up questions:

- What moments make other people happy?
- Are rich people happy?
- What do you think is important in achieving happiness?
- How do people in your country celebrate some happy events?
- What moments are happy for old people?

Describe an important **historical place** in your country.
You should say:
What the place is
What it looks like
Where it is located
and explain why you think it is important.

Follow-up questions:

- Why do you think historical places should be preserved?
- What changes are brought about by the historical places in your country?
- What is the impact of historical places on tourists?

Describe a **historical figure** in your country.
You should say:
Who this person was
What he looked like
When he lived
and explain why he was an important person.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the characteristics of a leader?
- What is the importance of history in our life?
- What can we learn from the life of important leaders?

Describe **a period of history** or an incident in history that you are particularly interested in.
You should say:

What that period was
Why it is interesting to you
How and when you became interested in it
and say whether there are any trends which are likely to be just as interesting for people in the future or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- What is the significance of historical events?
- Is it important to know about the history of your country? Why?
- What can we learn from the past history?

Talk about a **hobby** you had when you were younger.
You should say:

What it was
When you did it
Why you enjoyed
and say if you have become more or less interested in that hobby since you were you were a child, and why.

Follow-up question:

- What hobbies are common in your country?
- Do you think it is important to have hobbies in our lives?
- What hobbies will be popular in your country in future?

Describe something you often do during longer **holidays** such as summer holiday or New Year holiday.
You should say:

What it is
Where you do it
Who you do it with

and say why you do that when you are on holiday rather that on your days off.

Follow-up questions:

- What do people do mostly in their leisure time?
- What is the difference between holidays today and 10 years back?
- Do you think in future people will spend more time on leisure or working?

Describe a **hotel** you have stayed in on a holiday.
You should say:

What it was like
Why you chose that place
What are the good and bad things about it

and explain whether you would like to stay in that place again or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- How hotels can attract more tourists?
- Is the place tourists stay in important to them? Why?
- How do you think hotel management will change in future?
- What other forms of hotels do you think there would be in the next 50 years?

Talk about a **household chore** you do in your house.
You should mention:

What the chore is
Why it needs to be done
How often you do it

and say if you get a feeling of satisfaction from doing this chore or not, and why

Follow-up questions:

- What kinds of house chores should men do?
- Is cooking a man's job or a women's job? Why?
- How has the role of men and women changed in today's life?

Describe an **impressive natural feature** in your country that you have seen.
You should say:

Where it is
What kind of place it is surrounded by
What it looks like

and say what is impressive about it.

Follow-up questions:

- Why is it important to protect natural features?
- How can we teach our children about the importance of natural features in our lives?
- Have factories/ industries affected natural features in your country in recent years?



Describe an **important invention** before the age of computer.
You should say:

What the invention is
Why you think it is important
What the advantages and disadvantages of the invention are.

and explain how this invention has changed our lives?

Follow up questions:

- What is the significant impact of modern inventions on our life?
- Do you think it's necessary to develop modern invention in the countryside?
- What do you think about the future inventions?

Talk about something that you enjoy doing **indoors**.
You should say:

Where you usually do it.
What equipment is needed
Why it is better to do this thing indoors

and say if you prefer spending you free time indoors or outdoors or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Why do most people spend their free times outdoor?
- What kinds of indoor/ outdoor activities are popular in your country?

Describe a **job** you would like to do in the future.
You should say:

Why you chose that job
What the good things about that job are
What the difficulties of doing that job are

and describe how it is difficult comparing to other jobs.

Follow-up questions:

- Would you like to have your own business? Why?
- What do you think of team working?
- What makes a business successful?
- What are the disadvantages of having your own business?

Describe a method of learning a foreign **language** you have e used.
You should say:

What you did
How long you used this method
How it compares to other methods of learning

and say whether you will use the same method in future or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Do you think age is an important factor in learning a language?
- What are the advantages of learning English language?
- What difficulties would a foreigner have when he learns your native language?
- How wil translation and interpretation develop in future?



Describe an important **letter/e-mail** you have received.
You should say:

When you received the letter
Who sent you that letter
What it was about

and explain the reasons why it is important.

Follow up questions:

- Do you often keep diaries?
- What is the difference between a diary and a letter?
- What id the difference between a letter and an e-mail?
- How do you think Internet has changed traditional letter writing?
- Would post office disappear in the next 50 years?

Describe a **library** you have been to.
You should say:

When you went to that library
Why you went there
What you learned from that place

and explain the benefits of that library.

Follow up questions:

- How has that library changed?
- Is that library useful for children or for adults?
- What skills should a librarian have?
- Is it important to take children to libraries?

Describe a **magazine** you have read.
You should say:
What it is
Why you read it
Who reads this magazine
and explain how popular this magazine is with other people.

Follow-up questions:

- Why do people read magazines?
- What kinds of magazines do adolescents read in your country?
- Should magazines contain illustrations?

Describe a kind of **musical instrument** you would like to play.
You should say:
What the instrument looks like
What it sounds like
What kinds of people it is popular with
and say if you think you will ever try to play that instrument or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- What musical instruments are popular in your country?
- What are the origins of music in every country?
- What is the role of music in people's life?
- Should children be encouraged to play music from early childhood?
- What is the best way to learn to play music?
- What features make a good music?

Describe a **museum** you have visited.
You should say:
Which museum it was
What items were on display?
What the significance of that museum was
and explain why you visited there.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you think is the importance of museum in history?
- Which type of museum is more popular in your country?
- Why is it important to visit a museum?

Describe one of your **neighbors** you remember well.
You should say:
Who he/ she was
What he/ she is like
When you became neighbors
and explain why you remember him so well.

Follow-up questions:

- What is the difference between a neighbor and a friend?
- How do you think you can improve your neighborhood?
- What things bother you the most in your neighbors?

Describe a **newspaper** you read.
You should say:
What it is
When you read it
Why you read it
and explain what articles you read.

Follow up questions:

- Is reading newspapers popular in your country?
- Do people read the headlines or the entire news story?
- What are the other sources of news in your country?
- What do you think the important qualities for a news reporter are?

Describe a piece of **news** you have heard that impresses you.
You should say:
What the news was
When you heard it
Where you heard it from
and explain how it affected you.

Follow-up questions:

- What is the importance of knowing the news?
- What is your favorite source of news?
- Do you think people hear sad/happy news more than before?

Describe an **old person** you met/ knew.
You should say:

Who he/she was
What he/ she looked like
What you liked about him

and explain why you remember him/her well.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the problems of old people in your country?
- What do most old people do in your country?
- Do you think old people should be kept in nursing homes?
- What can Government do to improve the life of senior citizens?

Describe something you **own** which is very important to you.
You should say:

Where you got it from
How long you have had it
What you use it for

and say why it is important to you.

Follow-up questions:

- Is it valuable in terms of money?
- Would it be easy to replace?
- What things are important for children?
- What kinds of things give status to people in your country?

Describe a **party** you have attended.
You should say:
Whose party it was
What type of party it was
What special things you did there
and say why you remember it so well.

Follow-up questions:

- Why are some people late for parties?
- What would you do if the guests feel bored?
- Which one do you prefer, friendly gathering or family party? Why?
- What are the differences between old and young generation parties?

Describe a **pet** you or some one you know used to have.
You should say:
What it looked like
What it liked doing
How it needed to be looked after
and explain if you would like to have a similar pet in future or not, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Why do you think some people keep pets?
- What kinds of pets are popular in your country?
- Why do you think some people hate keeping pets while others like it?
- What do you learn about people from the type of pet they keep?
- What are the limitations in your country for keeping pets?

Describe your favorite **photograph**.
You should say:
Where was the photo taken
What can be seen from the photo
Why you took that photograph
and explain why it is your favorite photograph.

Follow-up questions:

- How can someone take a good photograph?
- When do people use camera?
- Do you prefer to keep a film or a photograph?
- How do you feel when you look at your family album?
- Do you prefer a black and white photo or a colorful one? Why?

Describe the best **present** you have received.
You should say:
What it was
What it looked like
Who gave it to you and when
and explain why you liked it so much.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you usually give to your friends as a gift?
- What are some common gifts people usually receive in your country?
- What children like to receive as a gift?
- How the types of gifts people send to each other have changed in recent years?

Describe a **project** you had to do as part of your studies or work.
You should say:

What the purpose of that project was
What you had to do
How well the projected was completed

and say if you think it would have been easier to complete that project on your own or with the help of other people, and why.

Follow-up questions:

- Should people be encouraged to get involved in team working? Why?
- What is the significance of team working?
- Why do you think schools and institutions assign projects to students?

Describe a **restaurant** or **a café**.
You should say:

Where it is
What it looks like
What kind of service is provided there

and explain why you like it.

Follow-up questions:

- How people's eating habit has changed in recent years in your country?
- What do you think of advantages and disadvantages of fast foods?
- What is the difference between fresh food and canned food?
- What makes a restaurant run better?

Describe your favorite **season** in your country.
You should say:
What is it
What the weather is like at that time
How it is different from the other seasons in your country
and say what you are planning to do when that season next comes.

Follow-up questions:

- What are the seasons like in your country?
- What activities do people do in different seasons?
- Why do you think we are having climatic changes?

Describe a **subject** taught in your **school.**
You should say:
What it was
How it was taught
What you learnt from the class
and explain how you liked that subject.

Follow-up questions:

- Is there any difference between the traditional and modern educational systems?
- How teaching methods have changed in recent years in your country?
- What other subjects do you think should be added to the current courses?
- How do you think technology has affected teaching and learning system?

Describe one of the **shopping centers** you often go.
You should say
Where the shopping center is
What it looked like
How often you go to the center centers
and explain why you often go to it.

Follow up questions:

- Will smaller shops survive in the current business system?
- What are the differences of shopping malls and smaller shops?
- What is the trend of future shopping centers?

Describe a **skill** you want to learn.
You should say:
What it is
Why you think it is important
How you going to learn it
and explain what role it will play in your future life.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you think of the role of family and children to learn skills?
- What do you think of traditional skills?
- What is the most popular skill people want to learn?
- What skill do you think the university has provided for your job?

Describe a **sports activity** you have watched or participated.
You should say:
What it was
Where it happened
What happened
and explain why it was memorable.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you think is the most popular sports nowadays?
- What sports activities were you engaged in at school?
- What kinds of sports are better for the kids, team or individual sports?
- Should children be encouraged to do more sports?
- How has the type of sports activities changed in recent years in your country?

Describe the most important **success** in your life.
You should say:
When you achieved it
Who contributed to your success
How you have managed to succeed
and explain why it is do important to you.

Follow-up questions:

- How important is goal-setting in your life?
- Do you consider yourself a real success?
- What are your accomplishments and achievements in your life?
- Do you think having an organized program can lead to people's success?
- Do you think those who are lucky are successful?

Describe a **foreign country** you have **traveled** to.
You should say:
Where the country is
When you will go
What is the significance of that country
and explain why you would like to go there.

Follow up question:

- Can you tell me about the tourism development in your country, facilities, services, and the effect on environment?
- What is the importance of travel and tourism industry?
- What do you think the role of tourism guides are?

Describe a **typical day** when you are not working or studying.
You should say:
What you do
Where you go
Who you spend your time with
and say how those days vary.

Follow-up questions:

- Do you like to do routine jobs everyday? Why?
- What do you do to refresh your mind?
- How can people avoid feeling bored?

Describe your favorite **toy** you had when you were a child.
You should say:
What the toy was
Who gave it to you
What it was like
and explain why you liked it.

Follow-up questions:

- What kind if toys do you think are suitable for kids?
- Do you think parents should choose children's toys?
- How has the type of toys that the children play with change in recent years in your opinion?

Describe a **vehicle** you would like to have.
You should say:
What type it is
What it is like
What the features are
and explain why you like to have it.

Follow-up questions:

- What do you think is the safest means of transportation?
- How do you think the transportation will improve in future?
- What kinds of public transportations are available in your city?

Talk about something you like to do when the **weather** is hot/ cold.
You should say:

Where you do it
How often you do it
When you first started doing that thing
and explain what clothes or equipment you need.

Follow-up questions:

- Have you ever experienced bad weather condition?
- What is the effect of weather on people's mood?
- What are the impacts of global warming on environment?

Describe a kind of extreme **weather** you have experienced.
You should say:

What it was
When it happened
What happened
and explain how you felt at that time.

Follow-up questions:

- What should you do in a bad weather?
- Will bad weather change people's mood?
- What climatic changes do you predict in the coming years?
- Are the people interested in gathering the weather information in your place?

Last Words

Successful Candidates:

- Comment on the question
- Relate the question to their own experience
- Divide up their answers
- Use different tenses correctly (present perfect, past, and future tenses)

Comment on the question:

- That's interesting. I was reading an article about that last week.
- That's a big problem today. I think government has planned to do something about it.
- Oh, that's very difficult to predict. I don't think any body really knows what is going to happen.
- Wow, that's a tough question. It depends on your point of view.
- Yes, I have often thought about that.

Relate the question to their experience

- That's a tough question because I am not an economist.
- That's an interesting question because I work in computers, so I often wonder what the future of technology will be.
- My kids often ask me the same question.
- That's very important because I am getting married next month.

Divide up your answer

- Basically, there are three ways to look at this problem. One way is to imagine....
- It depends on how you look at it. For example, if you were a parent, you would have one opinion and if were a student, you might have another perspective.
- I think there are several ways to solve this problem. I think one way would be to....
- I suppose you could break it up into two or three areas. First,...

Use Different Tenses

- In the IELTS speaking, Part 1 focuses on Present Tense, Part 2 on the Part, and Part 3 on the future and modals (can, would, might, may, etc.).You are expected to predict, guess, analyze, relate, suggest, and evaluate in this part.

DOs and DON'Ts List

√ Talk to the examiner- you'll feel involved in the conversation.

√ Listen carefully to the questions you're asked so that your answers are relevant.

√ Answer the questions you're asked with some detail so that your answers are long enough.

√ Practice speaking for 2 minutes for Part 2.

√ Use the preparation time in Part 2 (1minute) to think about what is written on the card.

√ Use instructions and prompts on the card in Part2 to help you organize your long turn.

√ Practice ways of delaying answers to give yourself time to think in Part 3 .

√ **(See Tips for Part 3)**

√ Explain your opinion and give examples to support them.

✖ Don't memorize the answers.

✖ Don't give very short answers except when the examiner interrupts you at the end of the 2 minutes in part 2. At this point the examiner needs to move on to Part 3 of the test and only expects a short answer to his/ her questions.

✖ Don't worry if the examiner stops you in Part 2. It means you have spoken enough, and she/ he has to keep the timing of the test.

✖ Don't worry if you can't think of a word, try to paraphrase and explain.

✖ Don't worry if you have realized you have made a mistake. It's O.K to correct yourself. If you can't correct yourself, forget it and carry on.

✖ Don't ask the examiner if what you say is correct.

Samples Scripts

IELTS Speaking Test Samples

SampleTest 1

Examiner: Hello. Come in please and have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner: And can I have your passport, please?

Candidate: Yes. There you go.

Examiner: Thanks, and may I have your full name, please?

Candidate: My name is Nargess Barzegar, but everybody calls me Ameneh. It's been my nickname since I was born.

Examiner: Does your name have any special meaning?

Candidate: Well, yes. The name Nargess is a flower. It's in actual fact a Daffodil.

Examiner: Alright. And who gave this nickname to you?

Candidate: Well, it's an interesting story because at the time that I was born there was a very popular song, a pop song by the name of "Ameneh", and my older siblings who were children at the time, decided there and then that this should be my name, Ameneh, but my parents didn't agree.

Examiner: Alright Ameneh. Is your name important to you?

Candidate: Well yes, I think everybody's name is important to them. It's the one thing that you fully associate yourself with.

Examiner: OK, thanks Ameneh. And tell me where do you come from?

Candidate: Well I come from Tehran, which is the capital of Iran. Tehran is a bustling city with a very large population of I think about 17 million people. It's a very busy and polluted city, but at the same time it's very charming and you can meet people from all sorts of backgrounds.

Examiner: Alright Ameneh. What do you like about your hometown?

Candidate: Well, like I said, I like the fact that you can meet people from all sorts of backgrounds. My hometown, Tehran, has beautiful mountains in the North. It's very vibrant. You can almost find something interesting in every

neighbourhood. There's lots of activity going on during the day, which makes it very interesting as a city.

Examiner: OK, Ameneh. Tell me, what do most of the people do in your hometown?

Candidate: Well, as Tehran is the capital, there's a variety of vocations and activities going on during the day. Obviously it's the base of a country, so you have businessmen, you have lots of shops, and you have many ministries, many schools. All in all, there's a variety of jobs and activities going on.

Examiner: OK, thanks Ameneh. Now let's move on to the second part. I would like to show you a topic card, and you have to talk about this topic for about two minutes. You have one minute to prepare yourself. Here is a paper and a pencil. You can write down your notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Describe the most important **success** in your life.
You should say:
When you achieved it
Who contributed to your success
How you have managed to succeed
and explain why it is do important to you.

Examiner: OK Ameneh, now you must start talking please.

Candidate: Well, in relation to success, I have to say that I consider my education by far my most important success. This is due to the fact that while I was in university I did meet my husband and I married, so that was before I finished my degree. Since then, even though I have started a family, I've managed to obtain a degree with Honours, and subsequently was accepted on a post graduate programme which was actually quite difficult to get into. I think the main people who contributed to my success must have been my immediate family. My parents were very supportive in all my decisions. And also my spouse gave me all the support that I could possibly need from a husband. I have to say that the most important factor was my own self-determination, my self-discipline, time-management, and also uncompromising goals that I set for myself. Little goals, but nonetheless goals that made me reach where I am now.

It's very important, in my opinion to feel successful in an area that you choose. In my case it was education. Of course, this success has opened many doors for me, and will of course open many more. For instance, I know that I will be financially independent, I know that I will have a sense of achievement that is probably not comparable to much else.

Examiner: Thanks Ameneh. Now I would like to ask you a few more questions related to the same topic. How important is goal-setting in your life?

Candidate: This is extremely important. If you don't set goals - reachable, feasible goals - then you may as well just stop doing what you're doing. If you don't set these goals, then you lose track of what you've been up to and what else needs to be done. This leads to really destructive disorganisation, and at the end of the day you probably will end up without enough time, sufficient time to reach what you set out to reach. That's why self-discipline in keeping within your timeframe for these goals, and working hard to reach them really does make a difference.

Examiner: Tell me Ameneh, do you consider yourself a real success?

Candidate: That's a difficult question to answer, because I might not be the biggest success compared to other people. But for me personally, yes. My personal opinion of myself, with the circumstances that I had, I do consider myself quite a success because after all, I did manage to divide my time fairly between my studies, the pursuit of my education, and my family. I don't think I compromised my family in order to reach my educational goals. So therefore, yes, I do consider myself a success.

Examiner: OK thanks. And do you think having an organised programme can lead to people's success?

Candidate: Well I think it's of the utmost importance actually. I think that not having an organised programme or schedule will almost certainly result in the shortage of time. It's specifically important for short-term goals, as time is of the essence. A schedule is also necessary for long-term goals. Because its human nature to put things off till later, or you know, procrastinate, and you end up running out of time without even realising it. So, having a schedule will help you keep track of it.

Examiner: Thank you very much. This is the end of the speaking test. Have a nice day.

Candidate: Thank you. You too.

Sample Test 2

Examiner: Good Afternoon.
Candidate: Good afternoon.

Examiner: Come in please and have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Examiner: Alright. Can I take a look at your passport, please?

Candidate: Yes. Here you go.

Examiner: Thanks, and what is your full name?

Candidate: My name is Sara Akbari.

Examiner: Alright Sara. What is the meaning of your name?

Candidate: I think Sara means pure and innocent. However, this is an international name, as I have heard it in many other languages as well.

Examiner: All right Sara. Do you think your name is important to you? Do you like it or you would like to change your name?

Candidate: Well, I've never given it much thought. I think that must mean that I'm quite content with the name I have. And although I think it's quite a common name, I am nonetheless happy with it.

Examiner: Alright Sara. Please describe your daily routine.

Candidate: Well, I'm a university student in my second year. My daily routine during the week would consist of me waking up quite early in the morning – I'd say about 6 o'clock. From about six till eight I'll get ready, I'll have my breakfast. If there's any work that needs to be done before attending class, I'll try and fit it in there.

I take the bus to university, after which, of course, I attend the classes. Lunchtimes, we normally go off campus with my friends for a sandwich or a quick bite to eat. If we have more time, we might sit in the park and discuss some of the subjects we're doing. If I have classes in the afternoon, I'll return to campus and attend those. On a normal day, I'd say I'm finished at university by about 5 o'clock. And by the time I get home, it should be close to seven. After this, well it depends on how much work I have to do for the next day. Or, whether or not I have enough free time, in which case I will sit down and watch some television or spend some time with my mother.

Examiner: Alright Sara. What do you do on weekends?

Candidate: Well, preferably, I'd like to spend weekends relaxing and refreshing myself for the coming week. But, there will be times when I'll need to sit down and do some studying. Maybe I've fallen behind on a certain subject, or maybe I need to do some research. But I do prefer to relax, spend some time with my family, maybe go out with my friends, and generally feel rested for the following week.

Examiner: OK, thanks Sara. What are some of your hobbies?

Candidate: Well, if I have the time, I do enjoy going for a swim every once in a while. I also enjoy going window shopping with my friends, and reading. But during university, you have so much to read that I sometimes don't feel like reading fiction during my spare time.

Examiner: OK Sara. How much time do you spend with your friends in your spare time?

Candidate: Well, I like to divide that spare time between my family and my friends. Obviously, I see my family every day, mostly over a meal in the evening. Friends, it's not so. Of course, my university friends I'll see during the day, if we have classes together. But other friends, it's difficult to catch up on a regular basis. I'd say I wouldn't mind spending one day a week catching up with my friends and seeing what they're up to, and exchanging our weekly stories.

Examiner: Alright Sara, now we move onto another topic. I will show you a topic card and I would like you to talk about the topic for about two minutes. You have once minute to organise your mind and think about the topic. Here is a paper and a pencil and you can write down notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Describe your favorite **photograph**.

You should say:
Where was the photo taken
What can be seen from the photo
Why you took that photograph
and explain why it is your favorite photograph.

Examiner: Now you may start Sara.

Candidate: Thank you. Well my favourite photograph has to be one taken of my father many years ago. I think it must have been even before he married my mother. It's a very quaint photograph of him sitting in a tree with a very playful look on his face. And all his friends and colleagues standing under the tree, and I think, wondering how on earth he got up there in the first place. But they're all very amused, and they look like they're having a very good time.

I didn't actually, obviously, take the photograph myself. I'm imagining that it must have been one of my father's friends or colleagues on the university campus he was working at during that time. But I have to say it's a very candid photo, and it really captures the moment, and my father's very playful nature. This photograph of course is even more special to me since my father is no longer with us, and this really reminds me of how he was when I was a child, and how wonderful it was to be around him.

Examiner: Thank you Sara. Now I would like to ask a few more detailed questions. How can someone take a good photograph?

Candidate: Well, I do enjoy photography, but I'm in no way a professional photographer. I'd have to say a good angle, the right subject. I think light is very important, obviously, well, it would depend on the subject as well and location, but I think there are many different aspects involved in taking a good photo.

Examiner: Do you prefer to keep a film or a photograph?

Candidate: Well, you have to consider them both really. Photographs are obviously moments in time that have been captured and you can take them out at any given time and have a look at them and feel those emotions again, and see the happiness or whatever the occasion was and what feelings it induced in the people in the photograph or the subject of the photograph. Film has its advantages of being more real, having motion and movement and also sound. But on a personal level, I think there's something magical about a photograph that will never be about a film.

Examiner: Do you prefer a black and white photo or a colourful one?

Candidate: Again, that depends on the subject matter. I think portraits are more beautiful when they're black and white. But some landscape and sceneries are obviously all the more breathtaking because of the colour. So it would be a shame to take the photograph in black and white.

Examiner: How do you feel when you look at your family album?

Candidate: A great sense of nostalgia. I absolutely enjoy going through my family albums and looking at my parents and relatives from even before I existed. I like to think what they were thinking then and how they felt, and the funny part, I think, is the way they used to dress. It's just such a beautiful experience, to be able to go back and see what your loved ones looked like, or try to imagine what must have been going on through their minds at the time when this photograph was taken. It's a lovely experience.

Examiner: Thank you very much Sara. That is the end of your speaking test. Have a nice day.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Sample Test 3

Examiner: Good Morning.

Candidate: Good Morning.

Examiner: Come in and have a seat please.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Examiner: May I have a look at your passport?

Candidate: Yes, here you are.

Examiner: OK thanks, and may I have your full name please?

Candidate: My name is Nazli Parvizi.

Examiner: Alright, thanks Nazli. Who put this name on you?

Candidate: Nazli, is actually my paternal grandmother, and my parents decided to name me after her.

Examiner: What kinds of names are popular in your country?

Candidate: Well, I'll have to say that there's a variety of names. For girls it's mostly flowers, or ancient Persian names, and obviously religious names. But for boys, it tends to be, I think, mostly religious names and also ancient Persian names. You will come across quite a few people who have been named after a prominent religious figure, a historical religious figure. So they would use that for official purposes, but they might be called something totally different at home.

Examiner: Alright Nazli. Tell me, what is your major?

Candidate: I have a degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language.

Examiner: Do you like your major, and why.

Candidate: Yes I do indeed. I wanted to learn English fluently ever since I was a child. So, being lucky enough to get accepted on this course was a dream come true for me. And I enjoyed the course thoroughly. And of course, I've reached my childhood dream now.

Examiner: And what do you do at the moment , Nazli?

Candidate: At the moment I'm teaching English, both at an institute and also privately.

Examiner: Ok thanks. And tell me, what do you like about your job?

Candidate: Well, what I enjoy the most about my job, as I think most teachers would agree, is the sense of satisfaction, and gratification you get when your students learn what you're actually trying so hard, and they're trying so hard to. Nothing replaces that, I think, as a teacher. It's the most wonderful feeling.

Examiner: Is there anything you dislike about your job?

Candidate: Well I wouldn't go as far to say dislike. But I find it quite frustrating sometimes if a student is lacking in concentration, or is not even interested in learning this language. You do come across people who are forced by parents, or think it's absolutely necessary to learn English, but don't really commit to it much as they could.

Trying to encourage these students, it is quite an ordeal. But it's not something I would hate my job for. It's something that's just an obstacle that I have to overcome as a teacher.

Examiner: Alright Nazli. Would you like to have your own business one day?

Candidate: Yes, actually. My ultimate dream would be to open an English Language institute, which would of course be for all ages and levels. This would probably not materialise for quite some time yet. But I am working my way towards reaching this goal.

Examiner: Thank you Nazli. Now we move on to a topic. I would like to show you a topic card. You have to talk about the topic for about two minutes. You have one minute to think about the topic. Here is a paper and pencil, you can write down notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Describe an important **letter/e-mail** you have received.
You should say:
When you received the letter
Who sent you that letter
What it was about
and explain the reasons why it is important.

Candidate: Well, you've asked me to describe an important letter or email I've received. It was about a year ago that I made an application to a very reputable university to pursue my studies in English. I received a letter a few months back from the Head of the Department of Languages. This letter was of course one of the most important letters I've ever received in my life because not only did it confirm my place on that course, but it also offered me a full scholarship, which was the best news I could have got. The only thing holding me back all these years was of course the question of funds, but now that is no longer the problem. The letter also mentioned when the course begins, and how to go about registering.

Examiner: Alright, thanks Nazli. Now I would like to ask a few more questions. What is the difference between a letter and an email?

Candidate: Well, we can say the main difference is I suppose the speed in which we receive a letter as opposed to an email. Modern life probably necessitates speedier access to communication. So therefore, an email is much more convenient and less time-consuming.

Examiner: How do you think internet has changed traditional letter writing?

Candidate: Do you mean in the aspect of whether it's a good change or a negative change?

Examiner: That's right.

Candidate: Well, I think that it has a little bit of both. The internet facilitates the speed in which you can communicate important matters and personal matters with others. And also, it doesn't necessitate a person sitting down and writing a letter, and having to post it, and waiting for the time that it would take to deliver in order to get a reply. With the internet you can write a message and convey a certain thing within minutes, and receive a reply within minutes.

On the downside, I would have to say that an email lacks the emotion that maybe the sender is trying to convey. With letters you can perhaps tell a lot about its context because of the person's handwriting. It has a generally more personal touch to it, which I think is quite special. So, maybe emails are a good thing, but on special occasions for the people who matter to you, sending the occasional letter I think is a nice gesture.

Examiner: And the last question Nazli. Would post offices disappear in the next fifty years?

Candidate: Well, I wouldn't be surprised if they did, or at least they were diminished in numbers greatly. The reason is that obviously people are relying more and more on the internet to communicate. But on the other hand, as is the case now, a lot of people around the world still don't have access to the internet, so I think it wouldn't altogether disappear. At the end of the day you can't send a parcel, or a small package via the internet. So perhaps not entirely, but maybe you'd come across them a lot less often than you do now.

Examiner: Thank you very much, Nazli. This is the end of the speaking test.

Candidate: Thank you.

Sample Test 4

Examiner: Good Afternoon.

Candidate: Good Afternoon.

Examiner: Come in please and have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner: May I have a look at your passport please?

Candidate: Yes. Here you are.

Examiner: Fine, thanks. And may I have your full name?

Candidate: My name is Maryam Bahri.

Examiner: Alright Maryam, describe your family please.

Candidate: Well there's five people in my family: my parents, and my two siblings and I. I'm the youngest child. I have an older sister which is the oldest child, and of course my brother, who's the middle child.

Examiner: Thanks. Do you get along well with your family members?

Candidate: Well we try to get on as well as we can, but obviously each of us has a very different character to the other. So yes, because we're not a small family we try to learn, or we were taught early on to appreciate our differences and try and get along as best as we can.

Examiner: Thanks Maryam. What do you like to do to together as a family?

Candidate: If we haven't seen each other for a long stretch of time, what we most like to do is get together for a family meal, and discuss the things that are going on in our lives. We tend to do that at least once a week with all the family gathered at my parent's house. It's a very enjoyable time, because you get to catch up and learn what your family are doing. And also, give each other advice on different subjects or difficulties we might be having.

Examiner: Are people in your country generally close to their families?

Candidate: I would say yes, very much so. In our culture it's very important. It's a very family-oriented culture. Families tend to stay in touch a lot. And even if there's distance, for whatever reason, they always tend to keep in touch and inform each other of their well-being. I think the culture encourages this.

Examiner: Alright Maryam. What kind of building do you live in?

Candidate: I live on the fifth floor of a twelve-storey apartment building. My apartment is not very large, but it has a nice living area and two smallish bedrooms. What I like most about my building is my neighbours, who are very kind, and they keep to themselves, but you can rely on their help if you need it.

Examiner: Alright thanks Maryam . Do you like your neighbourhood?

Candidate: I have to say yes, because it's quite central and therefore everything is easily within access. The downside to my neighbourhood is maybe the traffic and the noise. But all in all, I like it. I do.

Examiner: Have you ever thought about changing your apartment?

Candidate: Not for the moment, no. But if our family grows, then obviously we will have to move into a bigger apartment.

Examiner: Alright, thanks Maryam. Now let's move onto the topic of libraries. I would like you to describe a library you have been to. You have to talk about this topic for two minutes, and you have one minute to think about the topic. Here is a paper and pencil. You can think about the topic, and write down your notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Describe a **library** you have been to.
You should say:
When you went to that library
Why you went there
What you learned from that place
and explain the benefits of that library.

Examiner: Now you may start, Maryam.

Candidate: Thank you. You've asked me to describe a library that I've been to. Well the most significant library that I have ever been to was the one located on my university campus. The library was situated in a very beautiful old building with very tall glass windows. The building itself was quite inspiring. The inside was also very pleasant. You entered into a beautiful stone, double-height hallway, after which you would actually move on into the actual library itself. Of course, the books were all categorised and shelved according to subject matter. And I remember there was a very helpful librarian who would obviously assist you if you found difficulty in locating a particular book. Inside, there was more than enough space to sit down and do your studying. I initially went there to pick up some reference books, but the atmosphere was so peaceful and calm that I decided to do my research within the building. After that, I visit it frequently.

I learned from this experience that I concentrate better in a peaceful environment, where the noise is limited and other people are basically doing what you're doing, which is studying or researching. That particular library was very beneficial to my studies because of its immense wealth of books on every subject. I'm very glad that I had that experience, and it taught me a lot about my better learning methods.

Examiner: Alright Maryam, now I would like to ask a few more detailed questions about the same topic. Is that library useful for children, or for adults?

Candidate: Well, seeing as it was located on a university campus, it was specifically for student's and professor's use. But there were some major children's novels and works in the collection obviously.

Examiner: How do you think that library has changed?

Candidate: Well I haven't been there for many years now, but I have been told that it's expanded. The building has been expanded. I'm sure this is due to the numerous books they must have accumulated since my last visit. And also, I've been told that the whole library has been digitalised and the books are now available as e-books.

Examiner: Alright. What skills should a librarian have?

Candidate: Well I think as a librarian, it's a pre-requisite to have a good knowledge of literature, and also of the books available in the library you're working at. I think another thing that helps is patience and people-skills. You have to manage the people attending the library, trying to keep the peace of the environment, trying to keep it a calm atmosphere. And also, I think perhaps enjoying solitude at long stretches of time is also a benefit.

Examiner: Is it important to take children to libraries?

Candidate: Well, I think it's very important to introduce children to books as soon as possible, as early on in life as you can. Of course you can do this by buying books for your children, but obviously you would never be able to buy all the books available at a library for your child. So yes, I think taking children to libraries to enhance their knowledge and their curiosity, and exposing them to the variety available there is very important.

Examiner: Thank you very much Maryam. This is the end of the interview, and have a very nice day.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

Sample Test 5

Examiner: Good morning, please come in and have a seat

Candidate: Good morning, ma'am. Thanks.

Examiner: May I have you full name?

Candidate: Sure, my name is Laleh Kashani.

Examiner: Thank you Laleh. Can I have a look at your passport?

Candidate: Sure, there you go.

Examiner: Alright Laleh, I'm going to ask you a few personal questions. Do you watch TV a lot?

Candidate: Well, not really. I'm not a couch potato. I don't think I am a TV addict but when I get back home in the evening I really like to lie down and relax, switch onto a channel and probably watch TV series or news channels.

Examiner: What do you usually watch on TV?

Candidate: Well, that's interesting, in fact a very good question. Let me see, well, most of the time I really like to follow the current news, so basically I watch news channels. Probably, late at night I switch on the channel which has TV series

Examiner: Alright, what's the most popular program in your country?

Candidate: Well, I suppose among the people, probably TV series and documentaries are the most popular TV programs. Moreover, I suppose many people also are interested in following the news, so many of them in fact, follow the current news through TV channels.

Examiner: What are some of the disadvantages of TV in your opinion?

Candidate: Well in my opinion, there might be some disadvantages, in my view let's say, It takes the time of the people and the families especially when family member sit together, watching TV instead of having interaction conversation, they have to just focus their attention on what's going on TV, so actually it gives less time to family members to be together and have friendly chat ,and also for the kids, I think, it will not be that beneficial to sit in front of TV, doing nothing, just gazing at the tube, and it might be quite destructive for them ,makes them less active, makes them in fact passive. And I can say taking their health issue into consideration makes them fat and obese.

Examiner: We are going to move onto a different subject now. Do you use the internet much during a day?

Candidate: Well I can say yes. I use most of the time during my office on the net because due to nature of my job I have to surf the net, find out different answers to many questions and different subjects. So, most of the time I spend my day on the net.

Examiner: What website have you recently visited?

Candidate: Basically I surf Google and Yahoo. Yes, I can tell you that the most recent one that I have visited was the yahoo site when in fact few hours back I had to send an urgent e-mail to my colleagues overseas, so I switched on the net and I got connected, I composed my own mail , and in fact through mail I sent my message to my friend.

Examiner: What are some advantages of internet?

Candidate: I suppose there are too many to be counted. In fact, internet has made the interactions among the people very close and it brought the people close together and it covers the distances. As you know probably, Now that the whole World is called the global village because all the interactions and communications are among the people and in fact with only a single click on the net, you can get connected to your friends on the other side of the globe, you can also send and receive e-mails and also you can have also access to lots of information

Examiner: Do people in your country use internet a lot?

Candidate: I can say more or less yes people use internet a lot because the young mostly use internet for chatting, for surfing, for sending and receiving e-mails ,and of course the organizations and offices use internet for official correspondence.

Examiner: Thank you, Laleh. Now I'm going to give you a topic card which I like you to talk about 2 minutes, please take 1 minute to study topic card and here is a piece of paper and a pen if you need to write anything down.

Candidate: Thanks.

Describe a **museum** you have visited.
You should say:
Which museum it was
What items were on display
What the significance of that museum was
and explain why you visited there.

Candidate: Well about museum that I have visited, I would like to say that it was almost 9 months back when I had a visit to Auckland. In fact, over there, in that city, there was an anthropology museum that was a huge single storey glass building and in fact when we entered the building, on the right side, there was a small gift shop where visitors could buy souvenirs and opposite the gift shop, there was a gallery that everything was exhibited on the same floor to assist smooth movement of the old and disabled visitors. There were several items on display, in one corner, there was a big window, old pots and ceramic dishes were on this display. On the other side was a pot which old costumes belonging to people living in those areas were was on display. In fact, on the other corner of this hall, there was a part which displays ancient indigenous artifacts. So, altogether, there are so many items on display which were really informative and in general I suppose the museum depicted the ancient civilization of the people used to live in those times. The reason I visited there in fact as a tourist, so I thought that probably it's better to familiarize myself with the customs and traditions of the New Zealanders, so that's why I visited there.

Examiner: Alright, thank you Laleh, now I' m going to ask you some more detailed questions on the same topic. What do you think is the importance of the museums?

Candidate: Well in fact, I have never given it much thought, but I suppose the importance of museums are far too many probably to educate people of the ancient civilizations and also to familiarize them with different life styles that have our ancestors, their traditions and I believe in general museum takes us back in time to different eras.

Examiner: Thank you. What types of museums are popular in your country?

Candidate: I can say that different types of museums which are quite popular if you want to name a few, I have to say that National Jewelry Museum, Museum Of Contemporary Art, Carpet Museum, The Museum Of Ancient Anthropology and there are also different museums exhibiting different items inside the kings palaces.

Examiner: Why is it important in your opinion to visit museums?

Candidate: Well it is really important to visit museums, especially to educate our kids and children and also people at different levels because museum is generally exhibiting different items to help people to get to know their ancient cultures and

civilizations and in fact as I told before it takes us back to different times and different eras and there are also so many old and ancient items on display which are in fact pertained to our ancestors that are really unique.

Examiner: Alright thank you very much Laleh, it is the end of your speaking test.

Candidate: Thank you very much. Have a nice day.

Sample Test 6

Examiner: Hello.

Candidate: Hello.

Examiner: Come in please and have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner: May I have your full name, please?

Candidate: My name is Ladan Sariri.

Interviewer: Alright, Ladan .Can I look at your passport, please?

Candidate: Yes, there you go.

Examiner: Thanks, all right Ladan, where are you from?

Candidate: I'm from Tehran which is the capital of Iran, I was born and raised here and lived here all my life, it's a very big city but I enjoy living here.

Examiner: What's the weather like in your home town?

Candidate: Well, in Tehran the weather is very diverse. We have 4 seasons exactly; it can be very hot in the summer, very hot and dry, and extremely cold in the winter. The temperature can go down to minus 17 and we used to have a lot of snow that stopped for a while , but in recent years it's been snowing more and more

Examiner: Ok, thanks Ladan, does the weather affect your mood?

Candidate: I think the weather probably affects everybody's mood. Some people feel more energetic and cheerful under blue sky with the sun shining, and perhaps the wet weather dampens their mood and makes some feel depressed but there are many people who prefer you call it rainy weather.

Examiner: What is your favorite season of the year?

Candidate: I personally really enjoy autumn because I think everything looks more beautiful. The colors are warm, the trees look beautiful, the weather is mild. It is neither too hot nor cold.

Examiner: Thanks. Ladan, what do you enjoy doing in hot weather?

Candidate: Well actually, the heat doesn't agree with me and I don't feel very comfortable in hot weather. But if I had to choose an activity, I suppose it would be something relaxing, may be a short walk somewhere, may be sitting in café outside, and having a cool drink.

Examiner: O.K. Now let's move to another topic, do you watch TV a lot?

Candidate: Well, if I have time, yes, but I'm quite busy with my studies at moment

Examiner: Ok, what do you usually watch on TV?

Candidate: I enjoy documentaries. I tend to sit and watch the documentaries when they happen to be on because it's about life, it's about reality and you learn something from these programs, other than that I enjoy comedy and I usually try to keep up with the news.

Examiner: Alright, Ladan. What are the most popular programs in your country?

Candidate: I think in Iran I would have to say, at the top of the list would be sports, and then may be these TV series that seem to be very popular with families, they tend to be quite late at night around 10 o'clock, so that the whole family can sit and watch it.

Examiner: Alright, Ladan, what are some disadvantages of TV?

Candidate: I think TV is a good thing all in all in moderations. I think maybe has decreased the amount of interaction among families have with each other because while they are at home, they sit in front of television and focus on one program instead of talking to each other, exchanging their daily activities and experiences and children's television should be supervised if not, they probably will spend too much time in front of it and this stops some from being physically and mentally active elsewhere.

Examiner: Ok, thanks Ladan. NOW, let's move onto a topic. I would like you to describe a pet that you or someone else you know used to have, you have one minute to think about the topic and then I want you to talk about 2 minutes, here is paper and pencil you can write your notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you.

Describe a **pet** you or some one you know used to have. You should say:
What it looked like
What it liked doing
How it needed to be looked after
and explain if you would like to have a similar pet in future or not, and why.

Candidate: Well, We once had a pet cat, which was given to us by a neighbor, he came across it in the garden downstairs, and it was very small at that time, and extremely skinny. He was not allowed - his parents didn't allow him -to take it at home, so he brought it to our door. Of course, once we saw it, we fell in love with it and took her in. She was a ginger cat. I think by some standard, she was quite ugly, we thought she was very pretty. First she needed a bit of care because she was so small and she wasn't used to be around people. But once she stayed with us for a while, she took of the apartment basically, we were more her guest rather than she ours. Taking care of her was a pleasure. She could get messy sometimes, but once she learned where her kitty little was, she knew she had to go to bathroom there. And of course, like all cats, she always looking for extra food. I don't know whether I' be able to have a pet and keep it and look after probably now because I tend to be more outside of the house than inside. Also my brother is quite allergic to cat fur.

Examiner: Ok Ladan, I would like to ask you a few more detailed questions about the same topic. Why do you think some people keep pets?

Candidate: Well, the reason for some people is because they are very fond of animals. May be they've been brought up with animals in a house, so it's just a part of their normal life. I think for others, it is because of their loneliness, and the end of the day when you come home if it depresses you there is no one there, it's good to have a living breathing animal waiting for you.

Examiner: what kinds of pets are popular in your country?

Candidate: I' m afraid some animals in general are not popular. Domesticated animals like pets are not very popular. It is not in our culture to keep animals in the house. However, there are many people who own dogs. We have quite a few dog lovers, cats less and less, there are people who feed them occasionally outside of their

home. I would say perhaps an animal with less fuss and less fur like parrots or goldfish is the popular type in my country.

Examiner: Why do you think some people hate keeping pets, while others like it?

Candidate: Again, I think that goes back to what you are brought up with and personal feeling towards pets .I think one reason people might not like keeping pets is the trouble they have to go through in order to look after the pet properly. Of course once you take in a pet, you are obliged to look after it properly, feed it on the regular basis, make sure it has a clean dry place to sleep and also make sure it gets enough activities during the day.

Examiner: Thanks Ladan, one more question. What are the limitations in your country for keeping pets?

Candidate: Well as I mentioned before because of our culture ,perhaps our religion, people who keep dogs have a pretty difficult time because dogs need exercise; you can't keep them in the house all day long, you need to take them out for a walk. Perhaps people in the streets would not welcome this. In fact I think they are extremely frowned upon. I think another issue might be the expense of keeping a pet . Ever since a dog, well there is not dog food in a can, ready available in every supermarket so you would have to spend more money and time in making for your pet dog.

Candidate: Thank you very much Ladan. This is the end of your interview, have a nice time

Examiner: Thank you

Sample Test 7

Examiner: Hello, come in please

Candidate: Thank you very much

Examiner: Alright. May I have your full name?

Candidate: My name is Sogol Bakhtiari.

Examiner: Alright, thanks Sogol. Can I take a look at your passport?

Candidate: Of course, here you are.

Examiner: Alright, Sogol .Do like shopping, and why?

Candidate: I think I do like shopping quite a lot. Some people might call me shopaholic. I think most women are like me. We tend to buy impulsively. We are impulsive buyers, this means we sometimes we buy things that we don't need, but we enjoy doing that.

Examiner: Ok, thanks. What time do you do the shopping?

Candidate: As I work from 8:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon, I tend to do my shopping on the way back home or during the weekends .If I need something urgently, I might even take my lunch break and quickly go to buy to the place I need and buy the things I need.

Examiner: Ok Sogol, do you ever shop on the Internet?

Candidate: I don't think I would like to. I never have. For me shopping is a personal experience. I like to see what I am choosing and about to buy. Seeing the photograph I don't think does the same thing. It's not the same experience.

Examiner: Thanks. let's move onto the topic of clothing. What type of clothes do you like to wear?

Candidate: I like comfortable clothes something easy to be in for the whole day.

Examiner: O.K. What kind of clothes do people in your country usually wears?

Candidate: It depends on their age and also it depends on their jobs sometimes even, but I think you'll find in Tehran, younger people like to wear trendy clothes. They like to wear jeans and colorful coats and t-shirts. Yes, I think younger people enjoy younger fashion like everyone in the world. They prefer to dress in a sporty manner but of course for formal occasions the men will put on a very nice suit and ladies will wear an evening dress.

Examiner: Do you think people behave differently in different kinds of clothes?

Candidate: I think they probably do. If you wear something smart and formal I think you subconsciously feel that you're supposed to behave dignified may be and then you might feel important. If you are wearing something comfortable and sporty every day, you probably behave more casual as well and then you'll probably be more approachable at the same time.

Examiner: Now let's move onto the topic card. I would like you to describe one of the shopping centers you often go to. So you have to talk about the topic for about 2 minutes and you have 1 minute to think about the topic here is a paper and a pencil to write down whatever you wish and then you may start.

Candidate: Thank you.

Describe one of the **shopping centers** you often go.

You should say:
Where the shopping center is
What it looked like
How often you go to the center centers
and explain why you often go to it.

Candidate: The shopping center that I normally go to is a large one. It was built I think about 5 or 6 years ago. The reason I go there is because there is such a wide variety to choose from. It has 4 or 5 different stories and numerous different shops. Basically you can find whatever you are looking for, whether it is a pair of flip-flops or a formal evening dress. I would probably go there at least once a month or may be twice. I might not even buy anything but there also are some cafes or restaurants to sit and then have about to eat in. so, I might just end up going there with a friend or a few friends just for a coffee or may be do some window shopping. I go to this particular one because as I mentioned before you can find whatever you are looking for: sports wear, formal wear, shoes, bags, accessories, and even I think recently household equipment.

Examiner: Alright Sogol, now I would like to ask you a few more detailed questions related to the same topic. Will smaller shops survive in the current business system?

Candidate: Actually, I have actually never thought about it before, but I'd assume they would especially in rural areas where demand for the shopping centers is probably zero; however, population is growing and there are new products every

day, so I think they will diminish in numbers in more urban areas, but however not completely disappear from the face of the earth. A lot of people still prefer to go to the local shop to buy what they are looking for and support their family businesses.

Examiner: What are the differences of modern shopping malls and smaller shops?

Candidate: Well, again, I haven't given this much thought before, but I suppose modern shopping mall is quite inviting with its huge structure, its modern architecture and there is so much to choose from as oppose smaller local shops. I think this abundance of choice might be a bit confusing at times, smaller shops tend to store less items when you go in and you don't have a huge variety to confuse you and of course the appearance is much more traditional.

Examiner: Ok, thanks and the last question. What is the trend of future shopping centers?

Candidate: Well, in my opinion, I think the future of shopping centers; they will be fewer in numbers, but probably a lot bigger. I think this would because people want to go to one place and buy whatever they need. There's also this growing trend of internet shopping but I don't think internet shopping will take over completely because I think people generally prefer to see and see whatever about the purchases before making a decision

Examiner: Thank you very much Sogol. This is the end of your interview .Have a nice day.

Sample Test 8

Candidate: Good morning.

Examiner: Good morning, ma'am. Please come in and have a seat, May I have your full name?

Candidate: Well my name is Taraneh Sadeghian.

Examiner: Thank you Tranah. May I have a look at your passport?

Candidate: Sure, here you are.

Examiner: Thank you, ok Taraneh. I'm going to ask you a few questions, do you like to travel?

Candidate: In fact I can tell you I love traveling, I'm keen on traveling because it gives me the opportunity to visit different places, meet new people and in general get new experience.

Examiner: Do you like to travel alone or with your friends?

Candidate: Well, it depends, I can say most of the tome I really like to travel with my friends because I think there is more fun to it, however I think there are some times when I think I'd better be myself to be relaxed and fresh, be away from the busy life, so sometimes I do prefer to be alone.

Examiner: Right and what do you usually do when you first arrive at a new place?

Candidate: Well, it's not an easy question that I have never thought about it before. the first thing I do when I first arrive at a new place is probably taking a shower and have a cup of coffee and relax and of course it depends on the distance if it is a short distance trip, I probably might not be that much tired to sleep or take much time to relax, but in a longer trip I suppose I will have a long sleep, take shower, and have a cup of coffee

Examiner: I see, what's the best place you have ever visited?

Candidate: I have visited so many places, but the best one that I have ever visited probably is 'Opera House' in Sydney. I can tell it was almost the last November, I had a trip with my family to Sydney and I visited Opera House. I had always wanted to visit that place since I was a child and I was really happy to visit that place because it's one of the world famous place, so it was a large, I can say huge building. In fact it was a huge hall made for performing different sorts of art and artistic works. It had a big auditorium, several steps because of performing many arts, so I really like it.

Examiner: Ok, Taraneh, now we are going to move onto a new subject, can you tell something about transportation in your home town?

Candidate: I can tell you in my home town, there are probably several different types of transportation systems, well I can tell you that most of the people use their own cars , they tend to use their private cars, however many people use taxis and buses to commute to work. And I can tell you recently, they have also developed the subway system which quite makes transportation smooth.

Examiner: Is there much traffic in your city and if so how can this problem be solved?

Candidate: Well, of course, a huge population live in my hometown, Tehran, is the capital of Iran, I can tell you we do have a lot of traffic. Traffic is congested, there are too many cars in the roads, and in the streets and I can tell you that most of the people use their own private cars that is another reason that adds to it, and also there are too many single passenger cars, so I do think that we will have a lot

problems probably some of them can't be done to solve this problem is to construct more roads and highways and I suppose that government is required to encourage people to carpool or use more public transportation.

Examiner: All right thank you. Now, we are going to move onto the second part of the test. I'm going to give you a topic card, you can take 1 minute to have a look and then also take down some notes, here is a pen and paper and then we will start.

Candidate: Thank you.

Describe a kind of **musical instrument** you would like to play. You should say:
What the instrument looks like
What it sounds like
What kinds of people it is popular with
and say if you think you will ever try to play that instrument or not, and why.

Candidate: A kind of musical instrument I would like to play is probably DAFF. I ve when I was younger always wanted to learn how to play DAFF. Well, in fact DAFF is a large frame drum with metal bangles and it is a bit similar to tambourine in instruction, it is handmade and it is a part of religious music in Iran in our country in Sufi especially it is always a spiritual tool I can say it is generally played in the ancient middle east by women in Kurd_society, it can also be played to produce highly intense and complex rhythm and well, in fact, the kind of people probably, it is popular may be with the people who are interested in mysticism and ethnic music and in fact I had started learning playing DAFF, this my interesting musical instrument, almost 2 years back , I registered in an institute and in fact with the help of a skilled and experienced instructor, I had managed to learn.

Examiner: Alright, thank you, Taraneh. Now I'm going to ask you some detailed questions on the same topic. What musical instruments are popular in your country?

Candidate: Well, in my country, I suppose the piano, the guitar; perhaps the drum is the most popular among the younger people. However, many older people tend to play eastern musical instruments such as the Sitar which is a string instrument and DAFF which is percussion.

Examiner: Do you think people have tendency to Western music and if so why?

Candidate: Well I'm not expert but I can say, I do think still people have more tendency toward western music especially the younger generation, in spite of the fact that Iranian Pop and music styles have developed and improved a lot, still I suppose because of so much variety in western music, people tend to listen to western music.

Examiner: Alright and do you think children should be encouraged to play music from the early childhood?

Candidate: Like any other activities, I suppose playing music is better to be encouraged from early childhood-from early age because children are capable of absorbing things very quickly and easily and they can develop it further with their practice , with their talent more quicker than adults and probably the later ages.

Examiner: What is the best way to learn to play an instrument?

Candidate: Probably the best way to play music is registering in a prominent and leading institute and with the help of a skilled, experienced ,I can say, professional music instructor probably that would be the best way because I've heard around it from some people they go back to their talent , they are self-tutored, I believe, they don't develop further , and I have also seen the people who are talented and started learning musical instrument with the help of a capable music instructor and I can say they have improve much further.

Examiner: Ok, Tareneh. What do you think about the role of music in people's lives?

Candidate: Well it is multifaceted; music plays a great role in people's lives basically. It depends on the situation and the occasion; in sad situation, it can calm them down in time listening to light music is very soothing and relaxing. On the other hand, on happy occasions, it lifts their spirits, it really helps them to rev- up and it is very relaxing, but I suppose it can have destructive effect on the younger generation and children, it may encourage them to drug abuse or some violence.

Examiner: Alright, Taraneh, thank you very much. Your speaking test is now over.

Candidate: Thank you, have a nice day.

Sample Test 9

Examiner: Good afternoon

Candidate: Good afternoon ma'am.

Examiner: Please come in and a have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner:: May I have your full name?

Candidate: Sure, my name is Pooneh Saadatmand.

Examiner: Can I have a look at your passport?

Candidate: Sure there you go, thank you.

Examiner: Alright Pooneh, I'm going to ask you a few questions. Do you read books and if you do what kind of books do you read?

Candidate: Well, I read books but I'm not really a big fan of reading books. I read books whenever I have time, basically my favorite types of books are fictions and sometimes novels and sometimes I do like to read historical books

Examiner: Well, did you read books when you were a child?

Candidate: I can say absolutely yes because my parents , in fact, develop the habit of reading books in me since I was a child, I remember at that time I wasn't a literate person, my dad used to read some folk stories.

Examiner: I see, do children like reading nowadays?

Candidate: Well I'm not so sure, but from what I see around me, I can tell you that children are not basically that interested in reading books as opposed to my time. Probably because there are so many games to play, computer games to play, internet games to play and that is why probably that they are not that interested in reading.

Examiner: Pooneh, would you give you a book as a gift?

Candidate: Well, certainly. Book is a treasure, I can say, it is a valuable gift I can give to people I like especially my friends because I suppose a gift enhances my friends' information and it is something they can really keep it forever and in fact, I believe, it is a good, I will leave a good memory of myself with my friends.

Examiner: Thank you Pooneh. Now we are going to move on another subject, do you like music?

Candidate: I can tell you that honestly, I'm a big fan of music I have spent much of my time listening to different kinds of music; western music, Iranian, pop songs. Yes totally I can tell, I really am interested in listening to music.

Examiner: What kind of music do you like?

Candidate: There is a variety of music I really like. I can tell you from folk music, western music, pop music which these days is very popular, so, I'm a big fan of almost all types of music

Examiner: Can you tell me what kind of music is popular in your country?

Candidate: Well in recent years I can tell you, pop music is probably very popular among the people especially the younger generation, but those days, I remember, in the past, people had more tendencies towards western music.

Examiner: Alright, Now I'm going to give you a topic card which you have to talk about in 2 minutes, please take 1 minute to study it and here's a piece of paper and pen if you need to take some notes.

Candidate: Thanks.

Describe your favorite **toy** you had when you were a child. You should say:
What the toy was
Who gave it to you
What it was like
and explain why you liked it.

Candidate: It's about my favorite toy .when I was a child about 2 or 3 years old, I had a Barbie doll, in fact, my mother gave it to me because ,at that time, I can remember that they had already put me in the kindergarten and they probably had difficulties sending me there, I was a naughty girl at that time, I was crying I wasn't keeping up with people even the babysitters over there .So probably to encourage me to stay there, she bought me a Barbie doll, I remember, it was really nice, looks like Cinderella and it had nice long blond hair, very well-dressed fashionably, but, in fact, I really like it because still I have it after so many years when I look at it, it reminds me of sweet memories of the past.

Examiner: Alright, Now I'm going to ask you some detailed questions on the same subject. What kind of toys do you think are more suitable for kids?

Candidate: Well, I suppose, it depends on the age. If they are toddlers or kids probably something pretty safe, such as stuffed toys, dolls something without jagged edges or without sharp edges. Something really keep them away from dangers, but when they grow older, I think, when they go to 5 or 6 years, it's better to give them something more educational to keep their mind more active, give them some more challenging games such as board games, chess , etc.

Examiner: Do you think parents should choose children's toys?

Candidate: obviously, I suppose parents should supervise the kind of toys the children use because children are not mature enough to recognize the rights and wrongs that is sometimes, they go to types of toys that are not quite good for them, it's dangerous and it's not safe; some guns are made. So, I suppose it's better to have supervision over the type of toys basically they use. Especially these days, there are different types of computer games in the market; so definitely, in that sense it has to filtered and supervised.

Examiner: How has the type of toys that the children play with change in recent years in your opinion?

Candidate: I can tell you it has dramatically changed since I was a child, I can tell you those days, I used to play safe toys such as stuffed dolls, teddy bears, balls, plastic balls and something really safe. However, these days I notice that younger generation, children and different ages tend to play with modern toys from gun shots to different toys and they also spend time playing different type of violent game which is not at all useful for them. So I suppose, unfortunately, there is a tendency towards more from violent games to dangerous games these days.

Examiner: Thank you very much, Pooneh, your speaking test now is now over.

Candidate: Thank you very much and have a nice day.

Sample Test 10

Examiner: Good Afternoon. Come in please.

Candidate: Good Afternoon. Thank you.

Examiner: Have a seat.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner: Well, can I have a look at your passport?

Candidate: Yes, of course.

Examiner: Thanks. And may I have your full name please?

Candidate: My name is Naghmeh Sadeghian.

Examiner: OK Naghmeh, it's a nice name.

Candidate: Thank you.

Examiner: What is the meaning of your name?

Candidate: Well, my name means song or melody in the Persian language, in Farsi.

Examiner: OK, thanks. Do you think your name has an impact on your character and personality?

Candidate: Well I haven't given this much thought, but I think maybe because it means melody and song, it affects people's perception of my character. Perhaps this sort of cheerful name makes them expect a cheerful character, which I try to be, but obviously am not all the time. But no, I don't think it affects my character as a person.

Examiner: Alright Naghmeh. Let's move on to another question. Is your health important to you?

Candidate: I think everybody's health is important to them. I think we all try to do our best to lead a healthy life, but whether or not we succeed is a different question.

Examiner: What do you do to improve your health?

Candidate: Not as much as I should, to be honest. I don't think I eat as healthily as I should, and I probably need to exercise a lot more, and possibly cut down on my caffeine intake.

Examiner: What is the major health concern in your country at the moment?

Candidate: I think like many other countries globally, our main health concern must be the N1H1 virus, which is also known as swine flu. The reason being that

apparently it is taking on the form of a pandemic, which is very worrying due to the large population in my country. I do believe that the government is trying to control this with the guidelines and help of the World Health Organisation, and hopefully this will be under control soon.

Examiner: OK, thanks Naghmeh. Do you like cooking?

Candidate: I do. I do like cooking, but unfortunately due to my being a student I don't find enough time to cook as regularly as I should.

Examiner: OK, thanks. What kind of food do you like?

Candidate: Well, I enjoy a vast majority of the foods that I've tasted and experienced. I'm very fond of my country's local cuisine, but I also really enjoy a nice Italian or Chinese meal.

Examiner: OK, thanks. Naghmeh, what are the most famous dishes of your country?

Candidate: Well, it would be difficult to name a few famous dishes or specialties, because I think each area of the country has its own specialty which people enjoy. But I think on an international level, I could perhaps say Chelo Kebab which consists of grilled meat accompanied by rice. Chelo means rice, and kebab means grilled meat. This meat can be any form. It can be beef, or lamb, chicken, or even minced meat, normally with a combination of onion. Traditionally the meat is pulled onto skewers and cooked over a charcoal fire.

Examiner: OK thanks. And tell me, in your country have people's eating habits changed?

Candidate: Well I honestly don't think that this is just limited to my country. I think over the ages, people's living habits have changed, and also life has taken on a much faster pace. So I think that has reflected, maybe not very positively, on people's eating habits. You tend to catch a meal on the run. A lot of times a lot of people are constantly in a hurry, so they can't sit down and enjoy a proper meal during the day. Of course it's good to take the time out and do this at least once a day in order to help your digestion and also focus on healthier foods.

Examiner: OK, thank you very much Naghmeh. Now we move on to another topic. I would like you to describe an old person you've met. And in fact you have to talk about the topic for about two minutes. You have once minute to think about the topic. Here is a paper and a pencil. You can write down notes if you wish.

Candidate: Thank you.

Describe an **old person** you met/ knew.
You should say:
Who he/she was
What he/ she looked like
What you liked about him
And explain why you remember him/her well.

Examiner: Now you may start Naghmeh.

Candidate: Well you've asked me to describe an old person that I've met. I'd like to describe my best friend's late grandmother. She was quite a short lady, bent over even further with her back problems and arthritis. She had snow-white hair, which was always very neatly pulled back into a bun. She always smelt of a very pleasant flowery type of smell. I think she may have put her clothing into some very aromatic flowers, as they used to in the old days.

She was very kind, and I remember her taking very good care of us whenever I was visiting my friend. What I remember as a very fond memory was her lovely cookies. She used to make very delicious biscuits and sweets and cookies, and we used to enjoy them a lot. And that also gave her a very nice smell because we associated her with these beautiful biscuits.

Examiner: Alright Naghmeh, now I would like to ask a few more detailed questions about the same topic. What are the problems of old people in your country?

Candidate: I think the problem of old people worldwide, irrespective of their country, is that perhaps, in some cases, they don't receive the attention and respect that they should after all the hard work that they've done. I think old people tend to suffer from loneliness. Obviously this is not very beneficial to them because it affects their health. Also, there are cases obviously, where old people are distant from their immediate family or they have none left, and therefore they are put into nursing homes. In some cases, this might even happen with immediate family available.

Examiner: What do most old people do in your country?

Candidate: Old people in my country I think enjoy getting together with their family and exchanging stories, and advising the youngers in their family how to lead their lives properly. I think the old people in my country become very sociable. They

going out a lot. If they're healthy enough, I think they all like to go to the park, meet new people. Basically, I think they enjoy any activity that involves interaction with other people.

Examiner: Do you think old people should be kept in nursing homes?

Candidate: Well actually, I don't agree with nursing homes unless it's the last option. Old people should be taken care of by the people that they've taken care of before, such as their children and close relatives. But of course there are exceptions where people are too ill, or they need special care, in which case a well-equipped environment would be to their benefit.

Examiner: And the last question: What can the government do to improve the life of senior citizens?

Candidate: I think governments can do a lot by allocating funds to develop social gathering places for the elderly where they can meet and converse with their peers. I also think that the elderly should have access to free medical treatment and medication, because at the end of the day this is the generation that raised all these doctors and people in the society. And I think also another point might be for the government to improve the conditions in nursing homes, so that they're all uniformly equipped to take care of those who need to be there.

Examiner: Thank you very much Naghmeh. This is the end of the interview. Thank you very much and have a nice day.

Candidate: Thank you very much.

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