

ENGLISH PRO TIPS. BAND 9. JAKHONGIR. TRANSCRIPT

Eli: Good morning, my name is Eli. Can you please tell me your full name?

Jakhongir: Hi, my name is Jakhongir.

Eli: And what should I call you?

Jakhongir: You can call me Jakhongir.

Eli: In this first part, I'd like to ask you some questions about yourself. Let's talk about the area you live in. Do you like the area you live in now?

Jakhongir: Yeah, I think my apartment is conveniently located, and I have all the facilities nearby, like a metro station, bus stops, and grocery stores.

Eli: Do you think the area you live in now is suitable for people of all ages?

Jakhongir: It might not be, since I think old people need elevators, you know, to go from floor to floor, and sometimes our elevators don't seem to work, which is a problem for them. For this reason, I'd say probably not for all ages.

Eli: Are people in your area friendly?

Jakhongir: No, not really, because here in Tashkent, the thing is, every summer we have new people come and go, usually students from other regions. That's why people do not really get in close contact with each other or try to build relationships or friendships with other people.

Eli: How has your area changed in recent years?

Jakhongir: I'd say drastically, because the quality of the roads has improved. They now have special parking lots, covered parking lots, and cars no longer block the roads, which is much more comfortable than it used to be a few years ago. Before, we often had huge traffic jams because cars were blocking each other and couldn't get past, so yeah.

Eli: Let's move on. Let's talk about staying up late. Do you often stay up late?

Jakhongir: I try to go to sleep at regular times, ideally before 11 or 12, and wake up at around 6 or 7 in the morning.

Eli: What do you do when you stay up late?

Jakhongir: Nothing interesting - it's usually binge-watching Netflix shows, and sometimes I might do some writing. I feel like I'm really interested in IELTS writing, and I'm trying to, you know, up my game, so sometimes I spend time reading model essays.

Eli: How do you feel when you have stayed up late the night before?

Jakhongir: Horrible, like fatigued. I don't feel like I can do my work as efficiently as I would have if I had had enough sleep the day before. So, not really well.

Eli: Let's move on. Let's talk about chocolate. Do you like eating chocolate?

Jakhongir: From time to time. I'm not a massive fan of highly processed foods. I try to stay away from highly processed sugars like chocolate, Snickers, Milky Way, Twix, and Kit Kats. Now, I try not to eat them very often, but every now and then, to satisfy my sweet tooth, I do.

Eli: Did you often eat chocolate when you were a child?

Jakhongir: Not a lot, but yeah, I was a huge fan. I really loved it. I think it was because my parents didn't really allow me to have it at the time when I was like four or five years old. We were living in Russia, and the problem with chocolate was that it was quite expensive, so more often than not, my parents just couldn't afford it. So I loved it when I had it, but I didn't have it as often as I would have liked.

Eli: What's your favourite flavour of chocolate?

Jakhongir: Hazelnut. So chocolate, like milk chocolate and chocolate with hazelnuts, I'd say because those are simple and, at the same time, really delicious flavours.

Eli: Do you think it's good to give others chocolate as a gift?

Jakhongir: It depends. I mean, here in Uzbekistan, people sometimes don't give chocolate itself as a present. Instead, it usually goes with another present. So yeah, it might be great because, I mean, almost everybody loves chocolate. I don't really know many people who don't love it. So yeah, you can, but I think it's better if you give something else because these days it's very affordable and accessible - you can get it anywhere. If you just give a bar of chocolate as a present, I think people might misconstrue this as you not spending any time thinking about or considering what that person might like.

Eli: We're going to move on to part two, and in this part, I'm going to give you a topic, and I'd like you to talk about it for one to two minutes. Before you talk, you'll have one minute to think about what you're going to say, and you can make some notes if you wish. Do you understand?

Jakhongir: Yeah.

A Piece of Clothing

Describe a piece of clothing that you wear often. You should say:

- What it is
- How often you wear it
- What it is like
- And explain why you enjoy wearing it

Eli: All right. Remember, you have one to two minutes for this, so don't worry if I stop you. I'll tell you when the time is up. Can you start speaking now, please?

Jakhongir: Since I live in Uzbekistan, it's quite a hot country. The weather and climate are quite hot, so it's really easy to talk about a piece of clothing that I really like wearing. It's my t-shirts, which I usually put on when I go to work. The one that I have right now, I really love, and I wear this shirt almost every day. One of the problems here in Uzbekistan is that in summer, it's usually scorching hot, and there is no alternative. If you wear anything with long sleeves that cover your arms, you start sweating, profusely, and you really don't want that, especially since I'm a teacher and I always want to look and smell presentable. So if I'm sweaty, that's going to be a problem for me. For this reason, I think I wear it almost every day, yeah. Another reason might be that it's versatile. I mean, it goes well with almost anything, especially in summer. It's casual but at the same time not too casual, which means I can wear it whenever I go to work.

VOCABULARY

accessible (adjective) - easy to reach or use

binge watching (noun) - watching lots of episodes of a show in one go

blocked (adjective) - stopped from going through

drastically (adverb) - in a big and sudden way

fatigued (adjective) - very tired

misconstrue (verb) - to understand something the wrong way

model essay (noun) - a perfect example of an essay to learn from

presentable (adjective) - looking neat and nice

processed food (noun) - food that has been changed or made in a factory

scorching (adjective) - very, very hot

sweaty (adjective) - wet from sweat

sweet tooth (noun) - loving sweet foods a lot

versatile (adjective) - good at doing many different things