

IELTS DAILY. CHORES. TRANSCRIPT

Maddie: Laura, do you enjoy doing household chores?

Laura: I don't think I'd be alone in saying that I do not really enjoy doing household chores. It's definitely not something that I would prioritize, but maybe as a way of procrastination. It would be a good thing to do if I'm trying to put off doing something, but I do enjoy like being in a tidy house, and I do enjoy like having an organized environment, but the actual process of doing those chores is probably not my favourite pastime. I would say no.

Maddie: Yeah, so you prefer to do other things. So what are household chores?

Laura: So if I was to answer this question, I would probably provide a list of the things that I don't enjoy doing, which would be the wiping, mopping, unstacking or stacking the dishwasher, so putting the dishes away once they've been cleaned in the dishwasher. Doing things like scrubbing, cleaning bathrooms, cleaning.

Maddie: So what might the difference between something like wiping and scrubbing? So wiping's more of a.... Yes it's an easier action.

Laura: Yeah I feel like the difference would be like the difficulty level. Scrubbing, I'm picturing on all hands and knees...

Maddie: Like really getting back into it.

Laura: Exactly.

Maddie: Like so using your whole body, you're really...

Laura: Very dirty. You're scrubbing, scrubbing in a way, whereas wiping would be wiping down a kitchen surface. Wiping down the kitchen. Or dusting. If things are dirty, you have dust and build up you can use like a feather duster.

Maddie: There are also things like vacuuming, which I find it takes a lot of back strength. Great. So these are just some of the things that you can talk about if you get this question. Yes, so Laura did you do household chores as a child?

Laura: Unfortunately, yes, I did. Hmm, I think, hmm it's... I think most people would have done the same. Where their parents had chores that they allocated to them or, and like, especially me and my brother. I'd come home from school, and it would be my specific job to unstack the dishwasher. Or put the dishes away and yeah, make sure the kitchen's tidy, and then, it would be my brother's job to do the laundry or take out the bins. I think that was quite a common thing growing up, was to have those specific things and then maybe on the weekends, you might have to do things like, mow the lawn or look after the pool. That was kind of a thing growing up.

Maddie: And you said that your brother and you were allocated yeah jobs. Yes. So what does "allocated" mean?

Laura: Yes, so we had specific jobs that was given to us from like by our parents, as in one of them was our specific job that we would have to do and then I would, I wouldn't be doing his jobs, and he wouldn't be doing my job.

Maddie: Definitely not. Great, and then maybe parents would give incentives which are rewards for doing things.

Laura: I remember always being jealous that some people got money for doing their chores, but I think for certain things I can't remember, but for certain things my mum would give me like stationery. Like nice little highlighters if I'd done something, yeah. So yeah that was something a cool memory which... growing up yeah.

Maddie: Great well in part three the examiner might ask something like 'should parents encourage children to do chores?' and then you'd have to answer that question. Do you think parents should encourage children to do chores?

Laura: I think in my answer, I would provide my own personal example, like oh, my parents encouraged me to do chores and I think that was beneficial for me, and then maybe I'd provide reasoning as to how like it teaches us good lessons and how probably children without encouragement aren't going to be reaching to do chores themselves, and they maybe need, need to um maybe not, I'm not sure if a money incentive is necessary, but even just like...

Maddie: It's a polite thing to do.

Laura: Is telling them to do yeah. Their chores are really important I would say.

Maddie: Yeah and if someone's always picking up after a child, they... People often say they might be "spoiled". What does spoiled mean?

Laura: Spoiled would mean maybe that you kind of get you're given a lot by your parents. Your parents are overly generous and maybe yeah you could be ungrateful, maybe? I feel like if you're spoiled you could become ungrateful yeah and kind of maybe entitled would be another word I would use and yeah probably being told to do chores and yeah, I've been told to do chores without a money incentive is probably a way to avoid um being spoiled, maybe.

Maddie: Yeah, spoiling children.

Laura: Spoiling children, yeah.

VOCABULARY

allocated (verb) - to give something officially to somebody/something for a particular purpose

chores (noun) - a task that you do regularly

dust (verb) - to clean furniture, a room, etc. by removing dust from surfaces with a cloth

encourage (verb) - to give somebody support, courage or hope

entitled (adjective) - feeling that you have a right to the good things in life without necessarily having to work for them

feather duster (noun) - a stick with feathers on the end of it that is used for cleaning

highlighter (noun) - a special pen used for marking words in a text in bright colours

incentives (noun) - something that encourages you to do something

mopping (verb) - to clean something with a mop

mow (verb) - to cut grass, etc. using a machine or tool with a special blade

pool (noun) - an area of water that has been created for people to swim in

prioritize (verb) - to put tasks, problems, etc. in order of importance, so that you can deal with the most important first

procrastination (noun) - the act of delaying something that you should do, usually because you do not want to do it

scrubbing (verb) - to clean something by rubbing it hard, especially with a brush and usually with soap and water

stacking (verb) - to arrange objects neatly in a pile; to be arranged in this way

stationery (noun) - materials for writing and for using in an office, for example paper, pens and envelopes

vacuum (noun) - the act of cleaning something with a vacuum cleaner

wipe (verb) - to rub something against a surface, in order to remove dirt or liquid from it; to rub a surface with a cloth, etc. in order to clean it