

# IELTS ENGLISH ACADEMY. BAND 8. STEVEN. TRANSCRIPT

## PART 1

**Examiner:** Could you tell me your full name please?

**Steven:** My full name is Ming Song Jang and people just call me Steven.

**Examiner:** Are you working or are you a student?

**Steven:** I'm a student and at the moment I'm actually working at the same time, so I'm both a worker and a student right now.

**Examiner:** Could you tell me about your major?

**Steven:** My major is graphic design. I basically study graphic design, but I also study arts and media, and how to cooperate with people, how to communicate with clients. I also study marketing and branding. So yes, it's basically about graphic design, but I study more than that, and I think it's more focused on how to talk with people, how to work with people, and how to communicate with them and find a better way out.

**Examiner:** And could you describe your hometown for me?

**Steven:** My hometown is actually here, Seoul. It's a lovely city, and I've lived here more than 23 years. It always feels really nice when I go back to my real home. It's a place called Mapo. I'm still living there, but whenever I come back from England or the Army, whenever I visit my hometown it feels really warm and nice all the time. I think it's because I was born there, I was raised there, I played in that playground when I was a young kid, and now as a student and as a tutor I work around that town. So it has my history, and I think it's very meaningful for me.

**Examiner:** Perfect. Now we're going to talk about sweet food. Do you like to eat cakes or other sweet food.

**Steven:** I think I love to eat cakes, especially strawberry ones. I'm not really a chocolate person, so I do enjoy eating cakes.

**Examiner:** Can you make cakes.

**Steven:** No, I haven't ever. I do love cooking, like Korean foods or Italian. I love cooking, but I'm not really a baker, so I haven't ever baked a cake yet, but I really want to try baking a cake.

**Examiner:** Nice. Are there any traditional cakes in your country.

**Steven:** I think the only traditional cake I can think of right now is rice cake. I don't really think it's a kind of cake, I think it's more of a food, but yes, still, rice cakes are called cakes. They are sweet rice cakes made of different crops. I don't really like rice cakes a lot, but yes, there are rice cakes in my country.

**Examiner:** Now let's talk about video games. Do you play video games?

**Steven:** Yes, I play computer games once in a while, maybe once a week, not very often, but I do play video games. I enjoy football games like FIFA. I play video games in my free time when I get stressed from my work or studies. Sometimes I play for about 30 minutes or an hour a day, but not very much in a week.

**Examiner:** Do you like to watch other people play video games.

**Steven:** Yes, I enjoy watching professional players like League of Legends players. I watch those videos on YouTube, usually before I go to sleep. It really entertains me, just for fun.

**Examiner:** Do you think people spend too much time playing video games these days.

**Steven:** Yes, I think people, especially younger ones, boys or girls in their teens or twenties, spend too much time watching meaningless YouTube video game videos. I would prefer them to just play rather than watch, because if we play it, we can feel the entertainment, but just watching doesn't give you anything. It's kind of a waste of time. I think it's a problem for teenagers especially, because if they watch too many video games they can easily be distracted from studying or growing up.

## PART 2

**Examiner:** Could you describe a trip that you were looking forward to but was delayed.

**Steven:** It happened when I was 14. I was traveling in London with my parents, and we were heading to Paris that day. We went to the station and had to take the Eurostar, the underground railway that goes to Paris. We just thought the Eurostar was a normal train, we didn't think about the fact that it goes abroad. So we were late at that time because we didn't think they would check our luggage or our passports. It was our mistake, but yes, we couldn't take the train to Paris because we were too late. We did arrive at the train departure time, but we should have been there about 30 minutes earlier for our luggage and our visas to be checked. Because it's another country obviously, and at that time England was out of the European Union after Brexit, so we were delayed going to Paris. We had to book another train. My mom was in charge of our family's trip, and I would rather talk about how she felt about the experience because she was in charge. I was a kid and thought, it's okay, we can take another train, but she paid the fees and the extra costs.

## FEEDBACK

**Examiner:** Let's start with the feedback now. That was a great test. I would estimate your score to be eight. Really strong test. In terms of strong points, your fluency and pronunciation are great. Some hesitation here and there, but that's normal. I think it was more about thinking of ideas rather than language skills. Pronunciation was perfect. A few small grammar errors I can point out. One time you said I'm still living in there. It should be I'm still living there, as there is an adverb and we don't use a preposition. Same as home, you go home, stay home.

You also referred to Mapo as that town. I wouldn't call it a town, I would call it an area or a neighbourhood. A town is usually smaller than a city, so I wouldn't use it inside a city. One thing you said was once in a while, I play video games once in a while, perfect. Then you mentioned once in a week. You don't need the preposition in. It should be once a week, twice a week. You talked about young people in their teenager years. It should be teenage years, in their teenage years.

Another habit I noticed was you were saying I do enjoy, I do watch. That's fine for emphasis, but you don't need to use it all the time. For example, if we talk about rainy days, many people don't like rainy days, but actually I do like rainy days. That would be a good time to use it.

Part two was nice. You used the word stuffs, make sure that's uncountable, it should be that stuff, not those stuffs. When you talked about the train you used the word fees. For transportation it should be fare, like train fare or bus fare. Fee is usually like a cancellation fee or a money transfer fee. Another time you said the most important reason. I would probably say the main reason, the biggest reason, or the major reason.

Also in part three, you often said for me, when I go abroad. In part three the questions are more general, like do you think it's necessary, do you think people should. So keep it general, not personal. Not a big deal, but just something to note. Overall, it was a really good test. Thank you for coming in.

**Steven:** Cheers.

## **VOCABULARY**

abroad (adverb) - in or to another country.

baker (noun) - a person who makes bread, cakes, or pastries.

client (noun) - a person who pays for help or services from another person.

emphasis (noun) - special attention or importance given to something.

estimate (noun) - a guess about the amount, size, or cost of something.

hesitation (noun) - a pause before doing or saying something.

in charge (adjective) - having control or responsibility for something.

meaningful (adjective) - important or full of meaning.

teens (noun) - young people aged between 13 and 19.