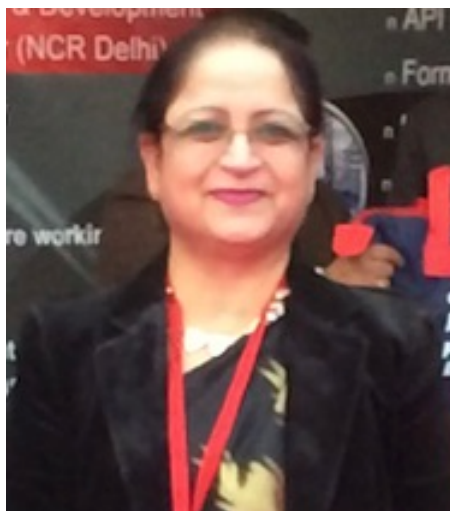


makkarIELTS

PDF Edition

Speaking Guesswork Solved Jan-April 2018
Part 1, 2 & 3- First Version (Beta Edition) 9Jan18
Intro, Cue Cards and Follow Up



DR. KIRANPREET KAUR MAKKAR

(MBBS, DGO - Makkar Hospital, Phagwara)

<https://g.co/kgs/ZdSaEX>

makkarIELTS Phagwara

makkar Hospital, Hargobind Nagar
Phagwara
M: 9872461083
(near Yes Bank)

makkarIELTS MOHALI

SCO 124, Second Floor
Phase 3B2 – 160059
M: 9646044322
(Near Dominos Pizza)

<https://g.co/kgs/ZdSaEX>

ALL STUDENTS MUST READ THIS BEFORE **PROCEEDING FURTHER**

All materials in this pdf book are just for helping students prepare for the IELTS test.

1. This PDF book contains only makkarIELTS Speaking Guesswork (Part1, 2 and 3) for Jan-Apr 2018 IELTS Speaking Exams.
2. This is only our guesswork; you can still be asked different questions in the exam.
3. Please don't give memorized answers in the exam. This will reduce your band scores and you will be asked more difficult questions by the examiner
4. The book is Copyright protected, please do not forward this book to others or print and distribute.
5. This is the BETA (First) Version of Cue Card PDF Book. ALL UPDATES till April 2017 can be downloaded free of cost from the same payment confirmation email.
6. Please do not delete your payment confirmation emails received from instamojo.
7. Please keep visiting www.makkarielts.com and www.facebook.com/makkarielts for notifications regarding updated Cue Cards
8. To download the updated file please open your original payment confirmation email and click on download file again.
9. Old May-August2017 Cue Cards are still important so please keep studying them as well
10. For any queries please email ravielts@gmail.com or whatsapp at 9646044322 (Mon-Friday 9AM-6PM). <https://g.co/kgs/ZdSaEX>

INDEX

1. Describe about some story which you like a lot or someone told you about.	7
2. Describe a situation where you helped an old person	9
3. What would be your perfect holiday or vacation look like?	11
4. Talk about a thing you just bought and you are happy about.....	13
8. Describe a sportsperson that you admire	22
9. Describe a development in your country like shopping centre, park etcetera	23
13. Describe a time when you saved money for something	27
14. A place you want to visit with your friends.....	28
15. Talk about a toy you liked in your childhood	29
16. Talk about an unusual meal	32
17. Talk about a special day which was not that expensive or on which you didn't have to spend a lot of money	33
18. Talk about an important river or lake in your country or hometown	35
19. Describe a popular person	36
20. Talk about an important event that you like to celebrate	37
21. Talk about your favourite movie	38
22. An activity that you found boring.....	39
23. Describe a piece of furniture in your home that you often use	41
24. What is your idea of a perfect home? (Dream Home)	42
25. Describe an occasion when visitors came to your home	46
26. Talk about a traditional object of your country or Talk about a traditional product of your country that you bought	47
27. Describe a good decision someone made or (it could be a good decision someone made recently)	48
28. Describe an occasion when you received a good/best service from a restaurant or a shop..	50
29. Describe an interesting place that few people know or Describe a place in your town which is not so famous for tourists	53
30. Describe an interesting person from another country or A famous international person you know/met.....	55
31. Talk about an achievement you are proud of	57
32. Describe an important letter that you received.....	60
33. Describe an activity you do to keep fit / way to stay healthy	63
34. A place people go to listen music.....	65
35. Describe an interesting conversation with someone you didn't know or a foreigner	68
36. A successful businessman	71
37. Talk about a company around your city which employs a lot of people.....	72
38. Talk about a wish that you couldn't accomplish for a long time.....	74
39. Describe a time/situation when you saw lots of people smiling.....	77
40. Describe a situation when someone gave positive comments about the work you did for them	79
41. Describe something you bought according to an advertisement you saw	82
42. Talk about someone whom you think is the best parent.....	84
43. An exciting book you read.....	87
44. Describe a long car journey you went on.....	91
45. Describe a leisure facility (cinema, theatre, sports centre) you would like to have in your hometown	93
46. Rule in school	95
47. Describe a country in which you would like to work for a short time.....	97
48. A time when you teamed up with old person to teach something to a friend /relative.....	99
49. Describe a garden you visited regularly during your young age	101

50.	Talk about a TV series you remember.....	103
51.	Describe a time when you felt happy that you used your cellphone.....	104
52.	Talk about your Favourite weather/season	107
	Follow Ups.....	107
53.	A website which helped you to do something / website you visit often	109
SPEAKING PART 1		111
INTRO QUESTIONS		111
	Animals.....	112
	Mobile Apps.....	112
	Dictionary.....	112
	Celeb	112
1.	First set of questions, asked to almost all students.....	113
2.	2 - Work or Studies.....	114
	WORK.....	114
	STUDIES.....	114
3.	Animals	115
4.	Dictionary.....	117
5.	Mobile Apps.....	117
6.	Jewellery	118
7.	Fruit.....	119
8.	Sunshine	119
9.	Weekends.....	120
10.	Activity near water	120
11.	Transportation.....	123
12.	Music	124
13.	Home/Accommodation.....	126
14.	Hometown.....	127
15.	Watch.....	129
16.	Visitors	130
17.	Dream	131
18.	Colours.....	132
19.	Family.....	133
20.	Friends	134
21.	Advertisement.....	136
22.	Art.....	137

23.	Bags.....	137
24.	Books	139
25.	Celebrity.....	141
26.	Chocolate.....	142
27.	Outdoor activities.....	143
28.	Photography	144
29.	Television and Radio.....	146
OR.....		146
30.	Teacher (More questions with sample answers in the end).....	147
31.	Newspapers	148
32.	Mirrors	150
33.	Robots.....	151
34.	Gifts (also refer to follow ups of cue card on gifts)	152
35.	Shoes.....	153
36.	Forget things.....	154
37.	Indoor games.....	155
38.	City Life	156
39.	Collecting	157
40.	Foreign language	158
41.	Birds	161
42.	Boats	162
43.	Relatives.....	163
44.	Shopping.....	164
45.	Sports.....	165
46.	Daily routine	166
47.	People's ages	167
48.	Punctuality.....	168
49.	Names.....	170
50.	Birthdays.....	171
51.	Computer.....	172
52.	Being in a hurry	173
53.	Museums	174
54.	Dance	175
55.	Hats.....	176

56.	Singing.....	177
57.	Noise	178
58.	Bus or Taxi	179
59.	Mobile phones.....	180
60.	HISTORY	180
61.	Magazine	181
62.	Internet –	181
63.	Neighbor –	182
64.	Pop star –	182
65.	Teenagers –	183
66.	Mathematics.....	183
67.	Films.....	183
68.	Social Network.....	184
69.	POLITENESS	185
70.	TIME MANAGEMENT.....	187
71.	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.....	188
72.	High school	189
73.	Emails –	190
74.	RAINY DAYS.....	191

1. Describe about some story which you like a lot or someone told you about.

- Who told you this story?
 - When did you hear it?
 - What was the story about?
 - Why you liked this story? **[makkariELTS]**
-
- I have heard a lot of stories in my life.
 - I believe that storytelling is an art as old as civilization itself.
 - My grandmother used to tell me stories every night at bedtime.
 - All her stories were fun to hear
 - Some stories were fairy tales, some of princes and princesses and some were tales from the Panchtantra, which had animal characters in them.
 - Most of her stories had some moral behind them
 - Here I would like to talk about a story which she told me many times.
 - This is the story of the greedy dog.
 - Once upon a time there was a dog
 - He was very hungry.
 - He wandered here and there in search of food.
 - He got a juicy bone from a butcher's shop.
 - He felt very happy.
 - He took the bone and ran away.
 - He reached on a bridge of a river.
 - He saw his own shadow in the water.
 - He thought that there was another dog with a juicy bone in his mouth.
 - His mouth watered and he wanted to snatch that bone from him.
 - He started barking on him and as he opened his mouth, the bone fell down from his mouth in to the river.
 - The dog lost his own juicy bone.
 - He repented at his greed.
 - But, alas nothing could be done.
 - The moral of the story is that the greedy lose what they have.
 - Greed is a curse.
 - My grandma used to teach me values of life through these stories.
 - Now, I tell these stories to my niece and nephew when they come to my place.
 - They enjoy these stories a lot. **[makkariELTS]**

Follow Ups

1. Has storytelling changed over a period of time?

Yes, definitely. Everything changes with time. My grandmother used to tell me stories from her memory, and had no book in her hand. Now, I see my sister reads out stories to her children from the various books she buys from the market. Telling stories to children has also largely been replaced by watching TV. Grandparents, parents and children are glued to the TV screen for long hours and there is no time left for story telling. [makkarIELTS]

2. Which way is better, traditional storytelling or the use of technology in storytelling?

I believe the traditional method is much better. It has a personal touch and increases the bonding between parents or grandparents and children. Unfortunately, it is dying out and programmes like curious George and Chhota Bhim are taking its place.

3. Do you think that generally most of the people are good at storytelling?

It is very difficult to generalize and answer this question. One thing is sure, and that is that we all tell stories from time to time in our life. Some people are born story tellers and can bind their audiences for long periods of time. They can concoct stories on the spur of the moment. It is difficult to tell whether their stories are fake or real.

4. What makes storytelling effective?

The way the stories are told can make any story effective. The use of gestures also helps. Using the right pauses at the right places and good pronunciation makes the stories effective. But, perhaps the most important thing to see is to read the interest of the audience. Fairy tales may amuse children, but may not create impact on adult listeners. Young people may be interested to hear stories related to their favourite celebs.

5. Is it important to tell stories?

Yes, it is very important to tell stories. They are a good means of communication.

Sometimes a message may be conveyed through a story in a much better way than by a simple conversation.

6. Is reading books beneficial or watching documentaries better?

Both have their sets of pros and cons. But, I think reading has an edge over watching a documentary. Reading is an active phenomenon, whereas watching a documentary is a passive activity. Reading is not only good for children, but also delays cognitive decline in the elderly. Dementias can be delayed if people read a lot. However, watching a documentary can make things easier to understand, and if made well, can have a long-lasting effect.

2. Describe a situation where you helped an old person

- When you helped?
 - Where did you help?
 - How you helped?
 - How you felt about it?
-
- Man is a social animal.
 - We all need to give and receive help from time to time.
 - I have helped my grandparents many times, when they want to learn something about the use of the smartphone or computer.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a time when I helped an old person, who was not known to me earlier.
 - About two months ago, I was travelling to Delhi by Shatabdi train.
 - I boarded the train at Phagwara.
 - I was on the aisle seat.
 - The seat next to me was vacant.
 - The next stop was Ludhiana.
 - An elderly man, maybe in his late seventies or early eighties boarded at Ludhiana.
 - His seat was the window seat next to mine.
 - He has a wheeled suitcase and a bag with him.
 - He tried to keep the suitcase in the luggage rack over the seats.
 - He did not ask me, but I could sense his problem and offered to do it for him.
 - He felt relieved and thanked me with a big smile.
 - I put both his suitcase and bag in the rack.
 - He turned out to be very social and friendly. **[makkariELTS]**
 - The next 4 hours passed very soon.
 - He had so many stories to tell.
 - He was going to Delhi to spend a few days with his granddaughter, who was a doctor in a private hospital.
 - He was quite hale and hearty for his age.
 - He had two great grandchildren, Gia and Tanay.
 - He told me that once or twice a year, he goes and spends a few days with them.
 - We exchanged our phone numbers.
 - At Delhi also I helped him with his luggage.
 - His granddaughter and her husband were there at the station to receive him.
 - He introduced me to them and they too thanked me.
 - I felt very happy and realised that such small gestures of love, like helping others give happiness to not just the receiver, but also the giver.

Follow Ups

1. How can the older generation be helped?

The old generation can be helped in many ways. They can be taught the use of latest technological gadgets, which can help them pass their time in a much happier way. My grandfather is a good example. I installed the whatsapp app in his phone and now he is happy reading jokes sent by his friends and chatting with them.

They can also be helped by making them feel wanted. They can be assigned the work of looking after their grandchildren, which can reduce their loneliness and the young parents can become free to pursue their careers, without the worry of caring for their children. Children also are under the watchful eyes of their elders. So, it is a win-win situation for one and all.

2. What are the benefits of helping older people?

There are many benefits of helping older people. Whether we accept it or not, we all know that the whole society is greying. There are so many elderly people. They have to be helped to become an asset and not a liability. We can help them in keeping good health and becoming self-sufficient.

3. What is the current situation of families? Do they help each other?

I belong to India, and fortunately in India, family values are still very much alive. Families help each other in all ways they can. We may not be living in joint families any more, but the extended family system is still there. Even if we live in nuclear families we are still well connected to each other. We have get-togethers on family functions and enjoy the warmth of relations.

4. Is childcare important? Who does it?

Childcare is very important. Good childcare can turn children into healthy, responsible adults, who respect social values and create the world a much better place to live in.

5. How do parents manage work life balance and raise children?

Managing work-life balance is an arduous task and very challenging nowadays. On top of that raising children in a good way is why many people are coming back to the old joint family system. Young working parents have begun to realise that no one can be better to look after their children than their own grandparents. **[makkariELTS]**

Those who cannot, for any reason, avail the luxury of a joint family, have to shell out a huge sum of money on day-care centres for their children.

3. What would be your perfect holiday or vacation look like?

- Where would you like to go?
 - Who would you like to go with?
 - How would you like to spend it?
-
- Holidays can be relaxing holidays in which a person just goes to some different place and lazes around to relieve his stress.
 - Holidays can also be hectic in which the whole aim is to do as much sightseeing as possible.
 - So for people who otherwise have physically active lives, a relaxing holiday would be perfect.
 - But for all others the hectic holiday would be ideal.
 - I prefer to see new places and meet new people.
 - So, for me a perfect holiday would be full of life.
 - I would like to go to Jaipur with my family.
 - We would go by train.
 - We would go through Pack Travels tour operators..
 - They have very reasonable packages for anywhere within India.
 - We would stay there for a week and see a lot of places.
 - There are a lot of forts and palaces in Jaipur.
 - We will see the Hawa Mahal, Jantar Mantar, City Palace, Maharani Palace and Amer fort.
 - We would also do a lot of shopping there.
 - I have heard that every December there is a handicraft fair there which has handicrafts from different areas of Rajasthan.
 - I would buy some handicrafts from there.
 - I would buy some souvenirs for my friends.
 - There is also a Chokhi Dhani place there just like Haveli where many artists display the culture and tradition of Rajasthan.
 - The entry ticket includes the traditional Rajasthani meal.
 - I would enjoy that also.
 - It would be a perfect holiday for me. **[makkariELTS]**
 - Holidays break the monotony of day-to-day life
 - They bring mental and physical relaxation.
 - They help us to recharge our batteries and come back to work with added energy.

Follow Ups

1. Do people in your country like to spend holidays abroad or at home?

India is a diverse country. There is a lot to see and do in India. People in my country like to spend holidays by visiting many places in India, and also abroad. It also depends on their pocket and the time they can afford for holidaying. There is so much diversity within India that it seems like visiting a foreign country at times. For example, if a person from the north India, visits the South, he experiences different culture, different food, different language and enjoys himself at the fraction of cost of what he would spend on visiting a foreign country.

2. What are the benefits of spending the holiday abroad and in own country? Which one do you prefer?

Holidays abroad are a much broader experience of a new culture, food and language. But domestic holidays are easier on the pocket and also very beneficial in many ways. Holidays abroad are also a status symbol, as they can be afforded by few people. Holidaying in ones own country is safer than holidaying abroad. I prefer holidaying abroad, but it seems like sour grapes for the time being.

3. What do we have to arrange before going to holiday?

We have to arrange a lot of things. We must see that the rail, road or air tickets have been confirmed. Then we must also find out about the weather of that place and pack our clothes accordingly. We must also make a list of places to visit in that place. A well planned holiday can have pleasant memories for a lifetime.

Important Note:

- [This is the first \(Beta\) version of makkarIELTS Jan-April 2018 Speaking Guesswork. Please download the updated version from your Payment Confirmation Email. Refer to Student Instructions on page 2 of this book](#)

4. Talk about a thing you just bought and you are happy about

- Explain why you bought it
 - Why you selected this product
 - From where you purchased it
 - And explain why are you so happy about it
-
- I have bought many things in my life.
 - But one purchase which has really made me happy is my Smart bracelet pedometer.
 - I bought it from Amazon.in for Rs. 1000/-
 - Actually, it was for about 3000/- but I grabbed a deal on Diwali.
 - I always wanted a fitness tracker, but somehow, could not buy it because I thought these were very expensive.
 - My cousin bought a fitbit wristband for about 10,000.
 - Then I saw this wristband of Cardmisha company on Amazon online store.
 - It is orange in colour and looks like a cute watch.
 - Its battery lasts for about a week
 - It has OLED display, so I can see my workout results.
 - It has a heart rate monitor. **[makkariELTS]**
 - It tells me how many steps I have walked in a day.
 - I like to do a minimum 5000 steps a day.
 - It is very motivating, when I do more steps.
 - I feel I have done something for myself.
 - It is made in China, and I know China products have no warranty or guaranty, but I bought it because the other similar products were too expensive.
 - I am very happy with it, because I feel motivated to walk more and keep myself fit.

Important Note:

- [This is the first \(Beta\) version of makkariELTS Jan-April 2018 Speaking Guesswork. Please download the updated version from your Payment Confirmation Email. Refer to Student Instructions on page 2 of this book](#)

Follow Ups

1. Did you tell anyone after buying it?

Yes, I showed it to all my friends.

2. What are your thoughts about the trend that people buy new things instead of repairing the old ones?

I believe that it is leading to a lot of environmental damage. Our landfill sites are filling up. As far as possible, we should avoid buying new things and get old ones repaired.

3. What is the product, which is consumed most in your country? Why?

Well, India is a diverse country and it is difficult to name one product, which is used the most. Many things are used a lot. Almost everyone seems to have a cell phone nowadays. So, maybe you can say that a cell phone is used the most.

4. Is increasing consumerism a good trend?

No, definitely not. It does add to the economy, but it is causing a huge damage to the environment.

5. Describe the time when someone took a good photograph of you.

- When was the photo taken
 - Where was the photo taken
 - Who took the Photograph
 - How you felt about it
-
- Nowadays, almost everyone has become a photographer.
 - The smartphones of today have made it possible.
 - I click many selfies with my phone and keep deleting those, which don't turn out good.
 - Actually, I become very conscious in front of the camera and the photographs usually don't look natural.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a time when a professional photographer clicked a photograph of me, which has come out very nice.
 - I remember it was my cousin's wedding two months ago.
 - I was wearing my new silk suit. **[makkariELTS]**
 - After the main function, we were all dancing like mad to the tune of DJ
 - All my cousins were on the floor.
 - The cameramen were there covering it all. Ma kk ar IE LTS
 - Later on, we asked the photographer to give us all the photos and videos he had captured in our external drive, so that we could see them and pick out the best ones.
 - The photographer was very reluctant to give all the coverage to us, but we insisted and he had to give in.
 - All my photographs on the dance floor were good, but one was exceptionally good.
 - Two of my cousins are also there in the pic and all are looking good.
 - We were all so engrossed in dancing that no one was conscious.
 - All of us are in a typical Bhangra pose.
 - I was wearing a yellow suit with green embroidery and matching jewellery.
 - One of my cousins was in majenta suit and the other one in royal blue.
 - This picture has come out very colourful.
 - My aunt got this photograph enlarged and framed and gifted one copy to all three of us.
 - Now this is adorning the wall of our living room.
 - Whenever, I see this picture, the memories of the whole wedding come in front of my eyes.

Follow ups:

1. Do you like to get your photographs clicked?

No, I am very camera shy and become very conscious.

2. Is it good to take a lot of photographs?

Photographs are mirrors of the past. They capture precious moments, which may otherwise be forgotten. So, yes, I think it is good to take a lot of photographs. Also with the coming in of digital cameras, it is not very expensive to click photographs. Later on, when you get time, you can sort out which photo to keep and which to discard.

3. There are a lot of additions made to photographs these days. What attitude of people does this show?

People want to look their best. Nowadays, people do a lot of editing on photographs. In my opinion, it takes away the originality of the moment. Sometimes, people do such additions or changes with wrong intentions. They may put someone's face on someone else's body. This may hurt the sentiments or may even cause problems. Ma kk ar IE LTS

4. Is this going to affect the photographers and their working style?

Yes, of course. Photographers who know how to make subtle changes and make people look good may become more popular and get more work. But, they should remain within some limits and not make changes, which make everything look artificial.

5. Do people like digital photographs or printed photographs?

It is a matter of personal choice. Digital photographs don't occupy space and the person may store thousands of them in one's computer or laptop. Printed photographs can be put on display in a frame. But, one cannot have many of them

6. How will this change in the future?

This may change a lot. Digital photo frames are there in which a person can enjoy all photographs while sipping tea. No one will have the time to open the traditional album and go through the printed photographs.

7. Will photographs replace paintings in the future?

To a lot of extent, yes. But, not entirely. Paintings have their own personal touch. But it requires special talent to make a painting that can look real. Moreover, paintings tend to be very expensive as the cost of canvas and paints is also exorbitant nowadays. Photographs are much cheaper.

6. Describe something you did to help others / Occasion on which you have helped someone

- Where did you help/ what was the situation
 - When
 - How you helped
 - What was their reaction after your help
-
- Helping others is a very good thing.
 - I have given and received help many times.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a situation, when I helped my friend in studies.
 - When I was in 10th, my friend Rahul suffered a sprain in his ankle while playing hockey in the school.
 - He was advised strict bed rest for three weeks.
 - Our exams were very near and Rahul's mother was very worried that he would fail this time if he did not attend school.
 - So, I decided to help him as much as I could.
 - Every day after school, I would go to his house and update him with everything that was done in school.
 - His mother was so happy with my efforts that she would prepare nice shakes or something to eat for me everyday.
 - Perhaps, that was her way of thanking me.
 - I used to reach home very late, but when I told the reason, they were OK with it.
 - Then the exams came, and Rahul and I both scored above 80% marks.
 - I realised that in helping him, I had helped myself even more. **[makkariELTS]**
 - After this incident, Rahul and I became even more intimate friends.
 - Last month Rahul took his IELTS and scored 7 bands and has planned to go for higher education in Canada.
 - Because of Rahul, my parents have also decided to send me to Canada for my higher studies. Ma kk ar IE LTS
 - Earlier they were reluctant to send me.
 - When I helped him, then I did not know that it would have this far-reaching effect.
 - I have realised that helping others gives much more satisfaction than becoming selfish and looking after one's own interests.

Follow Ups

1. Do you like helping others?

Yes, I do. I love helping others. I have realised it gives a lot of mental satisfaction and happiness.

2. Should parents teach helping others to their children? Ma kk ar IE LTS

Yes, of course. Parents are responsible for bringing their children into this world, and so it is their duty to make their children into responsible citizens of the future. Parents don't have to do anything special to accomplish this. They just have to lead by example. Children will automatically follow their footsteps. If all citizens are helpful and nice, then the whole world would become a nice place to live in.

3. Do you think nowadays people do more good work as compared to the past?

I don't think so. Life in the past was simpler and slower. People helped each other a lot. Now, everyone is in the rat race of money and materialism. No one has the time to help others.

4. Will you help others in the future?

Yes, definitely. I believe that we must do unto others as we want them to do unto us. If I will help others, only then I can expect help from others when I need it.

5. How do you encourage children to help others?

Nothing special is needed. Children are good observers and copy what their elders are doing. All you have to do is help others and they will automatically follow.

6. How do world social organizations such as Red Cross collect their funds worldwide?

They do so by advertising their work. They organise activities and involve young people in them. They also take the help of media.

7. Do small non-government organizations always need big organizations' help or can they collect funds themselves? Ma kk ar IE LTS

No, they do not always need big organisations help. If their projects are small, they can manage on their own, otherwise they can seek help of their bigger counterparts.

8. Do you think people in India should help foreigners who are visiting India and who need help? (Why? / Why not?) Ma kk ar IE LTS

Definitely, yes. India is known for its hospitality and helpful nature. Guests are treated like Gods. Tourists are our guests. If tourists need help, they should be helped. They will take back happy memories and more and more tourists will flock-in in the future.

9. What is the most important way for a country to help foreigners who are visiting the country?

Foreigners can be helped by guiding them about our customs and traditions, so that they do not unknowingly hurt anybody's sentiments. They can be helped by providing them good and hygienic food, which suits their taste. They can be helped by not fleecing them when they buy some souvenirs.

10. Many people only look out for themselves and never think about helping others. What do you think of this attitude?

I think such people are very short sighted. They do not think that if they don't help others they will also be left alone when they need help.

11. Do Indian people help others who need help, such as people in extreme poverty? (How?)

Yes, Indian people help others who are in extreme poverty. Some help directly and some help through charity organisations.

7. Describe a period in history which has always interested you

- When did it happen
 - What happened
 - Why are you interested in it
 - Who told you first about it? Ma kk ar IE LTS
-
- History has never been my favourite subject
 - But there are some periods of history, which have always fascinated me, such as the period is the Indus Valley period
 - I recently saw the movie MohenjoDaro, which tells about the way people, lived during those days.
 - First time I learnt about the period from my history book at school. My school also organized a trip to National Museum, New Delhi where there are many seals and pots from that period.
 - I also saw the plans of the Indus Valley Architecture.
 - Indus Valley people were very ahead of their times. They lived in cities with walls, in a time period which dates back to 2600-1900 BC.
 - Many buildings like baths, bead factories , grainaries have been excavated at their ruins.
 - An interesting thing about the Indus valley people was they lived in burnt brick houses like today.
 - The streets met each other at right angles. There were drains, which could be cleaned.
 - Also there were no places of worship, people worshipped nature elements like air, water.
 - There are still many mysteries about this period that still need to be resolved.
 - There script has not been deciphered as of yet.
 - There is a mystery regarding the decline of the civilization.
 - Some scholars say that there was a massive earthquake.
 - Others say that outsiders attacked them.
 - Still others say that they died because they has prolonged droughts and famine because of deforestation.
 - Sometimes I dream of going back to the past and uncovering all these hidden mysteries.

Another idea

- History has never been my favourite subject
- But there are some periods of history, which have always fascinated me, such as the period when India got freedom that is August 1947. Indus Valley period
- I have seen many movies, based on that period, which have aroused my interest in that period.
- I saw Gadar and Pinjar, which tell about the way people suffered during those days.
- My grandfather also tells me a lot of incidences of those times.
- He was only 10 years old then, but he has very vivid memories.
- I am interested in it because, today even as we are living a free life, we are always grumbling about things.
- First time I learnt about the independence of India was from my history book at school, but when we hear about how people survived the hardships and started their new life from scratch, we realise how lucky we are to be born in a free country.
- My grandfather once told me that how my great grandfather witnessed the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, and how he survived by hiding under the dead bodies.
- His stories give me goose pimples.
- Especially his stories about the time of partition are really eye opening.
- I learnt about the bloodbath that happened then and how people died and how they travelled large distances to new countries.

Follow Ups

1. Do you think nowadays children are learning too much about history?

No, I don't think so. Though there are more sources for learning about history today, like museums, the internet and films, but children don't seem interested in the past, somehow.

2. Many children tend to get bored with history because of all these dates, time and names to remember, do you agree with that?

Yes, I do agree because even I am intimidated with dates. When there are too many dates to remember, it becomes boring. However, if history is taught through movies and TV serials, then many people would start taking interest in history. m a k k a r _ | E L T S

3. Some people tend to go against the idea of learning from past experiences, what about you?

Well, everyone looks at things differently. I believe that the past is a good teacher of life. You learn from the past and try to avoid those mistakes, which were made then. Many politicians have handled tough times with lessons from the pas.

8. Describe a sportsperson that you admire

- Who is the person
- What is his/her achievement
- Why do you admire him? m a k k a r _ | E L T S

- I think, sports play an integral/important part in our lives and every person has a sportsperson in their life whom they admire either secretly or openly.
- Today I would like to talk about a sportsperson who has been a constant source of inspiration to me and the millions of other people in our country.
- His name is Virat Kohli and he is a cricketer.
- He plays as a right handed batsman
- He is just 29 years old and also one of the youngest Captains of Indian Cricket team.
- He leads the Indian cricket team in all the three formats of the game i.e. One Day Internationals, Test Cricket and Twenty Twenty matches
- He is also ranked as one of the world's most famous athlete by the Forbes Magazine
- One of his greatest achievements was leading Indian Under 19 team to victory in World cup tournament
- He Debuted (note the pronunciation - debued) for India when he was only 19 years of age and since then he has never looked back and broken a lot of records.
- Currently he has the second highest number of International centuries in the game, just behind the legendary Sachin Tendulkar
- From a personality perspective, he is an aggressive player with a winning attitude and strong commitment towards the game. m a k k a r _ | E L T S
- One thing that a lot of people don't know about Kohli is that he lost his father while playing a test match for his state team but he still continued to bat and only after he had saved his team from losing, he went for the cremation of his father.
- Apart from sports, Virat Kohli also does a lot of charity through his foundation which works for better education and healthcare of underprivileged children.
- Recently he was in the news for his marriage to famous Bollywood Actress Anushka Sharma.
- They got married in Italy and it was one of the biggest weddings of year 2017.
- I wish that he will win the world cup for India in 2019 and lead India to number one spot in all formats of the game.

9. Describe a development in your country like shopping centre, park etcetera

- What is the development
- When you heard about it
- How did it influence you m a k k a r _ | E L T S

- I think developments in infrastructure are very essential for the progress of a nation.
- Developments could be in sectors like healthcare, education, housing etcetera
- Today, I would like to talk about a recent development in our country which is related to the transportation sector.
- Last month our honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji inaugurated the first automatic/unmanned/driverless metro train in the national capital Delhi.
- The launch of this train was covered by all the new channels and leading newspapers.
- That is how I came to know about it.
- This metro train connects several stations between New Delhi and Noida a city adjoining the national capital
- The launch of this train has benefitted millions of people who otherwise travel by bus or other transport means like their own cars and motorbikes
- It has reduced their travel time significantly and It has also become more convenient for them to travel from one place to another.
- The coaches of the train are imported from Germany and are made of very high quality steel.
- I believe the government should introduce more such trains in the major cities of our country because it provides a lot of benefits to the people and the environment.
- Moreover, it decreases the number of traffic jams in the city and the pollution caused when people use their own private vehicles
- This train has no driver; it is remotely controlled by a computer thus avoiding any human errors that can cause accidents.
- When I first told my friends about this train, all of them were surprised/amazed/astonished to hear that a train can run without a driver as well.
- This train has 8 coaches and capacity to carry 1000 people at one time
- The coaches are very modern and have free wifi and phone charging facility as well.
- The train also has seats reserved specially for the elderly and women
- But when I showed them the news they were very excited about it.
We have also made a plan to travel by this train, next month.

Important Note:

- [This is the first \(Beta\) version of makkarIELTS Jan-April 2018 Speaking Guesswork. Please download the updated version from your Payment Confirmation Email. Refer to Student Instructions on page 2 of this book](#)

10. Talk about the most interesting subject that you learnt in school

- What was the subject
 - How long did you study it?
 - Why you think it was interesting
 - How did the teacher make it interesting? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
-
- I studied many subjects in school.
 - Till 10th, I studied English, Hindi, Punjabi, maths, Social sciences, life sciences and computer science.
 - Out of all these subjects, maths was my favourite.
 - I studied maths from class 1 to class 10.
 - I remember, till my 4th class, I used to hate maths.
 - I was never very good at it.
 - But in fifth, Mrs Harinder became my maths teacher.
 - She was very patient with me and would not be mad at me even if I went to her again and again for understanding something.
 - Slowly, I began to get my concepts clear and maths became my favourite subject.
 - From 5th to 10th, maths remained my favourite subject.
 - Mrs Harinder was not just my favourite teacher, she was everyone's favourite.
 - She developed our interest in maths by including mathematical activities and games.
 - We would have quizzes and riddles to solve, which made it very enjoyable.
 - She would have chocolates for the winners.
 - Her way of teaching made maths very easy and interesting.
 - I started getting good grades because of maths.
 - Now, I teach maths to my neighbours children, who are in 5th and 6th.
 - They seem to love maths too.
 - I had a good teacher once and that is perhaps why I could become one.
 - So, maths is the subject I found the most interesting.
 - Maths is a subject which we use in our everyday life
 - It makes our life orderly and prevents chaos.
 - The present age is one of skill-development and innovations.
 - The more mathematical we are in our approach, the more successful we will be.

11. Describe a technology you use often (other than computer) m a k k a r _ | E L T S

- What is it
 - When you use it
 - What do you use it for
 - Explain why you like to use it
-
- Technology is all around us.
 - Today, we cannot imagine our life without technology.
 - One piece of technology I use very often is my jogging machine.
 - I use it at the gym everyday for five days a week.
 - The gym is at 2 minutes walk from my home.
 - So, I go there daily in the morning.
 - I use it to keep fit.
 - While I am on the machine, I listen to my favourite music.
 - When I started, I used it at a speed of 5 km an hour.
 - Now I can run on it at a speed of 8 km an hour.
 - It has inbuilt programs which have a warming up session and a cool-down session.
 - My gym instructor guided me its use.
 - There are many other machines in the gym, but I love this the most.
 - I sweat all my stress out on this machine
 - After I have used it, I feel very refreshed and happy, although I am full of sweat.
 - I feel I have done something for myself.
 - Then I do some weight training after this cardio session and come home.
 - I used to be very fat and eat a lot of junk food.
 - After I started going to the gym, I lost weight and my body has got toned up.
 - I don't even feel like eating junk food.
 - I ask my mother to make healthy salads and food cooked in low fat.

12. A public place you visited m a k k a r _ | E L T S

- What is it
 - When you visited
 - What you liked and disliked about it
-
- There are many public places in every city where people can socialize and hang out with each other.
 - Some examples of such places are parks, city centers, marketplaces, public schools and colleges, public banks and so on.
 - Nowadays restaurants and malls even though owned by individuals are also considered public places as public are invited to their use.
 - Here I would like to talk about Niku Park, a very famous park in Jalandhar.
 - Last year my sister and her children visited me.
 - To entertain my nephew and niece, I decided to take them to Niku Park.
 - On their second day with me, we went there.
 - Niku Park is a very old park.
 - I remember, my parents used to take me there in my childhood, sometimes.
 - However, the park was a lot different than I remembered.
 - A few years ago, many new rides were added to the park.
 - My niece and nephew became very excited when they saw the rides.
 - The tickets for the rides were also very economical.
 - Children below a certain height were not allowed on some rides, because of which my nephew, who is younger and shorter was not eligible for a few rides.
 - He was very disappointed at first but within a few seconds he forgot all about it.
 - He enjoyed all the other rides like the toy train, bumper cars and the Ferris wheel.
 - There were a few rides, which looked very scary, but to my surprise my niece actually eagerly rode them.
 - I also enjoyed a few rides with my nephew.
 - Time just flew by with the kids.
 - I liked everything about the park except the fact that people were throwing empty water bottles here and there.
 - I feel that some trashcans should be there at very frequent intervals and also some notices not to litter the place should be put up.
 - On the whole journey back, the kids kept saying that they would like to visit Niku Park again.
 - Unfortunately we couldn't visit it again as my sister didn't have much time.
 - My nephew and niece are visiting me again this year and everyday they remind me that they want to go there.
 - I don't think they will wait for the second day this time.

13. Describe a time when you saved money for something

What you saved for

How you saved money m a k k a r _ | E L T S

For how long did you save money

- Normally, I depend on my parents for all my needs.
- But when I have to buy something big, I save money for that
- Here I would like to talk about a product that I bought after saving my pocket money for one whole year.
- It was an apple I phone
- I bought the latest 5S version of this phone
- Actually, my friend bought the 4S version last year.
- I was fascinated by the looks and features of the phone.
- My mouth started watering but when I heard the price I realised that the grapes were sour.
- So, I started saving money for the phone.
- It was difficult to stay away from chocolates and fast foods but I did it.
- By the time I had enough money, the new version iphone 7 was there in the market.
- So, I bought the latest version in white colour.
- This phone is not just a phone.
- It is a mini computer that fits into your pocket.
- One can do wonders with this phone.
- It is a rectangular phone which has a 3.5 inch screen
- It has a multi-touch facility which means that you can do multiple functions at the same time.
- It has a very long battery life
- It has a capacity of 64 GB.
- Its weight is around 140 gms
- It also has two cameras.
- It allows face-time video chats
- I felt very good after buying the phone.
- I feel incomplete without this phone.
- I have got it laminated and I am very possessive about it.

14. A place you want to visit with your friends

- What is the place
 - When you want to go
 - With whom you want to go? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
 - Why you want to go with your friends
-
- India is a diverse country and there are many places to visit such as mountains and waterfalls and sea shores
 - I have been to many such places but here I am going to talk about a place that I would like to visit with my friends
 - I would like to go there in the coming summers.
 - It is in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.
 - This place is Mcleodganj which falls in the suburbs of Dharamsala.
 - My cousin went there with her parents last summer.
 - She told me all about her trip.
 - They went there by bus.
 - They enjoyed a lot of sight-seeing through the bus.
 - She told me that it is a hilly area which is full of scenic beauty.
 - There are many places to see there.
 - There is the monastery of Dalai Lama.
 - There is also a Bhigshunath Temple
 - She told me that many tourists bathe in the pool in the temple.
 - The water in the pool comes from Bhagshu's waterfall and therefore it is very clean.
 - In the Buddhist temple there are wheels of prayers.
 - People believe that the number of rotations made by the wheels signifies the strength of the prayers.
 - There is also a very beautiful waterfall.
 - On one side of the waterfall is a small restaurant where my cousin and her parents enjoyed snacks with tea.
 - The whole area is covered with pine and conifer trees.
 - She told me that it was a mesmerizing experience to be amidst the beauty of nature.
 - If I get a chance I would love to go there with my friends.
 - Many young people do hiking over there.
 - My aunt and uncle were not interested in hiking, so my cousin couldn't do that.
 - If I go with friends, we would do some hiking also over there.

15. Talk about a toy you liked in your childhood

- What was the toy
 - Who gave it to you? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
 - How often did you play with it
-
- I had many toys in my childhood but here I am going to talk about my electric toy car.
 - My father gifted it to me on my 11th birthday.
 - I used to spend hours playing with it.
 - I was greatly fascinated by it
 - It was red in colour
 - It worked with four pen torch batteries fixed in a box under the car
 - When I switched it on, it would move in all directions
 - If there was an obstacle on the way then the car could change directions
 - Along with that it had lights which flickered at times.
 - I was so fascinated by this car that I used to finish its batteries very soon.
 - I used to show it to my friends with pride.
 - None of my other friends had such a beautiful toy car.
 - I just loved it when I saw the jealous look in their eyes.
 - I remember, once I took it to school in my bag.
 - When I came home I got a big spanking from my mother.
 - I was very possessive about my car and never used to let anyone touch it.
 - Even though I don't play with the car any more I still have it in my room
 - Its colour has faded now but it has emotional value for me.
 - That is why I have never thought of giving it away to my younger cousins.
 - It brings back nostalgic memories of my childhood

Important Note:

- [This is the first \(Beta\) version of makkarIELTS Jan-April 2018 Speaking Guesswork. Please download the updated version from your Payment Confirmation Email. Refer to Student Instructions on page 2 of this book](#)

Follow ups

1. What is the difference between girls' and boys' toys?

Traditionally, girls used to like toys like dolls, kitchen sets, fairies, and butterflies. Boys normally preferred aggressive toys like guns, cars, and things to build and things, which make a lot of noise. The other difference was that boys normally picked blue, brown and green. Girls, on the other hand, chose pink with a tinge of purple. These differences have been disappearing over the years.

2. Do you think toys really help in children's development?

Yes, toys play a big role in children's development. It helps to develop their motor and sensory skills and also their cognitive abilities. At the same time, it also leads to their social development, especially when they play with other kids. Kids also learn responsibility when parents ask them to properly store their toys.

3. Does modern technology have an influence on children's toys?

Yes modern technology has a big influence on toys. Both the type of toys available and the children's preferences for toys have changed over time. Today robots, app controlled cars are more popular. Board games are becoming less and less popular. Simple action figures and dolls have also become much more detailed.

4. Have we lost our hand skills such as sewing?

Sewing by hand has definitely become a thing of the past. Sewing machines have come up in a big way. But manual sewing machines are still used. These have a hand pedal or a foot pedal. My mother has a fully automatic computerised sewing machine, but she has to operate it herself when she sews.

5. What toys are popular with kids in India today?

Many types of toys are popular in India. Children like wooden toys and other mechanical toys, but electronic toys are fast gaining popularity.

6. In general, do children today have many toys?

Yes, they do. When I look at the children around me, I feel that they have too many toys. I never had so many. I think parents, today, are substituting the time they have to spend with children by giving them more and more toys.

7. Do you think playing with electronic toys has a good influence on kids?

Yes, electronic toys introduce children to technology. They increase the strategy forming skills. They are good, but when children spend too much time on electronic games, they forget everything else and then these become negative.

8. Do you think there are some toys that are only suitable for girls and some that are only suitable for boys?
Not any more. Gender differences are disappearing fast and boys and girls play with the same type of toys nowadays.
9. Which do you think is better, for children to play with toy alone or with other kids?
It is definitely better for children to play with other kids. They learn caring and sharing and many other social skills when they play with others.
10. Do you think parents should encourage their children to share their toys with other kids?
Yes, definitely. They should encourage their children to share their toys with other children. In this way they will not need to have many toys.

16. Talk about an unusual meal

- When did you eat it
 - Where did you eat it? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
 - With whom you had the meal? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
-
- When I was a child, I used to be a very selective eater.
 - My mother was always worried about my health.
 - I used to drink milk but then I started avoiding it too.
 - I remember, I used to intentionally spill milk or throw it in the washbasin when no one was looking.
 - Once I mother caught me throwing it.
 - My parents scolded me a lot.
 - My dad told my mother that I should not be given milk again.
 - My mom was caught between a rock and a hard place.
 - I don't know how she came up with a fried milk recipe but the next day I was given some cutlets instead of milk.
 - I had no idea what they were but I loved them.
 - From then on, every morning, I ate those fried things.
 - I felt like the luckiest kid.
 - I also took a few for my friends in school.
 - They all loved them too.
 - Someone in school asked me, what they were made of.
 - I asked my mom but she said it's a secret.
 - For a few days I forgot about it but then one day, I actually saw my mom making them from the kitchen window.
 - They were made from milk. It was fried milk.
 - My mother had found a way of feeding me milk and at the same time making sure I didn't throw it.
 - She added a lot of other things to it like eggs, lemon peels, cornstarch.
 - I don't think I would have eaten them, if I knew they were made from milk before tasting them.
 - My mother made a whole meal out of something I hated.
 - It was of course less healthy as it was fried but she used very little oil too.
 - Even now, I sometimes crave them.
 - My mother is always ready to make them.

17. Talk about a special day which was not that expensive or on which you didn't have to spend a lot of money

- What was the occasion
 - Where you went? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
 - Who did you celebrate with
-
- Well special days are very important in everyone's life and in our country people spend a lot on their special days like birthdays, marriages etcetera
 - If on such occasion one doesn't have to spend a lot of money, then it will make the day extra special.
 - I would like to talk about one such special day when I organised a birthday party for my friends at a newly opened restaurant in our town.
 - It was my 20th birthday and all of my friends were asking me for a treat.
 - Since we had tried all the major restaurants in our town, I thought of taking them to a new place.
 - I saw an advertisement in the newspaper about a new theme based restaurant that had opened in our city.
 - The name of the restaurant was Big Chill Café and it was based on a musical theme.
 - I quickly called the café and made a reservation for 8 people.
 - They told me that per person cost would be around 1000 Rs and I gave them the confirmation.
 - We reached there around 8 PM in the evening.
 - As soon as we entered the café we were astonished/amazed by the interiors of the café.
 - The walls were decorated with huge poster of famous singers.
 - The furniture was very trendy and the restaurant had beautiful lighting.
 - In the background famous rock songs were being played
 - There were also lot of musical instruments like guitar and drums lying in one corner of the restaurant
 - They had reserved a huge table in the centre for us.
 - We quickly ordered some snacks which were also named after famous songs
 - The starters were really delicious and we had a great time enjoying the snacks along with the music.
 - After that we ordered some food and surprisingly the waiters also brought a surprise birthday cake which was ordered by my friends.
 - But the biggest surprise came when I asked for the bill and it was only Rs 100 instead of Rs 8000.
 - First of all I thought it was a mistake but when we called the hotel manager they told us that we were their 100th customer so they decided to give us a discount.

- I felt really overjoyed on hearing this and when I told my parents about it, they were also very happy
- So it was a special birthday on which I gave a grand party to my friends but still I didn't have to spend a lot of money.

18. Talk about an important river or lake in your country or hometown

- Which water body is that
 - How do you know about it? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
 - Why does it impress you so much
-
- India is a diverse country.
 - There are many rivers, lakes, beaches in India which are important.
 - One important river that I would like to talk about here is the river Ganges or the Ganga, as we popularly call it
 - River Ganga is a sacred river and treated as a Goddess among the Hindus.
 - It has significant influence on the life of the Indians.
 - It is one of the longest rivers of the world and is the longest river in India.
 - The River Ganga emerges out of the Himalayas and falls into the Bay of Bengal.
 - It has a number of tributaries like Yamuna, Ramganga, and Ghagra, etc.
 - The Ganga is a perennial river as water is available throughout the year.
 - The river has formed one of the most fertile flood plains of the world.
 - We get the golden crops from the fertile lands on the bank of River Ganga.
 - The water of River Ganga is widely used for agriculture purpose.
 - The Ganga has been made national waterways of India.
 - It is navigable up to Hardwar.
 - The Ganga plain is one of the most fertile plain and is the granary of India.
 - Our Government has initiated projects for wider utilization of kind water of River Ganga.
 - This would bring enormous prosperity and economic development in our country.
 - All these features made the river as the Ideal river of India.

19. Describe a popular person

- Who is he
- How do you know him? m a k k a r _ | E L T S
- Why is he popular

(Do the same as Virat Kohli – A famous sportsperson)

20. Talk about an important event that you like to celebrate

- what is the event
 - whom do you celebrate it with
 - why do you like to celebrate it
-
- I like to attend many events such as weddings and festivals.
 - Here I would like to talk about our national festival Diwali, which I celebrate every year with my family and friends
 - The whole month before Diwali, we are busy in the cleaning of our home.
 - We buy gifts to give to our friends and relatives.
 - We also buy crackers to burn on that day. But this year we said a big no to crackers, because of the rising pollution.
 - On the actual day of diwali, we all family members go to the gurdwara to pay obeisance to the almighty and seek his blessings.
 - After that we go to some friends and relatives homes to present them the gifts we have bought for them
 - Then we come home and decorate our home with candles and diyas.
 - This time my father also got some electric lights fitted in our home.
 - My mother cooks special dishes for us and we enjoy dinner.
 - We also turn on all the lights of our house and leave all the doors open because it is believed that Goddess Laxmi visits the homes on that day.
 - After that we go to our terrace and fire the crackers, which we didn't do this year.
 - We just looked around and saw the crackers fired by others.
 - We could see our neighbours were firing crackers.
 - I felt very good as I enjoyed all that very much.
 - You know mam/Sir, Diwali holds a special significance for us.
 - It is celebrated because on this day Lord Rama returned from Ayodhya after 14 years of exile.
 - It is also celebrated because the sixth Guru, Guru Hargobind ji was set free from Gwalior Jail with 52 kings.
 - On this day, the arrogant tyrant Bali was killed by lord Vishnu.
 - So this is a traditional celebration, which all Indians celebrate with great pomp and show.

21. Talk about your favourite movie

- what is the name of this movie
 - when did you watch it and
 - why is it your favourite movie
-
- I am an ardent admirer of Aamir Khan.
 - His movies are loaded with strong social messages, yet they are not devoid of entertainment.
 - My favourite movie to date is Rang De Basanti.
 - It is a comedy as well as a drama movie and has an excellent storyline.
 - It was released in 2006 but I have yet to watch a movie that can match Rang De Basanti.
 - I have viewed this several times maybe 6 or 7 but every time I am surprised that I sit through the movie from beginning to the end without feeling bored
 - Is directed by Omprakash Mehra and it stars Aamir Khan and Soha Ali Khan, Anupam Kher and Kiron Kher besides Sharman Joshi and Kunal Kapoor
 - All the actors in this movie have performed to the best of their abilities that means the movie is very well directed and well presented
 - The setting is both pre partition days in India and modern day India.
 - The story revolves around six Indians young students who assist an English Woman to film a documentary on the freedom fighters from their past,
 - The events that lead make them to relive the long forgotten saga of freedom.
 - In fact they realise they love their country and can make supreme sacrifice for it.
 - It has very moving songs and has won the award for music director A.R. Rehman.
 - Some of the scenes are so hilarious that I start laughing even when I am alone
 - It is a movie that shows that today's younger generation may appear to be aimless and carefree but given the right direction and guidance they can achieve wonders.

22. An activity that you found boring

When was it?

Where was it? and

Why did you find it boring?

- I enjoy playing outdoor games as well as some computer games too.
- Last weekend my mother was out of town with my aunt and I was made in charge of the house.
- I thought I will enjoy being master/mistress of the house and readily agreed to supervise the domestic help and do some small chores.
- I woke up at 8o, clock about an hour earlier than my usual time, I prepared tea for myself and my father.
- The day started well and I switched on my favourite T V channel cartoon network
- Within a span of ½ an hour I had to get up thrice for the milkman, garbage collector and the house maid.
- I did not even get time to take bath and quickly changed as my maternal uncle was visiting that day
- I realised that dusting the house and making beds was a very boring task
- Moreover, it is extremely boring to entertain guests when you don't have common topics to discuss.
- My uncle discussed the political scenario and the geopolitical issues. He was critical of everyone. This baffled me further.
- I could have enjoyed that weekend with my friends but I was stuck with something that was not my cup of tea.
- Now I realized that entertaining guests and managing the house is a boring and thankless job.

Alternate answer

- During festival season there is gaiety and excitement in the air.
- We enjoy trying new skills new games and meeting people.
- Last November it was the pre Diwali week when some of my friends came to my house and invited me for a game of cards.
- Prior to this this I had tried my hand on cards but found it not my cup of tea so I told my friend Nehal that I will visit her home but will not be able to participate or play actively.
- She insisted that it is customary to play before Diwali and assured me that I will enjoy the way they play the game.
- I accepted the invitation because because I was told that it is auspicious to play cards before the festival.
- Moreover, I did not want to sound impolite.
- Next evening when I went to Nehal's house the stage was set for cards, the house was

smelling sweet with incense

- She had spread mattresses on the floor with bolsters to lean on, overall it was a very comfortable setting.
- Before the games started, one of her friends explained the rules of the game .
- We began to play the customary ...Teen Patti Something like Poker.
- We were 7 of us and the dealer dealt the cards and and again within a few minutes the procedure was repeated.
- Soon I found it very monotonous and repetitive
- The harder I tried the more disinterested it seemed.
- I started losing the coins distributed to us. This made the game even more demotivating for me.
- In my mind I had a mental block that I am gambling the hard earned money so I could not enjoy even if I tried to.
- Suddenly I realize there was another one like me Ali.
- Ali, who was also sitting there enjoying this Snacks and cracking jokes He seemed to enjoy watching the game
- So I decided next time I am also going to do the same. There are some activities that people like me don't enjoy

23. Describe a piece of furniture in your home that you often use

- What it is
 - Where it is
 - What it looks like (or, what it is made of)
 - And explain how or why you use it. **[makkariELTS]**
-
- Furniture is a part and parcel of every home.
 - There is a lot of furniture in my home also.
 - There are beds and sofa sets, chairs and tables, cupboards and dressing tables.
 - But here I would like to talk about a piece of furniture that I use very often.
 - This is a study table.
 - I have this table in my room.
 - This is a special table, which my father got made for me by a carpenter in my hometown.
 - The body of the table is made of pure teak wood.
 - The top is of board, which has a grey mica topping.
 - This is bigger than a conventional study table.
 - It is a rectangular in shape.
 - It is very well designed.
 - There are shelves on the top on which I place my books.
 - There are drawers on one side in which I keep my stationery material.
 - There is a chair, which can be slid inside the table when not in use.
 - I find this table very convenient when I have to study or work on my computer.
 - I have a beautiful table lamp on one side.
 - The light falls on my books from the left side.
 - I just love this table.
 - I remember, when I did not have this table, my books would be scattered all over my room.
 - But now they are in perfect order.
 - Mt whole room looks neat and clean because of the table.
 - So, this is one important item of furniture in my house.

24. What is your idea of a perfect home? (Dream Home)

- Where would it be
- How it would look
- When do you think you would have such a home

Sample answer (For those who live in villages) www.makkarIELTS.com

- Everybody has some concept in his mind of an ideal home.
- I have also thought of a perfect home many times.
- Presently, I live in a village.
- My house is very big and has many rooms and open space in the front and back.
- But, for every small requirement, we have to rush to the village.
- I would like to have a house in the suburbs of my hometown.
- There I would get the best of both worlds.
- I would be near the facilities of the city as well as be able to enjoy the calm and peaceful atmosphere of the village
- I would not like to live in a big house.
- Big houses are difficult to maintain.
- My house would have three bedrooms, a lobby, a kitchen a small lawn in the front and a kitchen garden in the backyard.
- I am very fond of gardening.
- I would grow coriander, mint, aubergine, okra, tomatoes, green chilly and some other seasonal vegetables. www.makkarIELTS.com
- I would use only organic fertilisers, such as home made compost from the kitchen waste.
- I would not use any insecticides and pesticides.
- All the rooms of my house would be well lit and airy.
- The bathrooms and kitchen would have the latest fittings.
- I would have solar panels set up on the terrace to harness solar energy.
- I would like to welcome and entertain friends and relatives in my house.
- I would keep it spic and span.
- I hope to live in such a house one day.
- Sample answer (For those who live in cities)
- Everybody has some concept in his mind of an ideal home.
- I have also thought of a perfect home many times.
- Presently, I live in a city.
- My house is not very big but has three bedrooms and some open space in the front and back.
- But, it is a very noisy and congested area.

- I would like to have a house in the suburbs of my home town. (Rest is the same as above) www.makkarIELTS.com

Follow ups

1. Do most Indian people live in an apartment or house?

I think it depends on the region they are living in. In most of the big cities, like the metropolitan cities, people live in apartments, as there is a scarcity of land in such places and to accommodate the ever-increasing population, there are more and more apartment buildings being built. However, in the small cities, towns and the countryside, we can find people mostly living in houses, rather than apartments.

www.makkarIELTS.com

2. Do young people in your country like to live with their parents or by themselves?

In my country, young people like to live with their parents, unless they have to move to another city or country, for higher education or for better career prospects. It's a part of the Indian culture for children to live with their parents.

3. Do Indian people like to rent a place to live?

No, Indian people do not like to rent a place to live. I think it's the dream of almost every Indian to own his/her own house.

4. Would you live in a foreign country in the future?

Yes, definitely. I would like to live in a foreign country in the future. I plan to pursue my education abroad. I think there are better education facilities and better job opportunities in developed countries. www.makkarIELTS.com

5. How is modern home design in your country different to that of the past?

The modern home design is very different to that of the past, in my country. The material being used now in the construction of houses is much advanced, like weather proof paints, insulated walls, soundproof windows, etc. The design of the modern houses is according to the space available. There is better utilization of space in the modern home designs. The homes in the past used to be more spacious and not equipped to handle the latest electronic gadgets and equipment, like washing machine, microwave, dishwashers & so on.

6. In your country what type of home do most people live in?

India is a vast and diverse country. People live in different types of houses, depending on the region and the climate in that region. For example, in the eastern parts of India, houses made from bamboo are very common. In regions where there is snowfall, sloped houses are common. In plain areas, people design their houses, as per the area and space available.

7. Do people prefer to live in Modern Homes or the older style homes (for example from 50 years ago)

People prefer to live in modern homes rather than older style homes because modern homes are better equipped to handle the latest electronic gadgets and technology. Also, the material used to build modern homes is better, for instance, weather proof paints, earthquake proof design, etc. The modern homes are planned better to utilize the space properly.

8. How are modern homes different to older homes? www.makkarIELTS.com Modern homes are quite different from the older homes, in terms of the design, material used and the structure of the building. Older homes were more spacious, with proper ventilation. Modern homes are designed to properly utilize the space, due to the shortage of land these days. These days, people employ interior designers and architects to plan and decorate their homes. Older homes may not be equipped to handle the latest electronic gadgets and appliances.

9. What do you imagine people's houses to be like in the future?

Future is uncertain and we can never be sure what it might bring. I imagine the houses in the future to be smart houses, with everything mechanized and electronic. There would be sensors for lights and appliances to start working themselves. The locking and unlocking of houses would be remote controlled. All the controls maybe on people's cellphones.

10. Why do people sometimes move to live in a different home?

People move to live in a different home sometimes, due to various reasons. Sometimes it is for better facilities, like healthcare, transport and educational facilities. Sometimes people have to relocate because of better job opportunities or because of transferrable jobs. People sometimes move to a different area or locality because of crime related issues.

11. Do you think moving to a new home can ever create or cause problems for people? www.makkarIELTS.com

Yes, I think moving to a new home can definitely create problems for people. Moving their belongings to a new home is a huge task. They have to pack and unpack the things. There could be problems with the facilities they may face, when they move to new homes. For e.g., problems with electricity supply, water supply, bad roads, transport facilities & so on.

12. What are the differences between living in a city and living in a village or town (in the countryside) Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts

There are many differences between living in a city and life in a village. There are better facilities available in cities. The public transport system, healthcare and educational facilities are better in cities than in villages. In cities, there are better and more job opportunities available. There is more pollution and traffic in the cities than in the villages. Villages are cleaner, greener and more peaceful than cities. The people in villages are well connected to each other; however, people living in cities may not even know their neighbours.

13. Do people in your country prefer to live in cities or in rural environments?

I think people in my country prefer to live in the cities than in the rural environments. I think that it is quite clear from the ever-increasing population in the cities. People from rural areas move to urban areas for better living standards, better job opportunities and better facilities and services.

14. What are the differences between living in the countryside compared to living in the city? Same as answer#12.

25. Describe an occasion when visitors came to your home

-Who the visitors were

-What the occasion was

What you did for the occasion and the visitor

Explain how you felt about it

Follow Up questions

1. Do you often invite friends to visit your home?
Yes, I like to invite friends to visit my home. Sometimes we have get-togethers at home and sometimes when we have to study or make a project, I invite my friends over.
2. Do you like visitors coming to your home?
Yes, I like visitors coming to my home. Its good to have relatives and friends come over and we can spend quality time with each other.
3. Do people often visit you at your home?
Yes, people visit me at home quite often. We have an extended family system that we follow and a lot of my relatives live in the same city. Also, sometimes my friends and neighbors also visit us at home.
4. How often do visitors come to your home?
Visitors come to my home very often, in fact twice or thrice a week.
5. When do visitors come to your home?
When someone has to visit, they usually call ahead and come. There are no specific times when people visit us at home.
6. Do you prefer to have friends visit you, or relatives?
I like having both my friends and relatives visit me. These days everyone is busy on their routines and so, when anyone visits me, it's a good way to spend quality time with them.
7. What do you usually do together with your visitors?
When we have visitors over, we usually sit and chat, discuss the day's happenings or any social or national issues. Sometimes we share jokes and have a good laugh and all this happens usually over of a cup of tea or coffee and some snacks. Sometimes we also have visitors over for lunch or dinner.
8. When someone visits you, how do you usually show hospitality (or, entertain them)?
Hospitality towards visitors is in our culture. In India, guests are treated like God. We show our hospitality by making them feel comfortable and offering them drinks and snacks or food, depending on the time of the day.

26. Talk about a traditional object of your country or Talk about a traditional product of your country that you bought

- What is it
 - How is it made
 - When did you try it for the first time
 - Why do you like it
-
- India is rich in tradition and culture
 - It is also very diverse.
 - Traditional products are different in different parts of India
 - Here I would like to talk about a traditional product which is of Punjab
 - Jutti is an urdu word for shoe with a closed upper attached to a sole
 - These are traditionally made of pure leather.
 - Then it is beaded, threaded and embroidered in different eye-catching colours.
 - It is made by skilled craftsmen.
 - Some designs are very intrinsic and delicate
 - Some are just plain or coloured leather
 - I have many Punjabi juttis
 - I wear them very often
 - I remember, the first time I wore Punjabi jutti was on my cousin's wedding, two years ago.
 - After that I liked it so much that I started wearing in routine.
 - It is very comfortable
 - It is the most versatile footwear.
 - It is popular among both genders.
 - It can be worn everyday, on weddings, parties and on festivals
 - It was first introduced by the Mughals and was very popular among the royalty
 - First the raw hide is processed
 - Then it is dyed
 - Then the cobblers make the juttis
 - Final stitching and embroidery is done in the end.
 - I like it because, it looks beautiful and is also very comfortable to wear.

Follow Ups

- 1) Describe another traditional product from your country (apart from what you spoke about)
- 2) What are the benefits of traditional products to locals?
- 3) Do you think the government should help in the promotion of traditional products?
- 4) Do you think because of globalization countries are adopting each other traditions.
- 5) Why people buy traditional products because of their traditional value or because of they are handmade.

27. Describe a good decision someone made or (it could be a good decision someone made recently)

- Who made the decision
 - What was the decision
 - When was it made
 - How it affected you
 - Why was it a good decision / Are you happy with the decision
-
- We all have to take decisions from time to time.
 - Some decisions may be small, such as what to wear or what to prepare for lunch.
 - Some decisions can affect the whole life, such as choosing a college or university or choosing a life partner.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a decision, which my maternal uncle and aunt made.
 - They decided to move from a village to the city for the better education of their children.
 - They made this decision few months ago, and they have never once regretted it.
 - My uncle is an agriculturist, and it was very difficult for him initially.
 - For getting good schooling, his children had to go by bus, which took two hours in the morning and two after school hours.
 - It was very tiring for his children.
 - He did not want to compromise with their education by teaching them in the village school.
 - So, he decided to shift to the city and instead of his children travelling daily, he commuted to his village for his work.
 - I think it was a good decision, because the early years of schooling are the base forming years of life.
 - Now, his children are doing well in school, and are also good at many extra-curricular activities also.
 - Sometimes for sports, they have to stay at school after school hours, which would have been impossible if they were staying in the village.
 - My uncle could have seen his comfort, but he decided to put his family first and I think it was quite right.
 - I admire my uncle for that.
 - So, that was the decision my uncle made, which I think was good.

Follow ups

1. Should children make decisions on their own?

Yes, children should make decisions on their own. They have to be taught decision-making and the repercussions of wrong and hasty decisions. But, this should be done step by step. Parents should allow them to take small decisions and then slowly leave important things on them.

2. How should parents help their children make decisions?

Parents should allow them to take small decisions and then slowly leave important things on them. This way they can teach them to take decisions in small steps and children will learn better.

3. Do parents in your country take decisions for their children?

Yes, they do. They are very protective of their children and want to take every small and big decision for them. But, nowadays, children do not like such interference and sometimes rebel against their parents.

4. Do you think it is advisable listening to others advice when making decisions?

It is advisable to listen to others advice, but the final decision should be on ones own. When we listen to someones advice, we learn to look at things from another perspective and then can take better decisions.

28. Describe an occasion when you received a good/best service from a restaurant or a shop

- What the service was
 - When and where you received the service
 - Whom were you with
 - And explain why you think it was a good service
-
- I am a shopaholic and I love to purchase things.
 - Here I would like to talk about a situation when I received a very good service from a shop in a shopping mall in Jalandhar.
 - Last month I went there with my cousins to buy some clothes for myself.
 - I wanted to buy a pair of jeans and I had heard about this shop in Viva Collage, which sells jeans of all top brands.
 - We went straight to that shop and the salesmen welcomed us with smiling faces.
 - They started showing us various varieties and allowed us to try them on.
 - We were very happy to know that Levis Company was offering a deal.
 - We picked out the colours of our choice and happily made the purchase.
 - Two jeans needed slight alterations in length, which they got done within an hour at no extra cost.
 - We were very happy with their prompt service.
 - Later on we enjoyed at the mall and had lunch there at a food outlet.
 - In the evening we watched a movie in the same complex.
 - When I came home and showed my jeans to my family, they also liked it a lot.
 - I refer that shop to all my friends and relatives because of their services.

(Another idea)

- I am a shopaholic and I love to purchase things.
- Here I would like to talk about a situation when I received a very good service from Dell company, which deals with computers.
- Last year I made an online purchase of Dell laptop.
- I bought the latest version with an i5 processor and 500 GB hard drive.
- It was the first time I had bought anything online.
- When I received my laptop, I was very happy.
- It was very nicely packed and delivered to me.
- It came with a one-year warranty.
- It worked very well for the first ten months, but after that it started giving problems.
- It would hang very often and the battery back up became very less.
- Fortunately it was within warranty period.

- I called the Dell Support and told them about my problem.
- They assured me that within 24 hours, their representative would come and do the needful.
- The very next day, their person came and checked my laptop.
- He replaced my laptop's battery and also sorted out the other problems.
- He advised me to use the laptop with a cooling pad if I have to use it for long hours.
- I did not have to pay a single penny.
- I told about this to my friends and they were also surprised at such good after-sale services.
- Now my laptop is as good as new and I am not facing any problems.
- I would definitely recommend everyone to buy Dell laptops.

Follow ups

1. What jobs require staff to get in touch with many people?

There are many jobs which require their staff to be in touch with people, such as the jobs of salesmen, some jobs related to go field work, jobs in banks and malls, teaching jobs and so on.

2. What qualities does the staff need? Why?

The staff needs good communication skills. They need to be polite all the time, and also have a lot of patience. They need to have good knowledge of what they are selling/offering.

3. What's the difference between services in big shops and small shops?

In big shops, things are displayed, and you can pick up what you need, but in small shops, the salesmen guide and personally show you what you ask for. They even guide you about the products. The return policies of big shops are better than those of smaller shops. Big shops offer more variety of products, whereas small shops have less variety.

4. What should people do when they get bad service?

People should complain if they get bad service. They can complain to the store manager or the company of which they have got the product.

5. Why do some people not know what service is good?

Some people do not know what service is good, because they have not compared it with the other stores or the other brands. Sometimes it is also because people are not aware of the concept of customer service.

29. Describe an interesting place that few people know or Describe a place in your town which is not so famous for tourists

- where it is
 - When you go there
 - What you can do there
 - Why few people know about it/ why few people go there
-
- There are many interesting places in and around my hometown, where many people go to, like parks, malls, sports centres, etc.
 - Here I would like to talk about an interesting place, which is not so popular
 - Not many people visit this place
 - It is a farm stay at about an hour's drive from my hometown
 - It is called Farmer's villa
 - It is in one of the villages that falls on the national highway 44, on the way from Phagwara to Amritsar
 - It offers all the modern facilities and comforts for the tourists/visitors
 - At the same time it offers an opportunity to experience the Punjabi culture.
 - They offer Cooking classes for traditional Punjabi dishes
 - The farms there are organic and no chemicals are used
 - They offer walks around the village and also rides on tractors in farms
 - It is not very well known because not many people from the cities around this village know about it
 - Mostly foreign tourists stay at this farm stay to experience the Punjabi culture.
 - I haven't yet visited this place but I plan to go there with my family soon and stay there for a couple of days.
 - I've heard that it is very quiet and away from the hustle and bustle of the city
 - I think it would be a very nice weekend getaway for my family and me
 - We can all spend quality time with each other there and also get in touch with our roots and culture

Follow ups

1. What kinds of tourist sites are popular in your country?

There are different kinds of tourist sites popular in my country. Some are popular because of their historic or architectural importance, some for their natural beauty, some for their traditions and culture, some for their arts and crafts and some for religious importance. The diversity india had to offer in terms of culture and terrain attracts many foreign tourists every year.

2. What can governments do to prevent pollution in tourist sites?

Governments can do a lot to prevent pollution at tourist places. There should be proper waster disposal facilities, there should be strict rules and heavy fines for spoiling and littering the tourist places. The government can promote e-tourism. The use of vehicles can be minimised or even can be banned in some areas to reduce the vehicular pollution.

3. What are the advantages of visiting less known places?

There are many advantages of visiting less known places. It is less noisy and less crowded. It gives us an opportunity to experience the local unadulterated culture. There is less pollution, because of not many visitors.

4. What are the disadvantages when there are too many tourists in one site?

There are many disadvantages of too many tourists at a site. It is crowded, noisy and has more pollution. The culture in such places is diluted to accommodate tourists from all over the world, like there may be more restaurants and food outlets offering international foods rather than local food.

30. Describe an interesting person from another country or A famous international person you know/met

- Who this person is
 - What this person does
 - Why this person is interesting
 - How you think of this person
-
- There are many interesting people in the world.
 - Here I would like to talk about a famous person whom I find interesting.
 - He is Mark Zuckerberg, the co-founder of Facebook.
 - He was born in New York, USA in 1984.
 - He launched Facebook in February, 2004, from his dormitory in Harvard university.
 - Now he is one of the richest people in the world.
 - He is currently the CEO and Chairman of Facebook.
 - His life story is very interesting and motivating.
 - He is a prodigy and started writing software programs during school years.
 - He developed many communication tools and game software during his teenage years.
 - He pursued his passion for programming and Facebook is one of his greatest achievements.
 - I think he is a role model for the youth of today.
 - He has achieved great heights of success
 - And he does a lot to give back to the community
 - Zuckerberg and his wife Priscilla Chan have announced that they will donate a majority of their wealth to charity.
 - He donates generously to several causes
 - He has started his own organization, called Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, to focus on health and education.
 - I think we can learn a lot from his life and his work
 - His life teaches us that if we follow our passion we can reach great heights
 - Also, we should remember to give back to the community in any way we can

Follow ups

1. Do you think communicating with foreigners is a good way to learn about foreign culture?

Yes, I think communicating with foreigners is a good way to learn about foreign cultures. I think we can learn a lot about the way they talk, their language, their likes and dislikes and many other things about their country and culture by having a conversation with them.

2. What are the disadvantages of working for an international company?

There are not many disadvantages. However, since such companies open up in megacities, people have to move away from home. Another disadvantage maybe the work hours. People may to work in shifts and according to another country's working hours.

3. What kinds of problems do people face when they travel or live in a foreign country?

People may face many problems when travelling or living in another country. They may face language and communication problems. They may also face problems with accommodation, food and weather. People may also feel homesick. Sometimes people get a culture shock.

4. Do you like to make friends with people from other countries?

Yes, I like to make friends with people from other countries. I have many relatives living abroad and through them, I have made many friends in other countries. I get to learn about their culture and way of life.

5 Do you have any international friends.

6 How do the cultural differences hinder the growth of an organization/company.

7 How do sports help to break the barriers of the cultural differences.

31. Talk about an achievement you are proud of

- What you did
 - When did you do it
 - Why did that achievement make you proud www.makkarIELTS.com
-
- Whenever anyone achieves anything, he or she is very proud of it.
 - What may be a simple thing for one person may be an achievement for another.
 - For me overcoming my glossophobia was a very difficult thing.
 - I used to be very stage shy and could never speak in front of an audience.
 - It so happened that once I participated in an environment fair held in my hometown.
 - We were a team of four students – Mohit, Rohan, Ravi and I.
 - We had to make a model on pollution.
 - It was very difficult to collect ideas for the model, but our teacher, Mrs Promilla helped us. Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts
 - We collected all data from different sources like the internet, library, magazines and so on
 - We presented all three types of pollution – air, water and noise pollution - on thermocol www.makkarIELTS.com
 - In this project we showed the causes, effects and ways to control pollution
 - We had to speak turn wise on our model.
 - I remember I was very afraid to speak.
 - But my other friends gave me the confidence. I felt very good that I was part of that team.
 - I spoke very well that time.
 - Getting over my glossophobia was an accomplishment for me.
 - I felt very good after that.
 - We won the first prize in this competition.
 - The judges specially mentioned that the first prize was mainly because of the verbal explanation of the model. www.makkarIELTS.com
 - This fair was covered by the local cable TV and so many people of the neighbourhood congratulated me the next day.
 - Our photograph was also there in the local newspaper Jag Baani.
 - Our school principal also appreciated us
 - I cannot forget that day.
 - All four of us were on cloud nine on that day.
 - So, this was an achievement I was proud of.

Follow ups www.makkarIELTS.com

1. How to measure a person's success?

It is very difficult to measure success. Success is a very subjective term. Different people give different meaning to success. For some earning a lot of money means success. For others, leading a life in which they can help others, means success. For a student, passing the exams with flying colours, means success. So measuring success is not easy. www.makkarIELTS.com

2. Do you think the way people gain success has changed?

Yes, definitely, the way people gain success has changed. Earlier, people did a lot of hard work and success was limited to a small area. Only politicians and film stars and sportsmen who were in the news or national TV were successful over a wider area. But, nowadays, because of the reality shows, any person with some talent can become successful overnight. People can get worldwide success through the Internet, through YouTube and other such networks. Today, people know of Indian successful businessmen, all over the world, because the world has shrunk.

3. How do you define success? Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts

It is very difficult to define success. Success is a very subjective term. Different people give different meaning to success. For some earning a lot of money means success. For others, leading a life in which they can help others, means success. For a student, passing the exams with flying colours, means success. So defining success is not easy.

4. How to reward successful people? www.makkarIELTS.com

We can reward successful people by acknowledging their work. Some awards can be given. Some monetary benefits can be given. Sometimes giving promotions is a good way to reward successful people.

5. What's the most difficult thing you have ever done?

I am very stage shy. I remember, in the annual science fair of my school, I had to speak on a model, which I had prepared. The model was on different types of pollution. I found it very difficult, but somehow I managed it. That was the most difficult thing I did.

6. What qualities does a person need to have, to be successful?

The person should be hard working. He should have good communication skills. He should have the courage to take calculated risks. He should have a helping and caring nature.

7. Do you feel terrible when you fail to do something?

I feel terrible, but only for a short period of time. Then, I try to learn from my failure and work even harder to succeed the next time.

8. Is failure a necessary thing in people's life? www.makkarIELTS.com

Yes, it is. Without knowing failure, we can never enjoy success. Without knowing about the night, we can never enjoy the day. Without unhappiness, we can never

enjoy happiness. The freedom we are enjoying today is also because we have been under the British rule for a long time.

9. Is it important for young people to have some achievement?
10. If someone failed once. Should he try for the next time?
11. Is it good to set goals in life?
12. How can an employer motivate his employees?

32. Describe an important letter that you received.

- When did you receive
 - Whom was it from
 - What was the content of the letter
 - How did you feel about it
-
- I don't receive any traditional letters these days.
 - All I receive and send are short e-mails to relatives and close friends.
 - But about two months ago my friend, Mohan wrote a four-page letter to me.
 - It was a very pleasant surprise to receive that letter
 - Actually, Mohan went last year to pursue his higher education in Canada.
 - He got 7 bands in IELTS and he went to Humber College to do a course in Business Management.
 - Actually, in that letter he persuaded me to take the IELTS test and join him in Canada.
 - He wrote in depth about his life there.
 - It took him two months to get adjusted to the new atmosphere in Canada. Initially he faced a lot of problems.
 - He is a pure vegetarian and he wrote that veg. food outlets were very few near where he lived.
 - He wrote that students are allowed to work 20 hours a week. In this way they can earn for their living expenses.
 - He tried finding some part time jobs but the other new students were smarter than him and by the time he actively started searching for a job, all the good jobs were gone.
 - Then, after two months, by a stroke of luck he got a job in the college library.
 - It is a data entry job and he can study also when he gets time.
 - He wrote that after getting this job he heaved a sigh of relief.
 - Now he is very comfortable and is making enough money to meet his overhead expenses.
 - The education system in Canada is also very good.
 - He wrote that he was in the good books of his teachers and was getting good grades in exams.
 - Mohan has a beautiful handwriting and this letter is full of his love for me.
 - I have read and re-read his letter several times.
 - This letter is important because after receiving this letter I decided to take my IELTS and this letter is the reason that I am here in front of you today for my IELTS speaking test.

Follow ups

1. Do you think handwriting is still important?
Yes, I think so. Handwriting skills will always be important. Formal letters are needed in business. Writing skills are also needed in writing resumes. We all know that we belong to a global village. Today we have to compete with children all over the world. We have to apply for jobs in multinational companies. So we need good writing skills. Even though technology has reduced the need of writing skills, still, I feel that it is very important in today's world.
2. Do you think handwriting will die in the future?
No, definitely not. Handwriting will never die. Its need may decrease because of technology; still there will be many areas in which handwriting will be needed. I also feel that, that day is still very far when each and every person on earth will have access to technology.
3. Do you write letters?
Yes, I do. I write e-mails to my friends and relatives.
4. Do you think children should be taught to write like in the old days?
Yes, I think so. Writing is an art, which is going down because of modern technology. Computers automatically check the spelling and grammar because of which children are losing such skills.
5. Compare the way you learnt to write and the children today learn to write?
I learnt to write by joining dots. Even today children learn in the same manner but there are many cursive writing books available these days which were not so common earlier.
6. Do you like reading magazines or newspapers?
I like reading both, but I prefer newspapers because I want to keep myself abreast of what is happening around me.
7. What kind of articles do you read?
I read articles related to sports, health, fashion and politics. First I go through the headlines and then I turn to the sports section. I also read the Jalandhar supplement, which comes on Wednesdays and Fridays because it has local news.
8. Have you ever read a foreign newspaper?
No, I have never read any foreign newspaper. I only read English and Punjabi newspaper.
9. Do you think it is good to read newspapers to learn a new language?
Yes, I think so. I feel that we can learn a new language soon if we try to read the newspaper in that language. It will also tell us about the culture and people of that place.
10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of emails and letters?
There are many advantages of e-mails. They are quicker and cheaper than traditional / conventional letters. You can send e-mail with the click of a mouse. Once the initial

cost of a computer and an Internet connection has been met with, e-mails are practically free. Moreover, you can send attachments also with e-mail. Perhaps the biggest advantage of e-mail is that it is eco-friendly as no paper is used. E-mails can also be kept in your inbox for as long as you want.

Disadvantages of e-mails are that they need a person to be computer literate. They also need a good Internet connection. Virus can come into your computer through junk mail/spam. They can also be hacked and they lack privacy. They also lack the personal touch.

11. Will letters be replaced by emails?

I think letters have already been replaced by emails to a large extent. Very few people write letters these days.

12. Do old people prefer letters or emails?

Old people are not very comfortable with using technology. So, I think many old people prefer letters to emails. Having said that, there are some old people who have learnt how to use the technology, like for emails and prefer that to hand written letters.

13. Is it still useful for companies to communicate with letters?

Yes, it is still useful for companies to communicate with letters. There are many people who are not very techno savvy and don't know how to use emails or technology. So, it is the best way for companies to communicate with such people through letters.

14. Do people in your country write letters?

There are many remote areas in my country, which still aren't connected well with other parts of the country through technology. In such areas, people still write letters. Also, not all people are comfortable using the technology. For example, many old people prefer letters to emails.

15. What skills does letter writing require?

Letter writing requires a good knowledge of language, that is grammar, punctuation and vocabulary. It is also important to know the differences in formal and informal letter writing.

33. Describe an activity you do to keep fit / way to stay healthy

- What the activity is
- When and where you usually do it
- How you do it
- Explain why it can keep your fit

(Sample answer)

- I do a lot of things to stay healthy such as morning walk, yoga, cycling and so on but here I would like to talk about the morning walk.
- Every day I get up early in the morning and go for morning walk.
- I go with my grandfather, who is 95.
- He has never missed his morning walk in his life.
- In fact his secret of good health is the morning walk.
- I joined him about a year ago and ever since I also have been very regular.
- We go to a park near our home.
- There is a jogging track in the park which is full of activity in those early morning hours.
- My grandfather and I both wear our track suits and walking shoes while walking.
- During our walk, my grandpa tells me a lot of stories.
- He has a lot to tell and sometimes I am surprised at his memory,
- Morning walk has a lot of benefits,
- I used to be very fat, in fact a couch potato, but now I am very fit - all because of the walk and all because of my grandfather who made me do it,
- Morning walk also improves the blood circulation.
- It is a good exercise for all age groups.
- The young can do a brisk walk and the elderly can do a leisurely stroll.
- There is a laughter club in my home town.
- Sometimes they too are there in the park at that time.
- They come there to laugh out their stress and worries.
- Their laughter is so infectious that when they laugh we also can't help laughing with them.
- So a morning walk is the activity which I do to stay healthy.

Follow ups

1. What do old people in your country do to keep fit?

Old people do a lot to keep fit. They do yoga, go for walks, eat healthy food, avoid junk food and take proper food supplements.

2. What kinds of sports are popular in India?

India is a diverse country. All types of sports are popular such as cricket, hockey, football, volleyball, tennis and so on.

3. Do you think young people should play dangerous sports?

Yes, they should if they want to. However, they should do so under proper supervision and after undergoing proper training from licensed companies.

4. What else people can do to keep fit besides sports?

People can avoid fast foods and eat healthy and balanced diet.

5. What can parents do to make their children like sports?

They can make them join sports classes. They can act as role models. If they themselves play outdoor sports, their children will automatically follow them. Even if they don't play themselves, they can go out with their children and watch them play.

34. A place people go to listen music

- Where it is
 - What kind of music is performed there
 - What type of people go there
 - Why people go there
 - Explain your impressions of this place
-
- Nowadays because of technology, we don't need to go to any special place to listen music.
 - Music is all around us – on TV, on radio and on the internet.
 - I also don't go to any place specially to listen music.
 - But, yes, I do enjoy music which is played in restaurants and shopping malls and cafes whenever I go there.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a place where most people go to hear religious music.
 - It is a famous Gurdwara, a Sikh temple, of my home town.
 - Every evening, a famous devotional singing group of my home town performs there from 6 to 8 pm.
 - People of my home town as well as from neighbouring villages come there every evening to listen to the religious hymns and chants.
 - This gurdwara is in the suburbs of my home town.
 - It is dedicated to the sixth guru of the Sikhs, Guru Hargobind Ji
 - My parents go there every evening.
 - Once or twice a week I also accompany them.
 - Believe me ma'm/sir their music is mesmerizing.
 - When I listen their devotional songs, I feel very relaxed.
 - I feel lighter; I feel as I have got rid of all my stress and tensions.
 - Bhai Devinder Singh is such a good singer that his music touches the heart.
 - People also get to enjoy tea from the community kitchen there.
 - There is a pond outside which has fish and children love feeding the fish over there.
 - There are benches all around the pond for people to sit.
 - Some elderly people who cannot go inside sit on these benches and enjoy the sound of the religious music coming from inside.
 - My friends have also started going there and they too enjoy it.

Follow ups

1. Should children learn to play musical instrument?

Yes definitely. (see ideas from answer 6)

2. Should parents force them to listen music?

No, there should be no forcing. If forced, children will not enjoy music. Parents can create an atmosphere that children are themselves drawn towards music.

3. Is music education important in your country?

I firmly believe that music is a more potent instrument than any other for education and it is even more important than other subjects in the early years of life. Music uses both sides of the brain as a result of which the child's brain develops academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

4. Some people say music is like math. Do you agree?

I don't know that but I have read that music increases the cognitive skills of a child. Most research shows that when children are trained in music at a young age, they tend to improve in their math skills.

5. What effects does technology have on music?

Technology has had a lot of impact on music. It has had both positive and negative effects. On the positive side this has allowed for artists to quickly spread word about their work and get their music out to a global audience with ease due to websites such as Youtube, Spotify, Sound Cloud, Band Camp and other such music streaming websites. On the negative side this has almost disvalued music as an art, because now even if an artist spends thousands of their own dollars and time to produce an album, he will make little to nothing because such files can be downloaded and shared for free. So, artists hav to find other ways to make a living.

6. What are the advantages of learning music?

Importance of music in the primary classes

- 1) The most important advantage of music in primary classes is that music trains the brain for higher forms of thinking. It was seen in a research that second graders who were given music lessons scored 27% higher in math than children who received no music lessons. This means that children who learn music in schools are better problem-solvers and are better at analysis and overall critical thinking. Because studying or playing music uses the same part of the brain that is used in mathematical thinking, music education can help promote better math students.
- 2) Exposing children to music in the early and primary years increases listening and concentration skills also.

- 3) Music is an art form. We are emotional beings and every child requires an artistic outlet.
- 4) Music may be the child's vehicle of expression. Music helps the child to open up and improve his communication skills. It helps him to express his ideas and thoughts in a better manner.
- 5) Young children can experience camaraderie and teamwork by participating in music activities done in groups. Involvement in a music group, chorus or band gives the young child a sense of importance and belonging.
- 6) Music education can open doors for children who can later adopt it as a hobby or even profession in later years.

35. Describe an interesting conversation with someone you didn't know or a foreigner

- When this happened
 - Who you were talking to
 - What you talked about
 - Why did you find this conversation interesting
-
- Man is a social animal and conversations are a part of life.
 - I've had many conversations in my life, but here I would like to talk about a conversation, which I found very interesting and it was with a stranger
 - It so happened, that about three months ago I boarded a bus for Ludhiana to see my uncle and aunt, who live there.
 - The bus started and when the conductor came near my seat, I opened my bag to take out money for the ticket.
 - To my shock, I had forgotten to put my wallet in my bag, as I had changed my bag.
 - I was very nervous and was thinking what to do, when an elderly person sitting next to me offered to pay for my ticket.
 - It was not a huge amount, so I accepted and in this way he saved me from an embarrassing situation.
 - I started chatting with him. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - He was a retired army officer.
 - To my surprise he turned out to be from my hometown.
 - He told me many stories about his army life.
 - He told me that army life is very disciplined.
 - After retirement he got the job of security officer in a bank in Ludhiana.
 - He commuted daily from Phagwara for his job.
 - He has two daughters and both of them were studying in Canada after their senior secondary education.
 - He told me that they took the IELTS and got a good band score and then got admission in Humber College Canada.
 - I found all that conversation very interesting.
 - The one hour journey to Ludhiana seemed to pass in a few minutes.
 - He motivated me to take the IELTS and study abroad.
 - He told me that his daughters were doing very well in studies and were also doing part time jobs.
 - I requested him to come to my home and motivate my parents to send me abroad for higher education.
 - He visited us with his wife, the very next weekend and had a long chat with my parents.
 - He succeeded in convincing them.
 - Today, I am taking the IELTS because of him.

Follow Up Questions

1. How do friends communicate with each other?
Friends communicate with each other in many ways. They communicate face to face, through phone and also through the Internet.
2. What's the difference between having a conversation with a man and having a conversation with a woman?
There are no gender differences nowadays. Both, men and women, can talk equally well on any topic they are interested in, be it sports, or politics, or fashion.
3. Do you think women like to chat more than men?
I don't think so. Gender has nothing to do with the preference of chatting. It is a matter of individual choice.
4. When men chat with other men do they usually talk about the same things that women do when they chat with other women?
The topic of conversation among men or women is a matter of individual taste. Mostly men talk about sports, business and politics. Whereas women talk about fashion and family matters. But then individual variations are always there.
5. What is the difference between chatting and gossiping?
Chatting is general talk on various topics, whereas gossiping is talking about other people behind their back. Chatting has a positive connotation, whereas gossiping has a negative connotation.
6. Who do you prefer chatting with - your parents or your friends?
I prefer both equally. I talk to my parents about my day to day's happenings, whereas I discuss studies, sports and movies etc. with friends.
7. Do most people have just a small number of friends, or many friends?
It is very difficult to generalize. Some people have few friends and some like to have a lot of friends. Mostly, face to face friendship is limited to a few close friends, but people have a huge network of online friends these days on Facebook or Whatsapp.
8. How do most people make new friends in your country?
Most people make new friends in schools and colleges, while attending family functions or other social functions or while travelling in public transport.
9. Do you think people's abilities or intelligence is a factor when people become friends?
Yes, definitely, when people make new friends, they look for the person's abilities. Small children, however, have innocent friendships. They do not look into any such qualities.
10. What qualities do you think a good friend should have?
A good friend should be reliable. You should be able to open your heart's innermost secrets with him without having the tension that he will disclose them to anyone. Secondly, a good friend should be intelligent. He should be able to guide you from time to time. He should have a good sense of humour. He should be able to turn any tense situation into a happy one.

11. Do you think it's possible to determine how sincere a person is the first time you meet him?

No, it is not possible to do so. Appearances can be very deceptive. So, we should think twice before trusting a complete stranger.

12. Do you think it is important to share your problems with others?

Yes, of course. It has been well said that problem shared is problem halved, whereas happiness shared is happiness doubled. Other people may suggest solutions to your problems. They may make you see things from a different perspective.

36. A successful businessman

- Who is he
 - How do you know him
 - Why do you admire him www.facebook.com/makkariELTS
-
- There are many successful businessmen in my country, such as Anil Ambani, Mukesh Ambani, Rattan Tata, Vijay Malya and so on
 - But here I would like to talk about Mukesh Ambani.
 - He is in his late fifties and looks very handsome.
 - He has a degree in Chemical Engineering
 - He joined his father in Reliance Industries in 1981, at the age of 24.
 - He has a great vision and ever since he joined his company, he took it to new heights.
 - He set up India's first private oil refinery at Jamnagar Gujarat.
 - This refinery can produce 33 million tonnes of oil per year.
 - He made it possible for India to compete at the global level.
 - He also owns the domestic cricket club of IPL known as the Mumbai Indians
 - In 2012, he was ranked the richest man in India and the second richest in Asia.
 - He is the 19th richest man in the world
 - He has a net worth of 21 billion dollars.
 - He lives in Mumbai. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - His house has 27 storeys and is worth 1 billion dollars.
 - He lives there with his wife, Nita Ambani, three children and a staff of 600 people.
 - He believes that businesses should constantly innovate otherwise they will stagnate and wither away.
 - He believes that the main purpose of businesses is to create jobs and wealth.
 - And, he has successfully done so by his various industries.
 - His achievements have made him known not only in India but across the globe.
 - In 2013, he was conferred 'Entrepreneur of the Decade' by All India Management Association.
 - So, I think Mukesh Ambani is a very successful businessman of India mainly because of the way he managed his assets in the petroleum industry.

37. Talk about a company around your city which employs a lot of people

- Where is the company
 - What does it do
 - How do you know about it
-
- I know of many workplaces in and around my home town such as industries, banks and educational institutes
 - Here I am going to talk about a work place, which is in my hometown and employs a lot of people.
 - It is the JCT mill, which stands for Jagatjit Cotton and Textile Mills
 - It is on the G.T. Road
 - This mill was established in 1946.
 - The chairman of the company is Mr M.M. Thapar
 - My uncle works in their HR department of this Mill.
 - He tells me a lot about the Mill.
 - Many people, nearly around 30,000, work in this Mill and they are proud to be part of this Mill. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - The employer employee relation is very good.
 - They provide many facilities to their employees.
 - They provide housing at very low cost to their employees.
 - Their housing colony is called Thapar Colony.
 - They also provide healthcare facilities for their employees.
 - They have a school where the children of their workers can study free of cost.
 - This school is affiliated to the Punjab School Education Board.
 - The employees live in a world of their own inside the Thapar Colony
 - There is 24 hours power supply.
 - They give bonuses and perks to their employees from time to time.
 - The Mill manufactures cotton fabric.
 - Even big names like Raymonds and Siyaram buy fabric from here and sell it under their own tag.
 - They have even started manufacturing organic cotton
 - They also export their cloth
 - Recently they started their readymade garment section in which they have mass production of Men's shirts under the brand name of Tyrock
 - So, this is the workplace where many people work.

Follow ups

1. Is it easy to find a job in India?

No, definitely not easy. India is a diverse country and has a population of more than 120 crores. Obviously, there is a lot of competition in getting jobs.

2. What should the government do if there is unemployment?

The government should encourage self-employment and also set up cottage industries, so that more and more people can be employed. MNCs should also be encouraged, so that the problem of unemployment can be mitigated.

3. Is high salary important?

Yes, a high salary is very important. Money is of course the most important motivation to work. But sometimes, it is OK to get a job one loves, even if the salary is a bit less.

4. Is it ok to do a job you like with a low salary?

If I have to choose a job with a slightly high salary, but I don't like it, then I wouldn't do it and choose the job of my liking. However, if the difference in pay is very high, then I would go for that job even if I don't like it much.

5. Are there many big companies in your country?

Yes, there are. India is a fast developing country. There are many Indian companies, which are very big such as Tata, Mahindra, Godrej, Reliance, Onida and so on. There are also many multinational giants which have opened branches in India, such as Samsung, LG, Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai and so on.

6. How can a small company grow big?

Small companies can do so in many ways. They can work hard, employ skilled workers, focus on quality and employ good marketing strategies.

7. Should big companies donate more to charities?

Yes, they should. I believe that anyone who has enough should help the needy on humanitarian grounds. Many big companies help the NGOs and NPOs. This is a win-win situation for both. When they get publicity for their charity work, they are getting advertisement for free.

8. Should big companies be punished more seriously if they break the law?

No, they should not. Law should be the same for all – big as well as small companies. Usually, big companies have big connections. So, they try to get away with their wrong doings. This also should not happen. Punishment should be equally serious for all law offenders.

38. Talk about a wish that you couldn't accomplish for a long time

- What was the wish
 - When you wanted to achieve
 - Why you couldn't achieve
-
- Everyone sets goals in his or her life.
 - Some are short term goals and some are long term goals.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a goal I took a very long time to achieve.
 - Actually I was very fat.
 - I wanted to lose around 10 kg weight.
 - I wanted to do it by exercise and not by restricting my diet.
 - I joined a gym and started exercise regularly.
 - But, I took my normal meals and didn't put any control on the munching and nibbling in between.
 - By the end of one month, I had not lost even half a kg, but my clothes started fitting better.
 - My instructor at the gym told me that I was losing fat but putting on muscle.
 - That it why it was inch loss and not weight loss.
 - I was not at all happy with my progress.
 - Then I thought of following a diet chart.
 - My gym instructor made a diet chart, which was so difficult and timed that I gave up after 2 days. Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts
 - One of my gym mate was losing weight very fast.
 - I asked him what he was doing to lose weight.
 - He told me that he didn't do any dieting, but he watched what he ate and when he ate.
 - He had reduced artificial sugars altogether.
 - He ate fruit, which has natural sugar, but didn't take any sugar in tea or coffee.
 - He had also changed his dinner time. Earlier he had dinner after 9 pm, but now he has it before 7.
 - I followed his advice and started losing weight.
 - It took a long time, but finally I managed to get my dream figure in about 8 months.
 - Now, early dinner and one hour of gym has become part of my life.
 - I feel fitter and more energetic than before.

Another version

Talk about something you have wanted to do for a long time but haven't done yet

What is it

Where do you want to do it

How difficult it is

Why you want to do it

- There are many things, which I have planned to do in my life, but haven't done yet.
- I have many things in my bucket list, such as bungee jumping, paragliding, mountain trekking and so on
- But here I would like to talk about an outdoor activity, which I would really like to do in the near future.
- This activity is bungee jumping.
- It is an adventure sport.
- My cousin went to Rishikesh 6 months ago and he tried this activity over there.
- He showed me his video.
- I am really fascinated by this activity.
- My cousin told me that a company of New Zealand by the name of Jumping Heights has set up a bungee jumping centre in Rishikesh.
- They charge Rs. 2500/- and make you do this activity.
- They have a very good set up.
- It is done from a height of 83 metres.
- No special skills or equipments are needed.
- You just need a medical certificate that you are not suffering from any heart ailment or asthma. Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts
- All other equipment is provided by them.
- He told me that there is a huge queue of people who go in for this activity.
- Mostly youngsters try this activity.
- He told me that he was a bit nervous but they guide you very well and all the people over there boost your morale.
- He told me that it was a stupendous feeling and he enjoyed it very much.
- He would go there again with me and do it once more.
- We have to register one month in advance.
- They take all the safety procedures and so no accidents have been reported so far.
- I would like to do this activity in April or May because it is very cold nowadays.
- I am really excited for the day to come.

Follow Up Questions

1. Do you think Goals play an important role in a life?
Yes goals are very important for people. These are necessary for people because if they are not ambitious they would not work hard. Young people should be ambitious and set goals for themselves. Then they should work hard to achieve those goals. Lack of ambition may make them lazy.
2. Too much ambitiousness leads to disaster what you think about that?
That is also true. We must know where to draw the line between ambitiousness and over-ambitiousness. When we try to harm the others to attain our goals then it is bad. When we use unfair means to attain our goals even then it is bad. An over ambitious mother may neglect her family and children to reach the top in her career which may prove very harmful in the long run.
3. Do you think that today's generation can run without setting their goals.
(Same as answer 1) Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts
4. What should be good measures to encourage young generation to follow and set their goals?
Many measures can be there. First, the older ones can lead by example. Children are good apes. They follow what they see. Secondly, they can be given examples of those who have reached great heights by setting goals and achieving them.
5. Which skills are helpful to pursue our goals?
Hard work, determination, courage to accept failure and start all over again are required to be a winner ultimately.

39. Describe a time/situation when you saw lots of people smiling

- When did you see them
 - Where did you see them
 - Who you were with
 - Why people were smiling
-
- A smile can brighten our day and lighten any situation
 - In today's fast paced life we are forgetting the importance of smiling
 - Today I will talk about a situation when I saw many people smiling
 - It was when I was travelling with my cousin to Chandigarh on a bus
It was around a month ago
 - There were around 50 passengers in the bus and of all age groups.
 - People were doing different activities- some were talking to each other, a few were reading, children were busy playing games on the mobile phones and some were sleeping.
 - After about half an hour into the journey, a passenger sitting in the middle of the bus started talking on the phone.
 - He had a very loud voice and I could hear him even though I was sitting in one of the front seats.
 - I couldn't help hearing his conversation because of his loud voice.
Apparently he was talking to his wife
 - From his conversation it seemed that he had forgotten their wedding anniversary
 - He was apologizing profusely to his wife and was saying that he was ready to buy her anything she wished for.
 - That conversation lasted for more than 10 minutes, before his wife finally accepted his apology.
 - After the call ended, the person heaved a sigh of relief.
 - My cousin and I exchanged a few smiles during that conversation
 - And I happened to turn around and saw that everyone in the bus was smiling.
 - Everyone in the bus had overheard his conversation and had enjoyed it.
 - Even the person talking on the phone looked relieved and was smiling.
 - Thinking about that journey still brings a smile to my face.
 - I think that we should smile more often, like when we greet someone or thank someone.
 - It can make someone's day.

Follow Up Questions

1. Why do people smile?

People smile because of many reasons. Some people smile to express feelings of happiness, gratitude, affection, etc. Starting our day with a smile help brighten our day and other people's day too. Sometimes people smile to lighten a tense situation and sometimes its because they remember a happy event or something funny.

2. When do people smile?

People usually smile when greeting others, when thanking others, while remembering happy moments, when enjoying with family or friends, when they receive good service, and many other such situations.

3. What's the difference between a fake smile and a true smile?

I think we can make out the difference between a fake and a genuine smile by the facial expressions, especially the eyes. When a person is genuinely smiling, even his/her eyes seem to be smiling.

4. Why do people smile when they take photos?

People smile when they take photos because smiles bring a charm to our face and make the photos more memorable and beautiful. Photos are reminders of memorable events and smiling faces bring back happy memories.

5. Who smiles more, men or women?

I think smiles have nothing to do with the gender. People smile due to different reasons.

6. Do you think people should control their moods?

Yes, I think people should control their bad moods, as it can have a negative effect on the other people around them. It can spoil someone else's day.

40. Describe a situation when someone gave positive comments about the work you did for them

- What did you do
 - When did you do
 - What comments did they give
- There are many situations we come across in life when we help others or take help from others.
 - I would like to talk about one such situation, when I helped others and received appreciation for it. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - It was when my neighbour's daughter needed help with her computer exam.
 - She knows that I have good knowledge about computers and programming.
 - She needed help with the basics of using computers.
 - I agreed to give her lessons for one hour every day till her exams
 - I taught her the theory and helped with the practical aspect too.
 - She scored really well in her computer exam
 - She and her family thanked me for helping her.
 - They invited my family and me over for dinner at their house.
 - They praised me a lot in front of my parents.
 - My parents were very proud of me.
 - I felt an immense sense of satisfaction that day as I was able to help someone achieve their goals. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - That day I realised that giving help gives more satisfaction than receiving help.
 - We have developed even stronger bonds with our neighbours after this incident.
 - We had to go out of station for few days. Our neighbours took care of our pet Bruno.

(Another idea)

- There are many situations we come across in life when we help others or take help from others.
- I would like to talk about one such situation, when I helped others and received appreciation for it.
- It so happened that I was going to Ludhiana last month to attend a wedding.
- On the way there is a petrol pump.
- We saw that a lady was lying on the side and there was a lot of blood from her head.
- This accident had just happened 2 minutes before.
- She and her husband were on a scooter and as they were coming out of the petrol pump a speeding car hit them and sped away. m a k k a r I E L T S
- We parked our car on the side and came out to see if we could help.
- Her husband had minor injuries but she was in a bad shape.
- We immediately called 108 for help.

- It is the number of the free ambulance run by the government.
- Within fifteen minutes the ambulance was there.
- We did not move the lady because it could aggravate her injury.
- She was breathing properly but had a lot of pain.
- There was a first aid team headed by a doctor in the ambulance.
- The ambulance people picked her very carefully on a stretcher and immediately rushed her to Phillaur Civil Hospital.
- We took the number of other relatives of the patient from her husband and called them.
- Actually he was also very shocked because of his wife's condition.
- We took him to the Phillaur hospital in our car.
- Only after they were settled, we moved on.
- A few days later the person called to thank us and praised us a lot.
- He said that because of our timely help his wife was doing fine now.

Follow-ups m a k k a r I E L T S

1. Do you like helping others?
Yes, I like helping others. I feel very happy when I can be of any help to anyone. Whenever any person comes to me for help, I do my best to help that person
2. In your view should children be taught to help others?
Yes, children student should be taught to help others. They should be made to realize that if today they will help others, then tomorrow they will get help if they need help.
3. How can we encourage children to help others?
We can encourage children to help others by setting an example. If they see their elders helping others they will automatically learn to help others.
4. Do you think people are less willing to help others these days compared to the past?
Yes, I think so. Today's life is very fast. People have become workaholics. They have become self centered. They have no time to help others.
5. Do people trust others as much as they used to in the past?
No, I do not think so. My parents and grandparents tell me that life was simpler and slower in the past. People trusted each other. Today, it is very difficult to find people whom you can trust.
6. How do people in your community help one another?
People in my community help each other in whatever way they can. Some people help by giving money and some people help by giving their time.
7. How do students such as high school students help each other?
Students help each other by sharing notes. Some help each other by sharing their conveyance.
8. How can charitable organizations help people?

Charitable organizations help people in many ways. They help by giving money or by teaching people some skills which can help them to earn a livelihood. For example, they open free sewing schools and free computer education centres.

9. What are some examples of such organizations in your country?

Being humane is one organization run by Salman Khan. Then there are the Jaycees, The Lions and the Rotary club.

10. What do you think are the benefits of having unpaid volunteer workers?

There are many benefits of having unpaid volunteer workers. Even with very little amount of funding a lot of people can be helped.

11. How do you think the volunteers themselves benefit?

Volunteers themselves benefit in many ways. If today they help for free, then tomorrow they can get a paid job from the same network. They also will get an opportunity to sharpen their practical skills.

12. Should professionals be hired rather than using volunteer workers?

It depends on the work. For example, if free eye surgeries have to be done then it is better to hire professionals. Otherwise voluntary workers can serve the purpose.

www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS

13. Do you think international aid, for example from my national government to another is important?

Yes, I think it is very important. It develops good relations between countries. But I think instead of giving direct financial aid, the wealthy countries should aim to provide jobs and other facilities to the poor countries.

14. Can you give examples of international aid?

Pulse Polio is an example of international aid by the Rotary international club to eradicate polio from all over the world.

41. Describe something you bought according to an advertisement you saw

- What it was
 - Where you saw or heard about it
 - What it was about
 - Why you wanted to buy it
-
- Advertisements are ubiquitous nowadays.
 - I have seen many ads in my life but the ad I am going to talk about here is of Nokia N8.
 - I saw this ad on Star News Channel about 3-4 years ago.
 - Priyanka Chopra was the brand ambassador for this phone.
 - In this ad, it was described how she used this phone's various features throughout the day and it made her life easier.
 - I was very impressed by this ad and the way they advertised the phone's features.
 - After seeing this ad on TV, I decided to buy that phone.
 - I decided to buy it because it's a very attractive and beautiful phone and had many new features and applications.
 - I got to know about all the features from the advertisement.
 - I had saved enough money to be able to afford that phone
 - It had a fully touch screen interface.
 - It was silver in color.
 - It had a 12-megapixel camera.
 - It was 3G enabled.
 - It had a QWERTY keypad.
 - It had many other applications such as video player, MP3 player.
 - It also had the latest mobile games.
 - It had a calculator, alarm, timer, FM radio, calendar and Internet facility.
 - I used that phone and didn't face any issues with it for almost three years.
 - It was only last year that I changed my phone and bought a new one.
 - I was able to get a good price on that old phone, because it was in a good working condition.

Follow ups

1. How do businesses promote their products?

Businesses use various methods to promote their products. They use different kinds of marketing strategies, like different ways of advertising. They also decide on these strategies according to their target consumers. Advertising on the internet and social media has become very popular.

2. Can you compare different kinds of advertising methods?

There are various forms of advertising we see around us. There is the use of print media for ads in magazines, newspapers and on leaflets. There are also ads on hoardings, on public transport, like buses, taxis, etc. E-media is another media for adverts. There are many ads on TV, radio and the internet. All these methods of advertising have their advantages. However, it depends on the money the manufacturer spends on advertising, the target market and consumers and the product being advertised.

3. What kinds of advertisements are there in your country?

There are many kinds of ads in my country. There are ads on the TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, social networking sites, websites, on buses, taxis, hoardings, etc. There are ads for spreading awareness about social issues.

4. How did the advertising industry develop in your country?

The advertising industry has developed over the last few years, because of the development in technology. With the TV media and the internet becoming pervasive, businesses have understood the value of advertising through these media.

5. Do you trust advertisements?

Yes, I trust advertisements. But I only buy products that I need and which are of good quality. I do not blindly trust the ads.

42. Talk about someone whom you think is the best parent.

- Name and where he/she resides
 - What has he/she done
 - How you were impressed by him/her
-
- My own parents are the best parents in this world.
 - Both my mother and father are very good but here I would like to speak on my mother.
 - She is the best mother in the world.
 - Her name is
 - She is years old.
 - She is not very tall but very beautiful.
 - Her hair has started graying but she doesn't colour or dye her hair.
 - She believes in the three Gs – go grey gracefully
 - She generally wears traditional Punjabi suits.
 - We all, my parents, my siblings and I live in Hargobind Nagar.
 - She has done a lot for me.
 - I remember how she sat beside me for the whole night when I had fever.
 - She does everything she can to make our life comfortable.
 - She has excellent culinary skills.
 - I have also learnt a lot of kitchen work from her.
 - I am impressed by her because she is not just my mother – she is my friend also.
 - I can share all my secrets with her.
 - She is very friendly with my friends also.
 - That is why my friends also love her.
 - She knows very well when to be strict and when to give us some room.
 - That is why I can say that she is a good parent.
 - She has always kept an eye on us even when she appears to be busy.
 - All our relatives and neighbours respect and adore her.
 - She looks after my grandparents also very nicely.
 - She is very soft-spoken and I have never heard her speak harsh words to anyone.
 - She has a good sense of humour.
 - She can lighten up any tense situation by cracking some jokes.
 - Normally she makes me do some household chores but whenever I have exams she never disturbs me.
 - She is the best parent one can have.

A good parent – Not your own (Another idea)

- My own parents are the best parents in this world.
- Both my mother and father are very good but if I have to talk on a good parent not my own then I would choose my friend Sapna's mother.
- I know her very well because she is my best friend's mother
- Her name is
- She is years old.
- She is not very tall but very beautiful.
- Her hair has started graying but she doesn't colour or dye her hair.
- She believes in the three Gs – go grey gracefully
- She generally wears traditional Punjabi suits.
- Actually, they are our neighbours.
- Sapna tells me she has done a lot for her.
- She told me how she sat beside her for the whole night when she had fever.
- She does everything she can to make her family's life comfortable.
- She has excellent culinary skills.
- I have also learnt a lot of kitchen work from her because I go to their house very often.
- I am impressed by her because she treats Sapna like a friend.
- Sapna discusses everything with her and like a friend she listens nicely.
- Even I can share all my secrets with her. She is very friendly with me also.
- I always feel that a good parent should be friendly but firm.
- She knows very well when to be strict and when to give room to her children.
- That is why I can say that she is a good parent.
- She always keeps an eye on Sapna's friends circle even when she appears to be busy.
- All people in our neighbourhood respect and adore her.
- She is very soft-spoken and I have never heard her speak harsh words to anyone.
- She has a good sense of humour.
- She can lighten up any tense situation by cracking some jokes.
- Sapna tells me that normally she makes her do some household chores but whenever it is exam time then she never disturbs Sapna.
- She is the best parent one can have.

Follow ups

1. If you were a parent and busy in your work, would you take care of your children or hire a babysitter?

I would try to take care myself, but if not possible, I would go for a babysitter. If I had the choice, I would give up work for some time to give quality care to my children.

2. Do you think it is fair to let mothers take care of the children all the time?

Of course not. Both parents are responsible for bringing the child into the world, and I believe it should be a joint responsibility to care for the child.

3. Some teenagers don't like to be controlled by their parents. What do you think?

I think today's children want freedom, so they rebel when parents are too strict. I think parents should know when to be strict and when to be friendly with their child.

Parenting is a very daunting task.

4. What are the drawbacks, if children are looked after by their grandparents?

Grandparents can be over doting and spoil the grandchildren by fulfilling every fair and unfair demand of their grandchild. Secondly, sometimes grandparents are not in the best of their health. In such cases they cannot impart quality care.

5. In your country who takes care of children?

In my country, mostly the mother and grandparents care for the child.

6. Do you think you will be a good parent?

Of course, if I ever decide to have a child, I would put my heart and soul into good parenting.

43. An exciting book you read

Describe an exciting book you have read

- When you read it
- What type of book is it
- What is it about
- Why did you find it exciting
- I have not read many books apart from my text books.
- Here, I would like to talk about a book, which my friend gifted me, and I read it all.
- I found this book very exciting and motivating and would like to read it again.
- This book is 'The Wings of Fire' by Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
- My friend got this book as a prize when she participated in a declamation contest
- It is Dr. Kalam's autobiography.
- It was first published in 1999.
- This book became popular only after Dr. Kalam became the President of India.
- He was sworn in as the president of India on 25th July 2002.
- Mr Arun Tiwari helped Dr Kalam in writing the book.
- In this book Dr. Kalam says why he wrote his autobiography.
- This book is very motivating.
- From this book I came to know all about the life and achievements of Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
- Dr Kalam was born in a very poor family in the southern parts of India at Rameshwaram.
- The reason why I admire him is that his life shows how & ordinary boy from a deprived class (poor family) could reach the highest level of the nation.
- He became not only the best rocket engineer but also the first citizen of the nation.
- www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS
- It is true that he described his post as the President as a piece of luck, but his achievement as a rocket engineer was because of sheer hard work.
- He is a role model for one and all.
- The success of Dr Kalam depended on the fact that he was willing to grow daily.
- He learned everything that came to him and was always looking for things to learn.
- m a k k a r I E L T S
- The real success of Dr. Kalam is in his application of the discipline, what he learned, in other fields also.
- That is why he could contribute to the making of the artificial limbs of lesser weight.
- In him we find a person with insatiable quest for knowledge & great love for suffering fellow beings.
- Unfortunately, we don't have Dr Kalam with us today, but he will live in the hearts of all Indians.
- I would like to read this book again, because it is a very motivating book.

Follow Ups

1. Do people in your country like to read books?
Yes, people of my country like to read books. There are bookshops in most towns and cities, which are all doing good business.
2. What kinds of books are most popular in your country?
All types of books are very popular. India is a diverse country. People have diverse tastes in everything, including reading.
3. Do you think reading is important?
Yes, reading is very important. It develops imagination and also develops language skills.
4. Do you think electronic books will eventually replace paper books?
Not completely, but to a large extent yes. E-books have a lot of advantages

Benefits of e-books over traditional books

Easy to carry while traveling – eBooks allow you to bring a whole library with you wherever you go. You can switch between titles with ease and the weight is lighter than a standard paperback.

Need less storage space - Those who own a lot of books know how much space they can take up, but with a reader, your bookshelf is located on a small handheld device, your computer or on both.

Less costly - eBooks are often cheaper in the long run because there are no printing fees associated with them. In fact, you can often find free eBooks online, whereas physical books almost always cost you something. However, you have to spend one time on a reader, such as a kindle or any other tablet.

Immediate purchase - When you buy an eBook, your reward is instantaneous.

Whereas if you order a book online you have to wait for it to arrive before the fun begins.

You can do font adjustments. With an eBook, you can instantly change the darkness of the lettering or the size of your font.

You can do night reading. If you read in bed, an eBook may be a good option as many readers come with built-in reading lights.

5. Some people like to collect books. Why do you think they do this?
They do so because they love books. They treat books as collectibles, and are proud of their collection.
6. Is compulsory reading (in school) is a good idea?

Yes, definitely. In order for students to achieve in math, science, English, history, geography, and other subjects, reading skills must be developed to the point that most of them are automatic. Students cannot struggle with word recognition when they should be reading quickly for comprehension of a text. But the ability to read and write develops with careful planning and instruction. Children need regular and active interactions with print.

Reading is a Good Workout

Just like muscles, the brain benefits from a good workout. And reading is more demanding than watching TV or listening to the radio.

Reading Builds Vocabulary

While reading books, especially challenging ones, you will find yourself exposed to many new words you wouldn't be otherwise.

Reading Helps Self Esteem

Another one of the key reading benefits is that the more you read, the more knowledgeable you become. With more knowledge comes more confidence. More confidence builds self-esteem. So it's a chain reaction.

Reading Improves Creativity

Reading exposes you to new ideas and more information helps to develop the creative side of the brain.

7. What books do children read and what do adults read?

Children read fantasy, fiction and books on supernatural characters like Barbie, Superman and Shaktiman. Adults read biographies, fiction and religious and spiritual books. www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS

8. Why men and women prefer different books?

This is because they have different tastes.

9. Why some books become internationally popular?

This is perhaps because these receive a lot of publicity.

10. What type of books children read nowadays? What type of books did children like reading in the past and what do you think they will read in the future?

Nowadays, generally speaking, the reading habit of the children is on the decline.

Whatever books they read are based on fantasy, fiction and supernatural characters like Barbie, superman and Shaktiman.

50 years ago – Children read a lot. They read moral and spiritual books. They read animal stories.

After 50 years – I do not think they will do any reading. All the time will be spent in front of computers.

11. Do you think children have lost their interest in stories?

No, I don't think that children have lost their interest in stories. However, the stories they read today are very different from those in the past.

12. Can storybooks be an ideal gift for children?

Yes, definitely! Storybooks can be an ideal gift for children. They can help the child imagine the characters in the mind, which is the first step to creativity. Another important benefit is that we can impart the knowledge of culture, tradition, moral values and religion in the mind of the child. This forms the basis of the child's personality. Finally, storybooks enhance the curiosity of the child and enhance their mental growth.

13. What can be done to encourage the habit of reading among children?

A lot can be done to encourage the habit of reading among children. The first and foremost step would be to make books available. There should be good libraries in the schools as well as in neighbourhoods. Story telling competitions could be organised. If children have to take part in these competitions, then naturally, they would be encouraged to read books. Finally, books could be made more interesting by adding graphics.

14. How does reading help a child?

Reading helps to improve concentration. It also helps to improve general knowledge. It also improves the language skills and satisfies the curiosity of children on various things.

15. What sort of books can be suggested to children to read?

Children should be encouraged to read religious and historical books. They should also read biographies and autobiographies of famous people so that they get motivation from them. They should also be encouraged to read books on science and technology. However, these books should be made very interesting by adding pictures.

16. How much should a child read every day?

A child should read half to one hour daily. I think that would be enough considering that they have to go to school and do their homework as well.

17. What is the difference between the books sold in the past and the books sold nowadays?

In the past, books related to culture, tradition, religion and history were sold. Nowadays, books are mostly based on fiction and fantasy. E-books have become very popular nowadays as compared to the printed books.

44. Describe a long car journey you went on

- Where you went
 - What you did at this place
 - Who you went there with
 - Explain why you went on that journey by car
-
- I have not been on many long journeys by car
 - Whenever we have to go on a long journey we generally go by bus or train or by air.
 - Here I am going to talk about a long journey, which I had by car.
 - Last year my cousin came from Canada and he wanted to see Rajasthan.
 - My maternal aunt and uncle live in Jaipur
 - So we decided to visit Jaipur in Rajasthan.
 - It was too late for train reservation, as my cousin had come for two weeks only.
 - My uncle has a Toyota Innova, which is a seven-seater car and so my father borrowed it from him for a week.
 - We were six members my father my mother my brother my cousin my uncle and I
 - We started at 6 AM
 - During our journey we halted at many places
 - We first stopped at Murthal, where there is a famous Motel, Jhilmil Dhaba, where we had our lunch
 - Then we stopped at Delhi for tea.
 - We had minor halts at one or two more places
 - Finally we reached my aunt's house by 7 PM
 - She had prepared sumptuous dinner for us
 - The next morning we went for sightseeing
 - We saw many places such as the Hawa Mahal, City Palace, Amer fort, Maharani Palace and so on
 - The next day we went to Chokhi Dhani
 - This place has been the mirror of Rajasthani culture since 1989
 - We learned a lot about Rajasthani culture over there
 - Live dances and music performances went on throughout the evening
 - Dinner was included in the entry ticket, and so we had dinner over there only
 - The next day we did some shopping
 - We enjoyed the hospitality of my aunt and uncle.
 - We returned home after one week
 - This road trip to Rajasthan will always hold pleasant memories for me.

Follow ups

1. Why do people like to have private cars?

People like to have private cars because of the convenience they offer. Cars take us from destination to destination. Moreover, no time is wasted waiting for the public transport. Cars are also useful when there are elderly or disabled people at home. People also like to have cars because they are a status symbol.

2. What are the differences between bicycles and private cars?

Bicycles are eco-friendly vehicles. These are cheaper and also good for our health. But cars are better when we have to travel long distances. Cars are also better when weather conditions are harsh outside, such as rain or storm. Cars are safer than bicycles. Bicycles are safe only if there are separate lanes for bicycles.

3. Is it a good thing that everyone has his/her own cars?

It is definitely not good if everyone has his/her own car. Already there is too much congestion on the roads. If every person will have own car then there will be parking problems and traffic jams and too much pollution.

4. How to buy private cars in India?

It is easy to buy a car in India. You have to go to a showroom and pay the money and buy a car of your choice. Easy monthly installments are also available. Some people also go for bank loans to buy a car.

5. What's the difference between men's and women's preference on cars?

There are no gender differences nowadays. It is an individual preference. Some people like bigger cars and some like smaller cars. Some people like sports cars and some like luxury cars.

6. What will cars be like in the future?

What the future holds in store for us, nobody can tell, but as far as I can see, there would be flying cars and cars running on water and on solar power.

7. Do many families own private cars in India?

Yes, many families own private cars in India. Now, the car has become very affordable. There is a car to suit every pocket. For example, Tata Nano is called the poor man's car.

45. Describe a leisure facility (cinema, theatre, sports centre) you would like to have in your hometown

- What is it
 - Where is it
 - When you go there
 - And how you feel about it
-
- Every city needs some leisure places and facilities, like cinemas, theatre, parks, sports centres, etc.
 - Here I would like to talk about a leisure facility that I would like to have in my hometown.
 - It is a theatre for plays and other cultural events
 - I belong to Phagwara, which is a small city known for its spare parts industries.
 - There are many modern facilities in my hometown, but I feel that arts and cultural events have taken a backseat due to the modernisation.
 - I have been to the Tagore theatre in Chandigarh, where many plays, dance events and other cultural events are organised.
 - I once saw a dance competition there.
 - It was for promoting the traditional dances of India and many students from local schools participated in it.
 - They performed dances from all over India, like Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Kathak, Bhangra and many more such forms of dances.
 - I was very impressed with the performances and felt proud of our diversity and culture.
 - I think such a facility would greatly benefit the young generation
 - Technology had taken over our lives and we are forgetting our roots.
 - Just a facility will not only be a pace of leisure but also keep us connected with our roots and will make the hidden talent come out.
 - Many talented children and youngsters will get an opportunity to showcase their talent.
 - I hope to see such a leisure facility in my hometown in the near future.

Follow ups

1. Do people change the way of entertainment as they grow older?
Yes, I think so. As we grow older, our interests may change or new interests may develop. For instance, as children we may enjoy animation movies, but as we grow older we may like other genres of movies. Similarly, the kind of music we listen to, the books we read, sports and games we play, also change as we grow older.
2. What do young people do for fun?
Young people like to do many things for fun. Some youngsters like to listen to music, some like to dance, play sports, party, sing, hang out with friends, play games on consoles or their cellphones, travel and many other such things.
3. Do you think entertainment methods will be home based in the future?

Yes, there will be many more home based entertainment methods in the future. This has already started happening, and with the rapid advancement in technology and I think this will continue in the future. People don't feel the need to socialise and go out because all they need for entertainment is available at home, like televisions, gaming consoles, home theatres, etc.

4. What kinds of leisure facilities are popular in your country?

Leisure facilities like sports centres, clubs, theatres, cinemas, shopping malls with multiplexes and food courts, etc. Are popular in my country.

5. Do you think it's important to take sometime off work or study and do some leisure activity?

Yes, it's very important to take some time off from our work or studies. We are leading increasingly hectic lives and to remain productive we need to take time off and re-energise and rejuvenate ourselves. We all need to take breaks to de-stress and release our tensions

46. Rule in school

- What is the rule
 - Do you agree with that
 - What would happen if students break the rule
-
- Rules and laws are made to create a peaceful and harmonious society.
 - If we all obey the rules and laws then we would all be benefited.
 - There are rules everywhere.
 - Schools are the first place where children learn about the rules and codes of conduct.
 - Every school has rules, like wearing the prescribed uniform, coming in time, doing homework regularly and so on.
 - My school also had rules.
 - We had two uniforms.
 - It was navy blue skirt and white shirt on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS
 - However, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, we had a totally white uniform.
 - All students and I agreed with this rule.
 - Uniform creates an atmosphere of discipline.
 - Everybody feels connected because of the uniform.
 - If students broke this rule, and didn't come in uniform, they were punished.
 - Our principal used to make such students stand outside on one leg for half an hour.
 - Sometimes there was a fine of Rs 100/- also.
 - Even if a tie, belt or badge was missing we had to pay the fine.
 - So, this was the rule in school, we all had to follow.

A rule in school you disliked (I am not sure if the cue card is in this way)

- Rules and regulations are important part of life.
- They instill discipline in our lives.
- There were many rules in my school also.
- We had to wear uniform and identity card to school.
- We had to be in time and if we were late we had to stand on the bench for one hour as a punishment.
- I liked most of these rules, but there was one rule in my school which I disliked.
- That rule was that every student had to speak the news in the morning assembly turn wise.
- Every day 5 students spoke the daily news for 2 minutes each.
- It was compulsory and I remember very well how I used to be afraid of going up on the stage when my turn came.

- One of my friends was a very good orator and he used to give me the courage every time I had to speak.
- I used to heave a sigh of relief when my turn was over.
- Today, when I look back, I realise how important it was for us to speak like that in front of so many people.
- Now I have no Glossophobia (stage shyness) and I have developed good communication skills.
- Because of this rule our school won many trophies in declamations and debate competitions.
- I also took part in a debate competition and won the consolation prize when I was in 10th. www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS
- So, this was the rule which I did not like in school time.

m a k k a r I E L T S

47. Describe a country in which you would like to work for a short time

- Where you would like to work
 - What kind of job would it be
 - When would you like to go
 - Why you want to work there
-
- I am planning to go abroad for my higher studies.
 - My dream country for my further studies is Canada.
 - I would like to work there for the time that I am there.
 - I have heard that students can work part time while studying over there.
 - My friend went to Humber College Canada for his Business Management course.
 - He told me a lot about the education system there.
 - He is working part time in a pizza outlet.
 - He gets 10 Canadian dollars an hour. m a k k a r I E L T S
 - He can work 20 hours per week but he can be flexible with the number of hours he can work per day.
 - So he works 5 hours on Saturday and 5 on Sunday and two hours per day on weekdays. Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts
 - In this way his study is not disturbed.
 - He is managing his overhead expenses very nicely.
 - I intend to join him soon.
 - He has promised to help me find a job there.
 - I would like to work in the library.
 - Part time jobs in the library get filled up very fast.
 - If I don't get a job in the library, I would like to work in a restaurant or a fast food outlet.
 - I think it would be a very good way to learn about the culture and to meet new people and make new friends.
 - Canada is a beautiful country.
 - My friend is in Toronto and he has told me that he has visited many places there.
 - He told me about the CN Tower and the Niagara Falls.
 - So, I would definitely like to work in Canada for a short time

Follow Up Questions

1. What kinds of jobs are easy to get in a foreign country?

My cousin who lives in Canada tells me that there are many jobs that are easy to get for students studying there. The most common ones are the jobs in restaurants or fast food outlets like McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, and those in the college campus itself, like jobs in the library, etc.

2. Should young adults work abroad?

Yes, young adults should work abroad because of several reasons like, taking care of their overhead expenses, taking the financial burden off their parents' shoulders, they become more independent and responsible and they gain experience about the work culture, which would help them in their future. It is also a good way to learn about the culture of that country and to meet new people and make friends.

3. If they don't work abroad, would it be helpful for them to travel in a foreign country?

Order Books at www.instamojo.com/makkarielts

Yes, travelling is definitely helpful. They would come to know about the culture, meet new people, see new places, and make new connections. However, if they don't work, they may not be able to afford travelling.

4. Do Indian parents encourage their children to work abroad?

Yes, Indian parents encourage their children to work abroad. They prepare their children well before they travel abroad, about the situations and hardships they may have to face and the importance of working while studying there, so that they can cover their expenses and also gain work experience.

5. If you had an opportunity to live abroad, which country would you like to settle down in?

If I have an opportunity to live abroad, I would like to settle in a developed country, like Canada, Australia, the USA, etc. I have heard from my friends and relatives living abroad that life there is very comfortable, with better facilities and infrastructure. They also tell me that the standard living is very high there, as compared to India. Also, there are a lot of job opportunities available there.

48. A time when you teamed up with old person to teach something to a friend /relative

- What did you teach
 - How did you teach
 - Did friend/relative understand what you teach
 - How well they know about what you taught
-
- Well, learning and teaching are a part of life.
 - I have learnt many things from people around me, and I have also taught what I know well to my nears and dears.
 - I taught my grandfather how to surf the net and chat with my cousins abroad.
 - Once my cousin came with her children, Gia and Tanay to spend her summer vacation with us.
 - Gia wanted to learn Giddha and Bhangra, which are the traditional dances of Punjab.
 - I know some contemporary dance, but my cousin wanted Gia to learn Giddha
 - So, my grandmother and I teamed up to teach her Giddha.
 - We downloaded some Punjabi songs and started giving her lessons.
 - I was awed with my grandmothers dancing skills.
 - She is a natural.
 - My mother told me that Grandma used to be the star of every family function because she dances so well.
 - Gia enjoyed learning from her.
 - Even I picked up a step or two.
 - Gia picked up every step very fast
 - We made her learn four steps and made her do a whole dance in a week.
 - It was great fun.
 - My cousin told me that Gia was learning western dance in the US, but she didn't enjoy it much.
 - Now, my cousin tells me that Gia keeps practicing Giddha back home also, and has taught it to many of her friends.
 - So, this is the situation, when I teamed up with my grandma to teach Punjabi folk dance to my niece.

Follow ups

1. What should older people learn from younger people?

Older people can learn a lot from young people. They can learn about technology, and the use of these modern gadgets. I taught my grandfather to use the whatsapp and now he is more busy on it than I am.

2. What attitudes and behaviour should older people learn from younger people?

Older people know a lot about the ways of life, but sometimes they forget that times have changed a lot. What was considered routine and OK in the past is not considered good today. Today's youngsters have adopted the good points of each culture and follow the global culture, in which vices like dowry and female foeticide have no place. The old people should adapt with the times and learn from today's children.

49. Describe a garden you visited regularly during your young age

- Where it was located
 - How did it look like
 - What kind of visitors came there www.makkarIELTS.com
-
- There are many gardens, which I used to visit regularly in my childhood.
 - There are many gardens in my hometown, which are maintained by the local authorities, such as municipal corporation and PUDA (Punjab Urban Development Authority)
 - Here I would like to talk about the Rose Garden in Chandigarh, which I used to visit regularly in my childhood and even visit now, whenever I get a chance.
 - Actually, my paternal uncle and aunt live in Chandigarh, and I usually spent my summer vacations with them.
 - I used to go to the Rose Garden with my cousins.
 - This garden is named after our former president Dr Zakir Hussain.
 - It is spread over 30 acres of land.
 - It is Asia's largest garden. www.makkarIELTS.com
 - It has more than 50,000 rose plants of about 1600 species.
 - Apart from roses it has many plants and trees of medicinal value.
 - Some of the medicinal plants are bel, harar, camphor and yellow gulmohar.
 - Every year a rose festival is held there.
 - The Rose Garden of Chandigarh is a major tourist attraction.
 - The locals can go there daily, but it is frequented by people from all over the world daily.
 - All the plants are laid in carved out lawns and flower beds.
 - The landscaping is superb.

I remember my cousins and I used to go for long walks almost every other day, when I used to go for my vacations.

Important Note:

- [This is the first \(Beta\) version of makkarIELTS Jan-April 2018 Speaking Guesswork. Please download the updated version from your Payment Confirmation Email. Refer to Student Instructions on page 2 of this book](#)

Follow ups

1. Do you visit this garden now?

Now my cousins have gone abroad for their higher studies, so I don't visit my aunt and uncle often. Even if I go, I don't go to the Rose Garden, because I have no company.

2. What sorts of natural sites like mountain and lakes are there in your country?

India is rich in natural beauty. There are many lakes, mountains, rivers and seas in India. www.makkarIELTS.com

3. Do people prefer more these places now than in the past?

People have always loved all these places. Many tourist places are there around these natural settings.

50. Talk about a TV series you remember

- What series is it
 - Who are the characters
 - What do you like/dislike about it
-
- I watch TV for the news and some reality shows but one TV series I really liked was *Satyamev Jayate* which means that truth alone wins.
 - This was a talk show directed and produced by Aamir Khan
 - This program was telecast on Sunday mornings at 11 am
 - I used to see it with all my family members
 - I watched it because it was a wonderful show, which enlightened me a lot.
 - All the episodes were very heart-touching
 - Some truths were also shocking.
 - I came to know that maximum insecticides and pesticides are used in Punjab as compared with the rest of India
 - This show was the first show of Aamir Khan on TV
 - He spent two years doing research for this show and finally the first show was telecast on 6th May 2012.
 - In these shows he wanted to aware Indians about some sensitive issues of the society.
 - The first issue was titled – Daughters are precious.
 - It was against female foeticide
 - Other issues were – child sexual abuse, dowry system in India, medical malpractice, honour killings, physical disabilities, domestic violence and organic farming.
 - This show has been dubbed in many other languages as well
 - It was telecast by Star Plus and DD National.
 - It was telecast in 100 countries of the world
 - Each and every show was an eye-opener
 - I am a big fan of Aamir
 - He is an actor par-excellence
 - He admits that one TV show and one person's efforts cannot bring about any change, but says "information and knowledge make you act differently".
 - And that, through *Satyamev Jayate*, was his effort.

51. Describe a time when you felt happy that you used your cellphone

- When it happened
 - Where it happened
 - Who were you with
 - Why you felt happy by using your cellphone
-
- Today we can't think of life without our cellphone.
 - People use cellphones for various purposes, like to pay bills, make reservations, social networking, for entertainment, and so on.
 - Here I would like to talk about a time when I felt very happy to use my cellphone
 - It was two months ago, when I was travelling to Ludhiana with my family.
 - We were going there to attend a wedding
 - We were able to reach Ludhiana easily.
 - However, once we reached Ludhiana, we had little idea about the routes there.
 - I immediately took out my cellphone and used the Google Maps app to find our destination.
 - I entered the address of our relatives, where we had to go.
 - This app helped us with the directions to the venue.
 - The narrator on the app gave very clear instructions and we were able to reach our relatives' house very easily, without having to ask anyone for directions.
 - All of us were very happy to be able to reach our destination on time.
 - I now use it whenever I go to a new place.
 - I think it is an excellent app and one of the most useful apps anyone can have on their phones.
- (Add a few more lines about advantages and disadvantages of using cellphones)

Follow ups

1. Do most people have mobile phones in your country?

Yes, most people have mobile phones in my country. The smart phones have become very affordable and the government is doing a lot to make the Internet access available through cellphones to even the remotest parts of India.

2. Does the use of cellphones cause any problems to others?

Yes, cellphones can cause problems to others. For example, when people use their cellphones in places like libraries, hospitals, classrooms, etc., it leads to a lot of disturbance. These days it is very common to find people talking loudly in buses, trains, and other public places, which is also a cause of disturbance.

3. What do people use cellphones for?

Cellphones have become an indispensable part of our lives. People use cellphones for various purposes, like paying bills, making train/bus/air reservations, booking movie tickets, social networking, entertainment by playing games, watching movies/TV shows, and so on.

4. What are the advantages of having a mobile phone?

There are numerous advantages of having a mobile phone. We can remain connected with our family at all times. It can be used to check work emails, when not in office. Students can use cellphones to research for their assignments and studies. Mobile phones are used to pay bills, make reservations, do online shopping, for online banking, and many other such purposes. This invention has made our life very convenient.

5. Are children allowed to use mobile phones in your country?

Yes, unfortunately many children can be seen using mobile phones these days. Parents let children use mobile phones to play games and watch videos, to keep them occupied. However, children are not allowed to use cellphone at schools and colleges, so that discipline is maintained at these places.

6. What are the effects when someone is making a lot of noise by using a cellphone in a public place?

When someone is making a lot of noise by using a cellphone in a public place, I think it is a nuisance. Especially in places like hospitals, places of worship, libraries, classrooms, etc., it leads to a lot of disturbance and is annoying. People need to be considerate when using cellphones in public places, so that it doesn't lead to disturbance.

Follow ups

3. What kind of TV programs are most popular in India?

Many kinds of TV programs are popular in India. India is a diverse country with diverse populace and diverse tastes. People watch soaps, sitcoms, talk shows, reality shows, sports programs and news programs.

4. Why do people all around the world watch soap operas?

Soaps are good relaxation. They are stories, which go on and on. People relate themselves to the characters and enjoy the stories.

5. What is the difference in the programmes, which young people like to watch and the elderly like to watch?

Young people like to watch action and adventure shows, whereas the elderly like religious shows, soaps, talk shows and news programmes

2. Why don't young people don't like educational shows?

They find such shows boring. They like adventure shows, reality shows and other such fun-packed shows.

52. Talk about your Favourite weather/season

Describe your favourite weather.

- What kind of weather it is
 - When this weather usually occurs
 - What you usually do during this weather
 - Explain how this weather affects you
 - And explain why you like this type of weather.
-
- Weather is a short term atmospheric condition
 - It keeps changing every now and then.
 - We enjoy many types of weather in India
 - We have the hot weather in summers and cool weather in winters.
 - The weather in spring and autumn is generally pleasant.
 - The weather I am going to talk about here is the pleasant weather we have during the spring, that is March and beginning of April.
 - This is a very welcome weather because it brings great relief from the intense cold of winters.
 - The flowers are in full bloom everywhere, and you can hear the happy chirping of the birds.
 - Spring season gives you a reason to smile.
 - It infuses colour in your life.
 - The spring season is important for farmers.
 - Crops ripen in the fields.
 - Farmers store wheat and barley at home.
 - Everybody feels a sense of joy and happiness.
 - Besides, spring is a season of festivals of the Hindus.
 - Holi is a festival of eating and drinking.
 - I enjoy it the most.
 - Holi adds to the glory of the spring season.
 - Days and nights are neither too long nor too short.
 - I hate the cold wind of winter.
 - I do not like the hot sun of summer.
 - I dislike mud and dirt caused by the rains.
 - So spring is my favorite season, and its weather is my favourite weather.

Follow Ups

4. Do you often pay attention to the weather forecast? (Why?/Why not?)
Yes, I pay attention to the weather forecast on a regular basis. The reason is I travel a lot and it becomes necessary to know about the weather to be prepared in advance. Also the climate change has made the weather unpredictable. It sometimes rains even in the dry season as such knowing the weather on a day to day basis has become a necessity.
5. How does the weather (or, the weather forecast) affect what activities people do?
People prefer to stay indoors on a hot sunny days or rainy days and go out for picnics on pleasant days. Also there are things we like to eat in certain weather – for example fritters in rainy days, ice creams on warm days etc. It also affects the clothing patterns. People wear light colored loose cotton dresses in summers and dark warm clothes in cold weather.
6. (Similar to above) How does the weather affect people's daily lives?

7. Why do some people dislike some kinds of weather?
I think its because weather can limit people’s activities. If weather restricts people from enjoying their favourite activity, it can make them dislike that weather. My friend hates rainy days because he likes to play cricket and he can’t do that because of the rain.
8. Do people wear different clothes in different types of weather (or, different seasons)?
(Same as 2)
9. Does the weather have an effect on the economy?
Yes weather affects our economy. For example due to milder winters, a lot of people from cold northern countries visit us during that time. Thus it promotes tourism. Also certain weather like hot sunny days boost earning of local ice cream vendors.
Similarly winters boost the jackets and sweaters industry.
10. (Similar but different) (In your country), are there any differences in economic activity in the different seasons?
There are differences in certain economic activities. For example warm clothes’ industry gets a boost in the winter season. Similarly farming is also dependent upon seasons – certain crops like rice is grown in summers whereas others like wheat in winters.
11. Are there any festivals in your country that are related to a season (or, related to the change of the seasons)?
Many festivals are related to seasons. For example Baisakhi celebrates the onset of spring and the harvest season. Teej in Punjab celebrates monsoon. Seasons affect the agriculture , they determines the sowing and harvest period and there are many festivals which are linked to agriculture and thus seasons.

53. A website which helped you to do something / website you visit often

- Which site is it
 - How did you know about it
 - How it helped
-
- I surf the internet very often, in fact daily.
 - There are many websites which help us to do many things.
 - Here I would like to talk about a website through which you can find videos to do almost anything
 - It is youtube.com
 - Whenever I have to do something, which I have not done before, I search a video on this site, and believe me ma'am, there are many to choose from
 - My friend sent me a video of 3D origami once, and I was amazed to see the clear instructions.
 - It has helped me in many ways.
 - I have done many school assignments with the help of youtube videos.
 - If I like any channel on youtube, I subscribe to it and then get that channel's updates in my e-mail.
 - Recently, I baked a cake by watching a you tube video.
 - It turned out perfect.
 - It was an eggless chocolate cake.
 - I bought all the ingredients, such as self raising flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, condensed milk, vanilla extract.
 - Once my mother was not at home.
 - I made rice by watching a video.
 - That too turned out perfect.
 - Videos are better than oral or written instructions.
 - So this is the website, which has helped me many times to do something.

Follow ups

1. Who in your family use the site?

My siblings use this site. Sometimes my father also uses it. (Give your personal answer)

2. Can internet help children in their study?

Yes, definitely. The Internet is an ocean of knowledge. Children can take the help of many educational sites on the net.

3. Will the internet replace the teacher?

I don't think so. The teacher will always be there. The teacher can keep the student focused on study. The Internet cannot do so.

4. Will downloading music or movies for free cause a problem?

Yes, it can cause problems. It can affect the sale of this music and the movies also. But it cannot be stopped. People will always find ways of doing so. This has also made many amateur singers and actors famous overnight.

SPEAKING PART 1

INTRO QUESTIONS

Although we have provided 56 Intro Sets but the following are more important

Animals
Mobile Apps
Dictionary
transportation
vegetables and fruits
watch
work
studies
home
hometown
newspapers and magazines
Celeb
Dreams
Daily routine
forget things
history
housework
jewelry
letters emails
mirror
music/music instrument
politeness
robots
school
shoes
Sunny days
sunshine
teacher
television
time management
ads
birthdays
indoor games

1. First set of questions, asked to almost all students

1. May I know your full name?

My full name is Kiranpreet Kaur Makkar.

(Note: Full name means given name + middle name if any + surname. Mostly students will speak the name given in the passport, which may not have the surname. So, you must speak your full name in answer to this question)

2. How may I address you?

You may address me as Kiran.

(Note 1: Here you may even speak your nickname. It just means that while asking the next questions, the examiner will call you by that name.

Note 2: Many students start speaking their address here. Here, the word 'address' has been used as a verb, which means 'call'. In other words, the question is - How may I call you?)

3. May I see your ID?

Here is my passport. (Note: open the first page of the passport and show it to the examiner. You don't need to say 'Yes')

4. Where do you come from?

I come from Phagwara. It is a small town between Jalandhar and Ludhiana.

2. 2 - Work or Studies

(General Training students are likely to be asked job questions. A comprehensive list of job questions has been added in the end. Please note that everyone is doing different job. So it is not possible to answer these questions. If you want customized answers, you may call 9646044322. Explain your job profile and get sample answers for them)

WORK

1. What work do you do?
(personal answer)
2. Why did you choose to do that type of work (or that job)?
I chose that work, because I was interested in it.
3. Do you like your job?
Yes, I like my job. It is very interesting.
4. Is it very interesting?
Yes, it is very interesting.
5. Do you miss being a student?
Yes, I miss being a student. Now, when I look back I realize that they were the happiest days of my life.

STUDIES

1. What subject(s) are you studying?
I've just completed my senior secondary in commerce stream. Now I wish to go abroad for my higher education.
2. Why did you choose to study that subject/those subjects?
I chose these subjects because I was interested in them.
3. Do you like your subject? Why/Why not?
Yes, I like my subjects. I think they're very interesting.
4. Is it very interesting?
Yes, my subjects are very interesting.
5. Are you looking forward to working?
Yes, I'm looking forward to a part-time job when I go abroad to study.
6. Do you prefer to study in the mornings or afternoons?
I prefer to study in the mornings because at that time I feel very fresh and I can concentrate on my studies.

3. Animals

1. Do you like animals?
Yes, I like animals. I think they are all unique and beautiful creations of nature and form an important part of our ecosystem.
2. What's your favourite animal? (Why?)
My favourite animal is dog because I think it is the most affectionate and the most loyal animal. Dogs make excellent companions for humans.
3. What's your favourite wild animal? (Why?)
My favourite wild animal is a tiger because I think tigers are beautiful creatures and they look very regal.
4. Are people in your country fond of animals?
Yes, in my country many people are fond of animals. Many people keep pet animals.
5. Do many people in your country keep animals at home (or, keep a pet)? OR Do people in your country like to raise animals?
Yes, people in my country like to keep pet animals. People keep dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, fish, etc. as pets.
6. What kinds of animals do people in in your county (or, hometown) keep? OR What kinds of pets do the people have in your hometown?
People in my hometown/country have different types of pets like dogs, cats, birds, fish, rabbits, etc.
7. Compared with the past, have there been any changes concerning pets in your country/hometown?
I think the only change I can think of is that the number of homes that have pets have increased. Also, there are many people who have started adopting the stray dogs and cats, instead of buying them from a breeder.
8. Do you think pets are important?
Yes, definitely. Pets act as stress reliever and are also said to be therapeutic. They act as good companions and provide security. They also teach us about responsibility and unconditional love.
9. Do you think cities are suitable places for keeping a pet?
Yes, cities are suitable to keep small pets like cats, smaller breeds of dogs, fish, etc.

Children and Animals (or, Pets)

10. Do children like animals? What animals do children like?
Yes, children like animals. All the animals and how different they look and behave fascinate them. Children mostly like furry animals like dogs and cats.
Did you ever visit a zoo when you were a child?
11. Yes, I visited a zoo when I was a child. I went a few times with my parents and our school also organized trips to zoos.
Do you think it's important for children to visit a zoo?

Yes, it is important for children to visit zoos so that they can see the animals in real and understand how big they are and how they actually look. They remain connected with nature in this way, specially those children who live in cities.

12. What was your favourite animal when you were a child?
When I was a child, my favourite animal was Tiger.
13. Do you have a pet? (OR Have you ever had a pet?)
Yes, I have two pet dogs.
14. Did you have any pets when you were a child?
Yes, we've always had dogs as pets, ever since I can remember.
15. What do you think are the benefits of a child having a pet? OR What benefits did you get from having a pet?
There are many benefits (to a child) of having a pet. Pets are excellent companions and provide a sense of security. Children can learn about responsibility, caring and unconditional love from pets. Pets act as stress busters and are excellent listeners.
16. If you have children in the future, will you allow them to raise a pet? OR If you had children now, would you let your children raise a pet?
Yes, definitely. I have always had a pet growing up and I would like my child also to grow up with pets around.
17. Why do (you think) some people have a pet?
People keep pets for different reasons. Some people keep pets for security, some for companionship and some keep pets as they act as stress busters.

Farm Animals

18. What farm animals do you have in your country?
There are many farm animals in my country, like cows, goats, sheep, buffalos, horses, hens, etc.
19. Do you think farm animals are important?
Yes, I think farm animals are important. They are a source of income for many people, especially in the rural areas. They provide us many products like milk, eggs, wool, meat and they can be used for farming, like to plough and till the land.
20. How are these animals used? OR In what ways are animals used in agriculture in your country?
Farm animals are used for their products, like eggs, milk, meat etc. or in the fields to plough and to till the land for the crops.
21. Do you think raising farm animals is important?
Yes, it is important to raise farm animals, as it is a source of livelihood and income for many people living in the rural areas. Also, they provide us with many products.

Wild Animals

22. What's the most famous wild animal from your country?
India is a diverse country and many wild animals are found in India. However, I believe that the Bengal Tiger is the most famous wild animal in my country and it is also our national animal.
23. What's your favourite wild animal (from your country)?

The Bengal Tiger is my favourite wild animal.

4. Dictionary

1. Do you often use a dictionary? If yes, how often and what for? If no, why not? If not very often, say how often and why not very often?
Yes, I use a dictionary very often, in fact daily. I am a student and I read a lot of text related to my studies. I often come across words I don't know the meaning of and I use the dictionary to look up the meaning and synonyms.
2. Do you prefer to use an electronic dictionary or a dictionary made of paper?
I prefer to use the electronic dictionary now as it is very convenient and I can easily search for a meaning in a matter of a few seconds. I have a dictionary app downloaded on my phone.
3. If someone gave you a dictionary as a gift, how would you feel?
I will feel happy, as it is a very useful gift for me or for anyone. We keep coming across new words everyday and everyone should have a dictionary.
4. Do you think it would be interesting to write a dictionary? OR Do you think it would be interesting to be part of a team that is writing a dictionary?
Yes, I think so. It will be very interesting to understand the details of all the words, like which part of speech they form, what the origin of the word is, its synonyms and many more such details.
5. What kind of person do you think writes a dictionary?
A person who writes a dictionary has to have an in-depth knowledge of the language and also needs to know the origin and history of the language. It requires a great deal of work and thoroughness, so the person has to be very patient and thorough.

5. Mobile Apps

1. Which mobile apps do you use?
I use a lot of mobile apps for different purposes like Whatsapp for sending messages to my friends and family members. For social networking I use facebook and for sharing my pictures I use Instagram. Apart from this I use apps to read news or do banking services on my phone
2. Which ones do you want to use?
I would like to use apps to know more about jobs or studies related to my field. I believe there is a huge requirement for apps related to specific jobs or courses and these can help people in becoming good and what they do or study.
3. Which ones are popular in your country?

In my country whatsapp, snapchat and instagram are the most popular apps as people in my country like to spend their time by chatting with each other and sharing their pictures.

4. Do you want to make an app?
Yes, I would like to make an App. I would make an app for the IELTS exam which can help students in preparation of the exam and to score good band score.

6. Jewellery

1. Have you ever purchased jewellery for someone?
Yes I recently purchased a gold necklace for my mother. It's a designer necklace and looks really trendy. It also has a diamond pendant attached to it.
My mother loves to buy jewellery, she thinks investing in gold is a good way to save money.
2. What kind of jewellery do you like?
These days jewellery is immensely popular among all people. As per me, I love to wear fashionable and trendy jewellery.
I don't like to buy jewellery that is too expensive, instead I like to buy artificial jewellery. I also like jewellery made from gemstones or pearls.
3. Why do so many people like to buy expensive jewelry to invest?
People like to buy expensive jewellery as an investment because its value appreciates with time and doesn't depreciate. For example, gold and diamond jewelry. Such kind of jewelry can also be passed on as family heritage.
4. How often do you wear jewelry?
I wear jewelry very often. I have different kinds of jewelry for daily wear and for special or formal occasions.

Most of the Essays in 2017 IELTS Exams have been from our book IELTS Academic Essays from the Past Exams. You can also check them at our facebook page www.facebook.com/makkarIELTS or watch the Youtube videos of our essays on www.youtube.com/makkarIELTS

7. Fruit

What is your favourite fruit?

My favorite fruit is apple. It is very healthy and is available all year long.

Why do you like it?

I like it both for the taste and nutritional value. Apples satisfy my need to eat something crunchy too. Because it takes a while to munch on one, I can control my appetite. Apples are one of the world's healthiest foods.

8. Sunshine

1. Do you like sunny days?

Yes, I like sunny days, but only in pleasant and cold weather. I do not like sunny days in summers and hot weather.

2. Do you like going (or, being) outside on sunny days?

Yes, I like being outside on sunny days. However, not during the summer season.

3. What do you like to do on sunny days (or, when you go outside)?

On sunny days, I sometimes like to sit out in the sun and read. Sometimes I go out and meet my friends in a park. Sometimes we plan a picnic on a nice sunny day.

4. What benefits can (or do) people get from sunshine? OR What benefits can (or do) we get from the sun?

There are many benefits of getting sunshine. We need sunshine to get the essential vitamin D. Vitamin D is essential for Calcium absorption and can cause several medical problems.

5. Do you think there are any downsides (or dangers) from sunshine?

Yes, certainly. There are some downsides of too much sunshine or being exposed to sunshine without the protection of sunscreen. It may cause skin burns or heat stroke or sometimes even skin cancer.

6. What do you do (when you are outside) and the sun is too strong?

When the sun is too strong and I am outside, I usually look for some shade or a cool place to sit and drink lots of water.

7. If you wanted to go to a place that has lots of sunshine, where would you go?

I would go to a place where the weather is pleasant and has a lot of sunshine. It would probably be a hill station.

8. Would you like to go, as a tourist, to a place that has little sunshine? OR Would you ever go, as a tourist, to a place that has little sunshine?

I like travelling and visiting new places. And given an opportunity I would definitely like to visit a place that has little sunshine.

9. Weekends

1. How do you usually spend your weekends? What do you usually do on weekends?
I spend my weekends in different ways. Sometimes I just relax at home. Sometimes I go out with my friends for a movie. Sometimes I finish my pending work. Sometimes I help my mother in household chores.
2. In your country, do men and women usually do the same kind of things on weekends (or in their free time)?
Gender differences are disappearing nowadays. Mostly men and women do the same kind of things on weekends.
3. When do you spend time with your family?
I spend the evenings with my family. We watch TV together, have dinner together and go for walks together.
4. What did you do last weekend?
Last weekend I went for a movie with my friends. We also had dinner at a restaurant. It was great fun.
5. What do other people in your hometown (or in your country) usually do on weekends?
People do a lot of things on weekends. Some go for outings; some people spend time at home with family; some people visit relatives. So people do different things on weekends.
6. What are you going to do next weekend?
I have not yet made any plan for the next weekend, but maybe I go out with my family for a movie.
7. Is there anything new that you would like to do on weekends?
I would like to learn some new language on weekends. As a plan to go to Canada, so French would be a good option for me. My relatives live in Montréal and it is a Francophone area. So learning French would help me.
8. Do you like working on weekends?
No, I don't like working on weekends. I prefer to spend time with my family and friends on weekends.
9. Do you think employees should have to work on weekends?
No, definitely not. I think there should be no compulsion on employees to work on weekends. It should be their choice. If they want to earn more, they should be allowed to work.
10. Do you think that weekends now are more important to you, than when you were a child?
Yes, weekends now are more important to me than when I was a child. When I was a child, all days were like weekends. So I did not give importance to weekends. But today, I look forward to weekends.

10. Activity near water

1. What activities would you do if you were spending some leisure time at the beach near the ocean?

If I were spending leisure time at a beach I would try some water sports, like skiing or surfing, I would play volleyball on the beach, I also would enjoy reading at the beach or I would make castles out of the sand.

2. Why do some people like water sports?

Some people like water sports because it is very refreshing to play in and to with water. Some people pursue it as a career or a profession. It is also a very good form of exercise.

3. Do you think the government should spend money in developing facilities for water sports?

Yes, government should spend money on developing facilities for water sports. It will encourage many people to pursue it as a career and earn name and fame for the country. It is also a very good form of exercise and will promote it as a way for many to remain physically and mentally fit and would further lead to a healthier society. Such activities also act as stress busters, which are much needed in today's fast paced world.

4. Do you think that human activities are posing a threat to the oceans of the world?

Yes, human activities are definitely posing a threat to the oceans. The pollution being caused by the ships, boats, and oil drilling machinery used in oceans is harming the marine life to the extent that many aquatic plants and animals are on the verge of extinction. In case of accidents of oil carrying ships, it leads to oil spills, which is extremely harmful for the marine life. Many developing and developed countries are dumping garbage on the ocean beds, which has become a major cause of water pollution. Excessive fishing is also leading to many fish species being on the verge of becoming extinct.

5. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of traveling on the ocean?

Talking about the advantages first, traveling on the ocean is a very good way to learn about the marine life. It is very relaxing and acts as a stress buster. It is a good way to spend quality time family and friends. We can explore more places when travelling on the ocean.

At the same time there are also some disadvantages of travelling on the ocean. In case of a natural calamity like a storm or a tsunami, the chances of survival are less and rescue work is very difficult in such situation. The same is the case if there is an accident when traveling on the ocean. The pollution caused by the ships is also hazardous for the aquatic animals and plants. It is more time consuming than other forms of transport. It may also be more expensive, especially when people go on a holiday on cruise ships.

6. Do you think it's important for children to learn how to swim?

Yes, I think it is very important for children to learn how to swim. It is not only a good form of exercise, it can also be pursued a career. It is a good recreational activity, as it relaxes our mind and refreshes us. It is also a very good skill to learn for children, as it may help them in case of emergencies when travelling on water, not only to save their own lives, but they can also save others' lives. Also, I think childhood is the right age to learn this skill, as children are very receptive and learn new skills easily.

7. Do you think it is best for a child to be taught to swim by a parent or by someone else?

I think it depends. If the parents know how to swim well, they can teach their children to swim and children too will learn easily from their parents. However, if the parents themselves don't know how to swim or can't swim very well, then it is best to get professional help and have a good coach teach them how to swim.

8. Do you think that it is important to learn about the oceans and why?

I think it is very important to learn about the oceans. The oceans directly or indirectly influence us. Ocean waters serve as a source of food and valuable minerals such as salt, which we use daily in our food. Oceans also are used for commerce. For example, pearls taken from oysters are used in jewelry, and shells and coral are used as building materials. They also provide a place for recreation. Each year more people are attracted to the sports of swimming, fishing, scuba diving, boating, and waterskiing.

9. Do you think the oceans should be protected by international agreement?

Definitely, oceans should be protected by international agreement. Without oceans there would be no life on Earth. The oceans directly or indirectly influence us. Ocean waters serve as a source of food and valuable minerals such as salt which we use daily in our food. Oceans also are used for commerce. For example, pearls taken from oysters are used in jewelry, and shells and coral are used as building materials. They also provide a place for recreation. Each year more people are attracted to the sports of swimming, fishing, scuba diving, boating, and waterskiing.

10. Do you think the environmental problems can affect the oceans?

Yes, the environmental problems can definitely affect the oceans. Because of global warming, ocean water is also getting heated up and this is affecting marine life. People and big industries are dumping their effluents in the oceans and this is a cause for alarm.

11. Transportation

1. What's the most popular means of transportation in your hometown?
The most popular means of transportation in my hometown is the bus. My hometown is on the national highway, and there is bus service to different places every two minutes.
2. How often do you take buses?
I take the bus pretty often, in fact three or four times a week.
3. Can you compare the advantages of planes and trains?
Trains are cheaper than planes, but planes are much faster than trains. In trains you can take as much luggage as you want to, but in planes there is a restriction. Railway stations are there in almost all towns and cities, whereas airports are there in only a few places.
4. Is driving to work popular in your country?
Yes, driving to work is popular in big cities, and in places where transport facilities are not so good.
5. Do you think people will drive more in the future?
It is difficult to say about the future, but at the rate at which traffic congestion is increasing on the road, I think people will use public transport more.
6. Would you ride bikes to work in the future?
No, I don't think I would ride bikes to work, as I think they are not very safe.
7. What will become the most popular means of transportation in India?
I think road transportation will remain the most popular means.
8. Do you prefer public transportation or private transportation?
I prefer private transportation for short distances and public transportation for long distances.

How did you come here(get here) today?

I came here/got here by bus/car/bike today.

Why did you choose that form of transport?

I chose it because I think it is very convenient and comfortable. (You can add 1-2 advantages of the mode of transport you used that day)

What form of transport do you usually use?

I usually prefer private transport to public transport. I feel that the public transport is not very comfortable and leads to wastage of time.

OR

I normally use public transport/bus. It is very convenient, comfortable and easy on the pocket.

Is it convenient to take a bus/taxi in your city?

Yes, it is very convenient to take a bus or a taxi in my city. It is a small city and the bus stand and taxi stands are very approachable

12. Music

1. Do you often (like to) listen to music?

Yes, I often listen to music. I like listening to film songs and Punjabi folk songs.

2. When do you listen to music?

Whenever I'm free I listen to music. I have downloaded a few songs in my cell phone. Listening to music relaxes me.

3. How much time do you spend listening to music every day?

I spend an hour or two listening to music every day.

4. What kinds of music do you like to listen to?

I like Hindi film songs. I also love Punjabi folk music.

5. What's your favorite kind of music?

My favorite genre of music is folk music. I also like film music.

6. Have you ever been to a concert?

Yes, I have been to a concert once. There is a village near my hometown where a famous Punjabi singer comes once a year to perform for charity. Last year I went with my friends. He performed live. He always has his tambourine in his hand. It was an electrifying performance.

7. Do you like to listen to live music?

Yes, I do like to listen live music. It is a different experience. In many restaurants and also in marriage functions, they have live music going on, which is very enjoyable. Concerts are also live music.

8. When did you start listening to this type of music?

I remember, I specially went for Gurdas Maan's live performance in a concert last year. Before that I had never been for a live music show.

9. Where do you listen to it?

Concerts may be held in concert halls, which are built for the purpose, or they may be held in any other suitable large building such as a school hall, or a large house. Some concerts are given to very large audiences in the open air. They may take place in a field or in a stadium. The music for these "open-air", is usually amplified by loudspeakers, so that large audiences can hear it.

10. How do you feel when you listen to this music?

I feel very relaxed when I listen to music. I feel as if all my worries and tensions have flown out of my body. I forget everything for sometime.

11. Have you ever learned to play a musical instrument?

Yes, I tried learning the guitar. My cousin has a guitar, and once I stayed with them a few days in my vacations. But, I found it very difficult.

12. Is music an important subject at school in India?

Unfortunately, it is not. Music is an optional subject in some schools, but all schools don't have it.

13. Did you often listen to music when you were a child? (If yes, give details.)

Yes, I listened to music as a child. Mostly I listened to film music.

14. What kinds of music are (most) popular in India?

India is a diverse country. All kinds of music are popular. Some like folk music, some like classical, some like sufi music, some like film music and some like fusion music, which is a blend of Indian classical and western music. A.R.Rehman plays fusion music.

13. Home/Accommodation

1. Do you live in a house or flat? Or What kind of housing/accommodation do you live in?
I live in a house. It is a two storey brick house.
2. Please describe it a little.
It is a two storey brick house. There're four bedrooms with attached bathrooms, a kitchen, a living room and a drawing room. There is a small lawn in the front and a kitchen garden in the backyard.
3. What's your favorite room in your home?
My favorite room is my own room, because I've decorated it according to my taste.
4. What have you done to your room to make it look nice?
I keep my room spic and span. The walls are painted light pink because it is my favorite color. There are floral curtains.
5. Who do you live with?
I live with my parents and brother.
6. Which room does your family spend most of the time in?
My family spends most time in the living room. We have our meals there. We watch TV together and also entertain informal guests in that room.
7. How long have you lived there?
I have lived there since my birth.
8. Do you plan to live there a long time?
Presently I plan to go abroad for my studies. But, but I love my home and would like to come back there.
9. (If you answer you haven't lived there long) What's the difference between where you are living now and where you have lived in the past?
10. What do you usually do in your house/flat/room?
I do many things in my house. I spend time with my parents, eat there, sleep there, Study there and entertaining guests in my house.
11. Are the transport facilities to your home very good?
Yes, the transport facilities to my house are very good. The bus service is ready frequent and the railway station is also very near.
12. Do you plan to move?
I plan to go abroad for higher education. Apart from that I do not plan to move.
13. Would you like to move to another place to live? (Why/why not?)
I plan to go abroad for my higher education. If I like it there, I might think of settling there.
14. Are you prepared to move?
No, I am not prepared to move.

14. Hometown

1. What's (the name of) your hometown?

I belong to Phagwara, which is a small but beautiful town between Jalandhar and Ludhiana.

2. Is it a big city or a small place?

It is a town with a population of about 1.5 lakhs. It is on the national highway.

3. Please describe your hometown a little.

My hometown is very beautiful. All facilities are available here. There are good educational facilities, good hospitals, good job opportunities and already good shopping center.

4. How long have you been living there?

I have been living there since my birth.

5. Do you like your hometown?

Yes, I love my hometown.

6. Do you like living there?

Yes, I like living there.

7. Would you say it's an interesting place?

Yes, I would say it is an interesting place. The shopping center is very nice. In fact it is called a shoppers paradise. There are many historical places. There are three Sikh temples.

8. What do you like (most) about your hometown?

I like everything about my hometown, but what I like the most is that it is on the main road and so it is well connected by roadways and railways.

9. What's your favorite part of your hometown?

My favorite part of my hometown is a park, where I go every morning for my morning walk.

10. Is there anything you dislike about it?

As such there is nothing I dislike about my hometown, but yes, the drainage system could be improved. Whenever there is rainfall there is a lot of water logging on the roads.

11. Do you think you will continue living there for long time?

Yes, I think I would continue living there for a long time. I wish to go abroad for sometime for my higher education, but I would definitely like to come back here.

12. Are there any tourist attractions in your hometown?

Yes, there are two Sikh temples, dedicated to the sixth guru of Sikhs. There is an ancient Shiva Temple and there is a famous hotel Haveli, which is very popular among the tourists.

13. Did your friends also grow up in the same place as you?

Yes, most of my school friends grew up in the same place.

14. Would you like to live there in the future?

Yes, I would like to live there in the future because it's a beautiful place.

15. Watch

1. How often do you wear a watch?

I don't wear a watch very often. I check the time on my cellphone. I wear watches occasionally.
OR I wear a watch every day, to check the time.

2. What was your first watch like?

My first watch was a basic children's watch. It was a gift from my parents on my 5th birthday. It was digital and was pink/black/blue in color.

3. What kinds of watches do you like to wear?

I like to wear watches that match my outfit and also on which, it is easy to check the time.

4. Do people still wear watches in your country?

Yes, people in my country still wear watches. There are many national and international brands available in my country.

16. Visitors

9. Do you often invite friends to visit your home?

Yes, I like to invite friends to visit my home. Sometimes we have get-togethers at home and sometimes when we have to study or make a project, I invite my friends over.

10. Do you like visitors coming to your home?

Yes, I like visitors coming to my home. Its good to have relatives and friends come over and we can spend quality time with each other.

11. Do people often visit you at your home?

Yes, people visit me at home quite often. We have an extended family system that we follow and a lot of my relatives live in the same city. Also, sometimes my friends and neighbors also visit us at home.

12. How often do visitors come to your home?

Visitors come to my home very often, in fact twice or thrice a week.

13. When do visitors come to your home?

When someone has to visit, they usually call ahead and come. There are no specific times when people visit us at home.

14. Do you prefer to have friends visit you, or relatives?

I like having both my friends and relatives visit me. These days everyone is busy on their routines and so, when anyone visits me, it's a good way to spend quality time with them.

15. What do you usually do together with your visitors?

When we have visitors over, we usually sit and chat, discuss the day's happenings or any social or national issues. Sometimes we share jokes and have a good laugh and all this happens usually over of a cup of tea or coffee and some snacks. Sometimes we also have visitors over for lunch or dinner.

16. When someone visits you, how do you usually show hospitality (or, entertain them)?

Hospitality towards visitors is in our culture. In India, guests are treated like God. We show our hospitality by making them feel comfortable and offering them drinks and snacks or food, depending on the time of the day.

17. Dream

1. Do you often have dreams at night?

Yes, I often have dreams at night. Sometimes I have very pleasant dreams, and sometimes I have bad dreams. But I'm not really superstitious about these dreams.

2. Have you had a bad dream before?

Yes, many times I have bad dreams. But I have never seen them turn into reality.

3. What was the strangest dream you have had?

The strangest dream I had was that I am going for my exam, and things are going wrong and I can't reach, and then I get up and feel so relieved that it was a dream.

4. What do you usually dream about?

I dream about weird things. Sometimes I am in Canada in my dreams and sometimes in America. My relatives have told me a lot about Canada and USA, and I keep picturing them in my dreams.

18. Colours

1 What colours do you like?

I like all colors but red is my favorite color.

2 What is the most popular colour in India?

India is a vast country. It is difficult to generalize one color as the most popular color. I think all colors are equally popular, but the three colors of a national flag are the most popular. Green stands for prosperity, saffron stands for sacrifice and white stands for peace.

3 Do you like to wear dark or bright colours?

I like to wear dark or bright colors in winters, but in summers I like to wear light shades.

4 Do colours affect your mood?

Yes, colors affect my mood. When I see bright colors I feel energetic, but light shades make me feel calm.

5 Did color matter to you when you were a child?

Yes, color mattered to me when I was a child. My mother tells me I always wanted things in red color. My school bag was always red and my clothes also had shades of red.

6 Does color matter when you buy things?

Yes, definitely. Color is very important while shopping. I like my clothes in light pastel shades but household items like bed sheets and dinner sets in bright shades.

7 Which color do you don't like to have in your home?

I like all colors but I wouldn't like grey on the walls of my house because I find grey to be a dull color.

8 What is the difference between men's and women's preference on colours?

There are no gender differences nowadays. Both men and women wear all types of colors.

9 Have you ever seen a rainbow?

Yes, I have seen a rainbow many times. It looks very beautiful. Generally, it is seen in the rainy season. There are seven colors in the rainbow – violet, indigo, Blue, Green, yellow, Orange and red. I feel really happy when I see a rainbow. In Hindu mythology, it is called Indradhanush, or the bow of the Lord Indra, the Lord of thunder and lightning.

19. Family

1. How often do you meet with your family?

I stay with my family. I meet my family members every day.

2. How do you spend the time with your family?

I spend time with family in many ways. We eat together, cook together, watch TV together and do many things together.

3. Do you want to live with your family in the future?

Yes, definitely. My family is my life. Even though I go to some foreign country temporarily, I finally want to be with my family.

4. Are you close to all of your family members?

Yes, we are a very close-knit family.

5. How has your family influenced you?

My family has influenced me in many ways. We depend on each other for many things. We guide each other from time to time and we do many things together.

20. Friends

1. Do you have many friends?

Yes, I have many friends, but only a few close friends.

2. How often do you talk to your friends?

I talk to my friends every day. My best friend is also my neighbour. We are together most of the time.

3. How do you communicate with your friends?

I communicate face-to-face and also through cell phone and apps like Whatsapp.

4. What do you think makes people have a long friendship?

Mutual understanding makes people have a long friendship. If people can tolerate each other's shortcomings and be simple and straight forward, then friendships can be for a long time.

5. Does it make things easier in a friendship if you have similar interests?

Yes, definitely. With similar interests friends can spend time together and not get bored. They will also have similar topics for discussion. In a lasting friendship it is very essential that your likes and dislikes are similar.

6. How do people make friends now?

Now a days, people make friends through internet by joining social networking sites like face book, twitter and whatsapp.

7. Do you think we meet new people differently now than in the past?

Yes, definitely. Nowadays, we meet new people through internet by joining social networking sites like face book, twitter and whatsapp. Earlier, people had lots of free time and they made friends by meeting personally.

8. Is friendship (= are friends) important to you? (Why?/Why not?)

Yes, friends are very important for me. I can share all my feelings with them, and they understand me very well because they are mostly my age.

9. Do you prefer to spend time with friends or spend time alone? (Why?)

I prefer to spend time with my friends. I love their company and I enjoy with them.

10. What kind of people do you like to have as friends?

I like my friends to be honest, trustworthy, helpful and intelligent. I also like friends with a good sense of humor.

11. Do you like to spend time with friends? (Why?)

Yes, I like to spend time with friends because I enjoy their company. I like to go out with them for movies, for shopping and for walks.

12. What do you and your friends do together?

We study together, go for walks together, watch movies together and sometimes eat out together.

13. What do your friends think of you? (Do your friends think that you are a good friend? Why?)
I think my friends like me. We spend a lot of time together and they never seem bored. I am honest and straightforward with them. So I think they like me.
14. Are friends more important than family? (Why?)
Friends and family both are important. But, I think Family is definitely more important than friends. Friends can turn out to be fair-weather friends but family is always with you in your good times and bad times. It has been rightly said that in prosperity your friends know you, but in adversity you know your friends.
15. How do Indian people make friends? (= where, in what situations, e.g. at school & at work.)
Indian people make friends in schools, colleges, while travelling, during family get-togethers, during outings and in many other ways. Now a days making online friends has also become very popular.
16. Do adults and children make friends in the same way?
Adults and children do not make friends and the same way. Children are very innocent and make friends from the heart. They don't judge a person before making friends. Adults, on the other hand, are very calculative. They make friends after judging whether that person could be helpful to them or not.

21. Advertisement

(also refer to the follow ups of the cue card on advertisement)

1. Are there many advertisements in your country

Yes, there are too many advertisements in our daily lives. In fact advertising has become an industry. It has become the backbone of many economies of the world. Ads are ubiquitous nowadays. We see ads on TV, newspapers, hoardings and flyers. We also get ads through the radio, cell phone and the Internet.

2. Why do you think there are so many advertisements now?

There are so many advertisements because there are many products, and the manufacturing companies are competing with each other. They have to advertise to stay in the race. So we have an advertisement for almost each and every product that is available.

3. What are the various places where we see advertisements?

Advertisements are all around us. We have advertisements in newspapers, magazines, on TV, on radio and on the Internet.

4. How do you feel about advertisements?

I feel that advertisements are a necessity. Apart from telling us about products they are also telling us about the working of these products. Ads also touch social issues. However, I also feel that ads are very disturbing at times.

5. Do you like advertisements?

Yes, I like advertisements. I think they are very informative and keep us updated about the latest products and offers.

6. What kind of advertisement do you like the most?

I like adverts that have a touch of humor. I also like advertisements that touch social issues.

22. Art

1. Do you like art?

Yes, I like art. Art gives meaning to life. Art is what differentiates us from animals. I like all sorts of art. I like drawing and painting. I also liked performing arts like music and dance.

2. Do you think art classes are necessary? {Why?}

Yes, I think art classes are very necessary. Art brings out peoples creativity. Art preserves our culture and tradition.

3. How do you think art classes affect children's development?

Art classes affect children's development in many ways. Art brings out the hidden creativity of children. Art is a form of communication. People can convey their feelings through their paintings and through their songs.

4. What kind of paintings do Indian people like?

Indian people like different kinds of paintings. It is a matter of personal choice. Some people like portraits, some like paintings of landscapes, some like the traditional forms of painting and some like the modern art forms.

5. What can you learn from western paintings?

We can learn many things from western paintings, in fact from any form of art from anywhere. Sometimes it is related to a culture, sometimes it maybe someone's expression of their perspective, sometimes it's a social message and we can also learn about the types of material (canvas, paints, etc.) used to create that work of art.

6. What benefits can you get from painting as a hobby?

Painting as a hobby can bring out your hidden talent. Painting can relax you. You can even sell your paintings and earn money. You can also gift your painting to someone you love.

23. Bags

1. Do you like bags?

Yes, I like bags. I have different bags for different occasions. I carry a backpack to my school/college/classes, as I can easily carry my books in it. I have special bags for formal occasions, shopping and everyday use.

2. What types of bags do you like?

I like bags that are easy to carry, like backpacks, sling bags and totes, and I can use such bags to easily accommodate the things I need. I also like bags that have a few compartments, so that I can keep my things organized. m a kk ar IELTS

3. Do you usually carry a bag (when you go out)?

Yes, I usually carry a bag when I go out, however, the type of bags I use for different occasions vary.

4. What types of bags do you use (in your everyday life)?

5. (Similar to above) Do you have different bags for different occasions (or, different purposes)?

Yes, I have different bags for different occasions. I use a backpack when I go for my classes, for formal occasions I have formal bags, for shopping I use totes and sometimes I use a sling bag when I don't have to shop and the occasion is not formal.

6. What do you put in these bags?

For my classes or when I go to school/college I usually carry books and stationary in my bag. When going for shopping I carry my wallet, cellphone, and a bottle of water and when travelling I also put medicines and a book or a magazine in my bag. On formal occasions I carry only my wallet and my cellphone.

7. What sorts of bags do women like to buy?

I don't think it can be generalized, as it depends on the individual choice of the women. Some women like big bags and some like smaller ones, some always use a sling bag and some like a particular color or material of bags. Some women also choose bags from a particular brand.

24. Books

1. How often do you read?
I like to read quite often. I read magazines and newspapers and my textbooks. Apart from that I have read a few novels by Amrita Pritam. I have read her Pinjar, which means skeleton.
2. Do you have many books at home?
No, I do not have any books at home. I only have my textbooks at home.
3. Do Indian people do enough reading?
Yes, Indian people do a lot of reading. They read magazines, newspapers, fiction and nonfiction such as biographies and autobiographies.
4. Do Indian people like to read?
(similar to above)
5. What kind of people like reading and what kind of people don't like reading very much?
People who are literate like to read. Many people don't like reading because they don't have interest in reading.
6. What type of books children read nowadays?
Nowadays, generally speaking, the reading habit of the children is on the decline. Whatever books they read are based on fantasy, fiction and supernatural characters like Barbie, superman and shaktiman.
50 years ago – Children read a lot. They read moral and spiritual books. They read animal stories.
After 50 years – I do not think they will do any reading. All the time will be spent in front of computers.
7. Do you think children have lost their interest in stories?
No, I don't think that children have lost their interest in stories. However, the stories they read today are very different from the past.
8. Can story books be an ideal gift for children?
Yes, definitely! Story books can be an ideal gift for children. They can help the child imagine the characters in the mind which is the first step to creativity. Another important benefit is that we can impart the knowledge of culture, tradition, moral values and religion in the mind of the child. This forms the basis of the child's personality. Finally, story books enhance the curiosity of the child and enhance their mental growth.
9. What can be done to encourage the habit of reading among children?
A lot can be done to encourage the habit of reading among children. The first and foremost step would be to make books available. There should be good libraries in the schools as well as in neighbourhoods. Story telling competitions could be organised. If children have to take part in these competitions, then naturally, they would be encouraged to read books. Finally, books could be made more interesting by adding graphics.

10. How does reading help a child?

Reading helps to improve concentration. It also helps to improve general knowledge. It also improves the language skills and satisfies the curiosity of children on various things.

11. What sort of books can be suggested to children to read?

Children should be encouraged to read religious and historical books. They should also read biographies and autobiographies of famous people so that they get motivation from them. They should also be encouraged to read books on science and technology. However, these books should be made very interesting by adding pictures. Ma kk ar IELTS

12. How much should a child read every day?

A child should read half to one hour daily. I think that would be enough considering that they have to go to school and do their homework as well.

13. What is the difference between the books sold in the past and the books sold nowadays?

In the past, books related to culture, tradition, religion and history were sold. Nowadays, books are mostly based on fiction and fantasy.

25. Celebrity

1. Who is your favorite celebrity in India?

My favorite celebrity in India is Amir Khan. He's an actor par excellence. Recently I saw his movie Dangal, which I liked very much.

2. Do you like any foreign celebrities?

Yes, I like some cricketers of Australia and South Africa.

3. Would you want to be a celebrity in the future?

No, I would not want to be a celebrity in the future. I am happy with the quiet and peaceful life of a commoner.

4. Do you think we should respect famous people's privacy?

Yes, we should respect famous people's privacy. They have a right to their privacy. It can affect their performance if anyone invades their private life. Mak kar IELTS

5. How do celebrities influence their fans in India'?

Celebrities are role models for their fans. People like to follow their celebrity, and do what they do.

26. Chocolate

1. How often do you eat chocolate?

I do not eat chocolate very often. I eat chocolate once or twice a month. Usually I like dark chocolate, which is not very sweet.

2. What's your favorite flavor?

My favorite flavor is Cadbury's dark delight.

3. Is chocolate expensive in India?

Yes chocolate is expensive in India, especially the chocolate of foreign brands, which is available here.

4. When was the first time you ate chocolate?

I don't remember exactly, but I have been eating chocolate since I was very small.

5. Is chocolate popular in India?

Yes, chocolate is very popular in India. We can get all varieties of Indian and imported chocolate.

27. Outdoor activities

1. What do you do in your spare time?

I do many things in my spare time. I watch TV, listen music and do a little bit of gardening.

2. Do you like outdoor activities?

Yes, I like outdoor activities. I go for walks in the morning. I play badminton at times and I also do some gardening.

3. What outdoor activities do you (most) like to do?

(same as above)

4. How often do you do that?

I do these activities almost everyday.

5. What outdoor sports do you like? (Why?)

I like many outdoor sports such as cricket hockey and football, but I play only badminton.

6. How much time do you spend outdoors every week?

I spend about 30 to 40 hours outdoors every week.

7. How often do you do outdoor activities?

I do these outdoor activities very often, almost everyday.

8. What (types of) outdoor activities are popular in your country?

India is a diverse country. All types of outdoor activities are popular. But, I think cricket is the most popular outdoor sports.

28. Photography

1. Do you like to take photographs? (Why?)

Yes, I like taking photographs. Photographs are the memories of good times and special events. We can capture special moments, interesting things or beautiful sceneries through pictures. They are reminders of good times.

2. Do you prefer to take photos yourself or to have other people take photos? (Why?)

I prefer taking photos myself, as everyone has a different way of looking at things. Another person may not like, what I find interesting.

3. How long have you liked taking photographs?

I have liked taking photographs since I was a child. We used to take our camera to all our vacations and I used to be very fascinated with it. Now I mostly use my cellphone to take pictures.

4. How (why) did you become interested in photography?

I became interested in photography because my father was very fond of taking pictures and he always had a good camera. We used to take a camera to all our vacations and take pictures.

5. How often do you take photographs?

I take photographs very often, in fact almost everyday.

6. In what situations do you take photographs?

I take photographs in many situations. Sometimes its during friends or family get-togethers, sometimes it is a beautiful scenery, like of the sky or the sunset or when I travel to another city, I take pictures and on many more such situations.

7. What kind of photos do you like to take? (Why?)

I like to take photos of different things. Sometimes it is a beautiful scene, which can be of the clouds, sky, sunrise, sunset and so on. Sometimes I take pictures of plants and animals. I also like to capture the different expressions on people's faces.

8. Do you prefer to take pictures of people or of scenery?

I do not prefer one to the other. I like taking pictures of various things, sometimes it's scenery and sometimes I like capturing a person's expressions.

9. Who do you take photos of?

I take photos of family, relatives, friends, my dogs, other animals, etc.

10. How do you keep your photos?

I save pictures mostly in online albums, like Google photos. Sometimes, I get them printed also.

11. Do you keep your photographs on your computer?

Yes, I keep my photographs on the computer. I always backup my phone photos onto the computer.

12. Are there any photos on the walls of your home?

Yes, there are photos on the walls of my home. We have pictures of all special family events, like birthdays and weddings and also of all of us growing up and at different stages of our lives.

13. Do you frame (or have you framed) any of your photos? (If yes, which? & why?)

Yes, I have a family photo framed. It is from my sister's wedding. All five members of my family are there in this picture together and everyone is looking cheerful and happy. It is one of my favorite photographs.

14. Do you prefer to send postcards to people or to send photos that you took yourself? (Why?)

I prefer to send photographs I took myself, as they are a way to share your experiences with your near and dear ones and letting them know that you are thinking of them.

29. Television and Radio

1. What kind of entertainment do you prefer, TV or radio? (Why?)
I pay for TV to radio because TV is both audio as well as visual. I listen to radio only while traveling.
2. How are radio programs and television programs different?
While listening to radio you can do other things such as cooking and driving. This is not possible while watching TV. Radio programs are cheaper as you do not have to subscribe to radio channels. Watching television is costlier in comparison. Radio programs have only the audio component whereas TV is audio as well as visual.
3. What programs do you like to watch/listen to?
I like to watch sitcoms like comedy night with Kapil. I also watch some daily soaps, some sports channels and news programs.
OR
I listen radio Mirchi and other such radio channels from where I can listen to the latest songs.
4. When do you watch TV/listen to the radio?
I watch TV mostly in the evenings. At that time we all family members sit together and watch some sitcoms or news channels.
I listen to radio only when I'm traveling with my parents in our car.
5. In India, has television/radio changed much in recent years?
Television has changed a lot in the recent years. Many new channels and programs have been added. High-definition TV has become very popular. You can also watch some TV shows of other countries almost at the same time.
In the radio also many new channels have been added. So there is an improvement in both TV and radio.
6. How do you think TV/radio broadcasts in India could be improved?
Some new shows on education could be added. Otherwise I'm quite happy with the TV programs and the radio broadcasts.
7. Do you prefer TV news or news on the radio? (Why?)
I prefer news on TV to news on radio. This is because TV has both the audio as well as a visual component.

30. Teacher (More questions with sample answers in the end)

1. What kind of teachers do you like best?

I like teachers who are friendly and have patience; who do not get mad at me when I don't understand anything. I like teachers who have depth of knowledge of the subject, and who have good communication skills to teach well.

2. Who was your favorite teacher when you were young?

When I was young Mrs. Promilla was my favorite teacher. She used to teach me maths. I remember I used to be very weak at Maths, but Mrs. Promilla taught us so well that Maths became my favorite subject.

3. Would you want to be a teacher in the future?

Yes, I would definitely want to be a teacher in the future. I think I have the patience. Moreover, teaching is a very lucrative profession nowadays.

4. Have you ever had bad teachers before?

No, I have never had bad teachers in my life. All my teachers have been very nice.

31. Newspapers

1. Do you often read newspapers?

Yes, I often read newspapers. I read the newspaper every day. I come to know what is happening around me and in the world.

2. Which do you prefer reading, magazines or newspapers?

I prefer reading newspapers because I like to know what is happening around me.

3. What kinds of (types of) newspapers (or magazines) do you usually read?

My father has subscribed to the Tribune. So I read that daily. It is a National newspaper, but has a maximum circulation in Punjab.

4. How old were you when you first started to read newspapers?

I remember I was 10 years old when I started reading the newspaper. I started from the sports section.

5. Do you think it's important to read newspapers? (Why?/Why not?)

It is very important to read newspapers. We feel connected with the whole world.

6. Why do (you think) people read newspapers?

People read newspapers to know what is happening around them. They also read newspapers for the international news. They also read newspapers for the employment advertisements and matrimonial.

7. What different types of newspaper are there in India?

There are broadsheets and tabloids. There are newspapers in English, Hindi, Punjabi and other regional languages.

8. Do you care about the news?

Yes, I care about the news. I think news is very important. We should be aware of what is happening around us and in the whole world.

9. Is the news important (to you)?

(same as above)

10. What kinds of news do Indian people read in newspapers?

Indian people like to read all types of news. They read local news, National news, International news, Sports news and many other news.

11. Do you prefer to read about domestic (or local) news or international news? (Why?)

I like to read domestic news as well as international news.

12. What are some methods that newspapers use to attract readers?

Some newspapers use colourful graphics. Some use very bold headlines. Some newspapers add puzzles like Sudoku and crossword puzzles to attractive readers.

13. What influence do you think newspapers have on society?

Newspapers have a lot of effect on society. They shape people's opinions. Through letters to the editor they are a link between the government and people. They also entertain us.

14. Do you think the Internet is a good way to get news?

Yes, the Internet is a really good way to get the news nowadays. People subscribe to the e-newspapers. There are many apps off the TV News channels, which help the people to be updated all the time.

32. Mirrors

1. How often do you look at yourself in the mirror everyday

I look at the mirror at least once a day when I go out for my work. Apart from that whenever I get a chance I flatter myself by looking at the mirror. I think if you are a confident person, looking at the mirror always boosts your confidence

2. Have you ever bought mirrors?

Yes, I bought a beautiful mirror when I went to Jodhpur last month, it has a nice wooden frame and a clear mirror to look at. It also has carving on the frame

3. Would you use Mirrors to decorate rooms?

Yes I would like to use Mirrors to decorate the rooms. Mirrors add space to the room and also enhance the lighting effect. My interior decorator friend also recommended it for my study room recently.

4. Do you check yourself when you decide to buy a mirror?

Yes, I check for any defects or flaws in the reflection, when buying a mirror. I also check for any physical damage, like cracks or dents)

33. Robots

1. Do you like robots?

Yes I like robots as they can do so much for you these days. There are simple robots to clean the houses and sophisticated ones to perform surgeries.

2. What kind of robot would you like to have

Recently I have heard about a robot that cleans your room I would like to process one. It is like an automatic vacuum cleaner that picks up the dirt from all the looks and corners

3. Will robots change society significantly?

Yes, robots will changes in society. In fact they have already done so, most of the jobs that were done manually earlier are performed with the help of robotics and with more precision.

No I don't think robot will change the society it will only changed the way we work

34. Gifts (also refer to follow ups of cue card on gifts)

1. What is the importance of gifts?

Gifts are gestures of love. They strengthen bonds of friendship. Gifts make the recipient feel special.

2. Is there any pressure on us to buy presents?

As such, there is no pressure on us to buy presents. But sometimes when we receive costly presents then there is a pressure to reciprocate in the same way. Then it may cause pressure. I believe that gifts should be just gestures of love. Too costly gifts should not be there.

Nowadays, we belong to a consumerist society. There are so many choices of gifts. This may seem good to some, but I often get confused when it comes to selecting a gift.

3. How often do you buy others gifts?

I buy gifts very often. I buy gifts for my friends and siblings, but I don't buy expensive gifts. I am not earning yet. So, my budget is restricted to my pocket money only.

4. Do you like to send expensive gifts?

No, I don't buy expensive gifts. I am not earning yet. So, my budget is restricted to my pocket money only.

5. What kinds of gifts are popular in your country?

All sorts of gifts are popular in my country. People buy gifts according to their choice and pocket.

6. Why do people send gifts?

Gifts are tokens of love. They give happiness to the giver and receiver both.

35. Shoes

1. How often do you buy shoes?

For me comfort of shoes is more important than the looks, so whenever I find a pair of shoes that are very comfortable I don't miss the chance to buy .As a matter of fact I end up buying a pair of shoes every month.

2. Have you ever bought shoes online?

Yes, online shopping these days offers a wider range of products, than conventional shopping in the stores. So I prefer to buy shoes online these days. I just bought a pair yesterday.

3. Do you know anyone who likes to buy a lot of shoes?

Yes I have come across many people who like to buy a lot of shoes. My sister, my aunt ,my mother all of them have a good collection of Shoes in all colours .

4. What's your favourite type of shoes?

As I just mentioned my favourite type of pair of shoe is the one that offers comfort rather than good looks only. I like shoes that are simple in design and polishable.

36. Forget things

1. What kinds of things do you have to bring when you go out?

When you go out you should have your purse with some money, an ID card and your cell phone.

2. Did you ever forget to bring something?

Yes, once I had to go to Ludhiana by bus. I forgot my wallet at home. Fortunately, I knew someone in the bus, who helped me. Otherwise, I would have had to get down midway.

3. How do you remind yourself?

I have become very forgetful. I try to repeat things in my mind and sometimes I set reminders on my cell phone.

4. Do you carry different things in the morning and in the evening?

It depends on where I have to go. In the morning, it is generally to school or college. So, I carry my bag and books. In the evening, I may have to go shopping. So, I carry my purse and shopping bag.

37. Indoor games

1. Do you play any indoor games?
Yes, I play carom board and cards with my siblings and parents.
2. Do you prefer to play indoor games or outdoor games?
It depends on the weather outside. In hot summer afternoons, I play indoor games. But, when the weather is good, I play cricket and badminton outside with my friends.
3. What indoor games did you play when you were a child?
I played carom board, ludo and snakes and ladders as a child.
4. Is there any particular indoor game that you liked (when you were a child)?
I liked ludo and snakes and ladders.
5. What sorts of indoor games do children play now?
Nowadays, children are of the digital era. They play electronic games on the computer.
6. Do you play video games?
Yes, I play Mario and tetris sometimes on my phone.
7. What kinds of video games do you like to play?
I play Mario and tetris only. Sometimes I feel I have wasted a lot of time on these two games.
8. Is it good for young people to play video games?
Yes, video games are good, but only if played in a limit. These introduce children to computer technology, and teach strategy building skills.

38. City Life

Do you live in the city or the countryside? (countryside = village)

I live in the countryside. (-----Then go about talking about your village)

I live in the city. (-----Then go about talking about your city)

Is it good for young people to grow up in the city?

Yes, it is good for young people to grow up in the cities because cities provide many facilities. There are good education facilities, recreational (entertainment) facilities, and health facilities. There are also good job opportunities in cities.

Is your city/village a good place for young people to grow up?

Yes, my village is a good place for young people to grow up. First, it is very near to the city. It is as good as being in the suburbs of the city. We can enjoy all the facilities of the city as well as the clean and pollution free atmosphere of the village.

OR

Yes, my city is a good place for young people to grow up. There are good education facilities, recreational (entertainment) facilities, and health facilities. There are also good job opportunities in my city.

Have you ever been to the seaside?

No, I have never been to the seaside. My cousin went to Goa last year. He told me that beaches are fun places. I would like to go there whenever I get a chance.

OR

Yes, I have been to the seaside once. I went to visit relatives in Mumbai. They took us to the Juhu Beach

Do you often eat out (go to restaurants)?

I eat out very often, in fact two or three times a month.

What food do you like?

I like traditional Punjabi food, such as dal roti. I also like Chinese Manchurian and cheese chilly. I love eating Italian pizza and pasta.

39. Collecting

Do you collect anything?

Yes, I collect newspaper articles which are related to health. I love reading about good health. I have a good collection of health related articles.

OR

I collect pictures of my favourite actors and actresses. I have a good collection of these pictures.

OR

I collect coins. Numismatics has been my hobby since I was 5. My father has a good collection of coins. I developed this hobby after being motivated by him.

OR

I collect stamps. Philately has been my hobby since I was 5. My father has a good collection of stamps. I developed this hobby after being motivated by him. Unfortunately, now we don't receive many letters from which I can collect stamps.

Why do you collect(that/those things)?

It is just my hobby. I get happiness by collecting these things. I am proud of my collection. I show it to my friends and relatives with pride.

Is collecting a popular pastime in India?

India is a diverse country. People have various pastimes. I think many people do collect things according to their interest.

What items are considered collectibles in your country?

Coins, stamps, jewellery, antique pieces, photographs and marbles are some examples of collectibles. Nowadays, young people have a good collection of songs in their digital devices.

Does anyone in your home collect anything?

My father collects coins. Now, I too have started collecting coins. My mother collects jewellery. She has a huge collection of junk jewellery.

Do a lot of people in India collect things and what do they collect?

(answer same as of question 3)

What are the benefits of collecting? (= Why do people like collecting?)

There are many benefits of collection. First, it is great fun to collect. Secondly, these collections can fetch you a lot of money. My uncle has a huge collection of stamps. He was telling me the other day that many of his old collections are in great demand by philatelists and he is thinking of selling them for a huge sum.

40. Foreign language

1. Why do you think it is important to learn a foreign language?

It is important to learn a foreign language because it helps you connect with more people. As it is, today we do not belong to a big planet Earth; we belong to a small global village and to survive in this global village, it is necessary to be multilingual. For example, English is spoken in 86 countries. If you know English you can communicate with people of 86 countries.

2. How is it helpful to you to speak a foreign language?

I know English which is a foreign language. It is very helpful for me. Knowledge of English makes me feel more confident as it increases my communication skills and also it helps me in surfing the net because most websites are written in English.

3. What is the most difficult part of learning a foreign language for you?

I find some pronunciations very confusing at times. For example bough is pronounced 'bo' whereas tough is 'tuff'.

Sometimes the spellings which have silent words also confuse me. For instance 'b' is silent in doubt and debt.

4. What is the best way to memorize new words?

The best way is to start using them in daily life so that they become part of your natural spoken English.

5. Is it better to learn a new word from translation or by definition?

I think both ways are equally good. Sometimes some words are learnt best by translation and some by definition.

6. Why don't some people know the language of the society they live in?

This is perhaps because they live in their own shell and don't intermingle with those people.

7. What do you think of children learning a foreign language?

I think children should learn a foreign language. It is very easy for children to learn a foreign language as they are very receptive and they are not hesitant about making mistakes. They also have a benefit of not knowing any other language too well, to make comparisons and assumptions about the difficulty of language learning. In this era of globalization, knowledge of a foreign language is very beneficial for a better career and a brighter future. It opens more avenues for the students for higher education and good jobs.

8. Why are some language classes boring?

Some language classes are boring because of the teaching methods used. If there no interactive and fun activities involved in teaching a language and only textbook teaching methods are followed, students become bored easily. Incorporating technology in classrooms, keeps the students interested in learning and they learn it easily. For example, there should be audio-visual means used.

9. Some students hate to learn foreign languages, what can teachers do to develop their interest?

Some students hate to learn a foreign language mainly due to lack of interest and uninteresting

teaching methods used. Teachers play an important role in developing students' interest. Interactive and fun activities should be included to keep the children involved and interested in learning. If students are taught only from text books and there is a pressure of examination, it leads to students becoming bored or disliking language classes. Teachers should also use contexts and examples to which the students can relate in their day-to-day life. If they understand how the language can help and benefit them, students would be motivated to learn that language.

10. Some people travel for learning a foreign language, what do you think?

I think that traveling is a very good way to learn a foreign language. It is true that the more we use a language, the better we get at it. So, if travel to a country/region where that language is used, we will interact more with the local people in that language and learn its nuances better. Also, language is related to the culture. If we travel, we learn more about the culture and can learn the language better.

11. What's the best way to learn a foreign language?

I think the best way to learn a foreign language in a classroom environment, from a teacher who has in-depth knowledge of that language. The teacher should preferably be a native speaker of that language or should have a high proficiency level in that language. It is very important to incorporate technology and audio-visual methods to teach that language. Also, travelling to that country/region where the language is spoken is also a good way to learn it. These days learning a language through videos and online classes has become very popular, as the students get a chance to interact with the teachers and also with native speakers of that language, through the internet. There are many apps also available, which can be downloaded on smartphones, which help learning a foreign language in a fun and interactive way. For example, the Duolingo app.

12. Why can some people learn languages fast while others learn slowly?

Some people learn language faster than some others because of the teaching methods used to teach them. Interacting more with the native speakers also helps with learning a language better and faster. Also, there may be a motivating factor, like a job that requires them to learn that language, which makes people learn a language faster than others, who don't have any motivation behind learning a language.

13. Does one's age affect their language learning?

Yes, I think age affects language learning. I think the learning curve goes down with increasing age. Also, at an older age, people try and compare the new language they are learning with the language they already know. That may cause a hindrance in the learning of a language. People also become more hesitant about making mistakes and feel more embarrassed, at a later age, as compared to young learners.

Advantages for children to learn languages – Why it is good to learn languages at younger age

1. When children learn multiple languages at a younger age, they develop a lifelong love of communicating with others.
2. It is much easier to learn foreign language when young. At a later age it becomes harder to become fluent

3. Learning a foreign language helps a child's mind develop. Such children do better in other subjects. It helps their intellect to develop more
4. Learning a foreign language helps children to expand their knowledge of the world. They want to know about other people and other countries. They would want to understand them instead of being afraid of them.

Advantages for the adult learner of a foreign language

He has his own language to compare with the second language. So new terms or concepts are easily understood.

They have a strong motivation to learn a new language especially if it is connected to an employment opportunity.

Most adult learners have participated in study earlier, so they know what method of learning works best for them.

41. Birds

1. How do you feel about birds? (Why do you feel that way?)
I feel that birds are very special. They are beautiful creations of God. They add diversity to nature.
2. How do Indian people feel about birds?
India is a diverse country. Everyone has different feelings. Some love birds, and keep them as pets. Others just admire them flying in the sky. Some even eat birds.
3. Are there many birds near your home?
Yes, there are birds near my home. I can see pigeons, crows, sparrows and even the cuckoo bird occasionally.
4. Have you seen many different kinds of birds? (near your home)
Yes, I have seen many different birds. Apart from the birds I see routinely around my house, I have seen peacocks in my neighbouring village. I have also seen some rare birds, in the Chhattbir zoo. There were different varieties of parrots and the ostrich and emu over there.
5. Do any birds have any particular significance in India? For example, does India have a national bird?
Yes, peacock is our national bird. It is a beautiful bird. The male looks very beautiful with its plumes spread out.
6. Do you think birds should be protected? (Why? / Why not? How can they be protected?)
Yes, definitely. They are beautiful creations of nature. They add diversity to our environment. Apart from that, they are the best pollinators. Also, birds eat insects. That is why crops are protected. They are part of our ecological chain. We all know that if any link of our ecological chain is not there, then the whole ecology can collapse.
Birds can be protected by having strict laws against catching and selling birds. The NGOs like SPCA, which means Society for prevention of cruelty to animals, and the PFA, which means people for animals can also help in this matter.
7. Do Indian people like raising (keeping) pet birds?
Yes, they do. Some people keep birds as pets. They keep colourful parrots and pigeons as pets.
8. Have you ever raised (kept) a pet bird?
No, I have never raised a pet bird. There is a lot of work involved.

42. Boats

1. Do you often travel by boat?
No, I don't often travel by boat. I don't live in the coastal area and where I live people do not travel by boat. Boating is done only in places with water such as the Sukhna Lake.
2. Have you ever been on a boat while you were on holidays (on vacation)?
No, I have never traveled to a coastal area for holiday. I never got a chance.
3. (Similar to above) Have you ever been on a boat tour while you were on holidays? (Same question as above. Can be answered differently)
No, I have never been on a boat tour, but yes, I did boating once then I went to Chandigarh to visit my relatives. They took me to the Sukhna Lake.
4. Would you like to go on a boat tour? (Why?/Why not?)
Yes, I would definitely like to go on a boat tour. I think it would be great fun. My relatives live in USA. They told me that there's a cruise to Alaska. One day I would love to do that cruise.
5. (Similar to above) Would you like to have a holiday on a boat?
6. Where in your country do people most often use boats? (or, travel by boat)
India has a long coastline. The coastline is more than 7000 km. People living near the coast use boats very often.
7. Do many people in your country own their own boat?
Maybe people living near the shores have their own boats, but people living off shore do not have their own boats.
8. Would you like to buy a boat?
No, I would not like to buy a boat. I think it would be a waste of money.
9. If you had your own boat, what would you do with it?
If I had my own boat, I would buy a house near the beach and do boating everyday.

43. Relatives

1 Do you often visit your relatives?

No, I don't often visit relatives. I visit them once or twice in six months.

2 What do you do when visit them?

Whenever we visit relatives, we have lots of fun. We visit some historical places, eat out, watch movies and do lots of other activities.

3 Do you prefer to spend time with your relatives, or your friends?

I prefer to spend time with my friends. I like the company very much. We have lots of fun together.

4 (Possibly the question above is this) Do you prefer visiting your relatives, or your friends?

5 (Similar to above) Who is the more important to you, your relatives / your family, or your friends?

Both are important for me, but my friends are more important than my relatives. Of course, my immediate family is more important than friends.

44. Shopping

- 1 Do you like (going) shopping? (Why?/Why not?)
Yes, I love going shopping. I love doing window shopping. I come to know about the latest trends on fashions going on. I feel like buying so many things, but I'm not earning yet, and so my pocket doesn't allow me to buy everything.
- 2 What do you think is the most difficult (or, unpleasant) part about shopping?
The most difficult part about shopping for me is selecting things. The markets today are flooded with choices. I find it very confusing. I also don't like to go to the shops, which are not fixed price shops. I hate bargaining.
- 3 Is there anything you don't like (or, dislike) about shopping?
I don't like bargaining. That is why I generally go to fixed-price shops.
- 4 What don't you like about shopping?
- 5 Do you prefer shopping alone or with others?
I do not like to go shopping alone. The market is flooded with choices, and I find it very confusing to select things on my own.
- 6 Who do you (usually) go shopping with?
I usually go shopping with my mother. Sometimes I go with my friends.
- 7 Do you prefer to go shopping with family members or with friends?
It depends on what I have to buy. If I have to buy costly things then I like to go with my family, but for stationery items and other small things I go with friends.
- 8 What do you usually buy when you go shopping?
I buy clothes, shoes, cosmetics, stationery items and many other such things when I go shopping. Sometimes I go with my mother to do the grocery and buy vegetables.

45. Sports

1 Are you interested in sport?

Yes, I am interested in sports. I like watching cricket and hockey on TV. Sometimes I play badminton with my brother, on the terrace of our house.

2 (Similar to above) Do you like sport?

3 What sports do you like? (Why?)

I like cricket, hockey, badminton and many other sports. I like watching these on TV. But I play only badminton.

4 Do most people in your country like sport?

Yes most people in my country like sport. Cricket is the most popular sport. People also like hockey and football.

5 (Similar to above) What sports do people in your country like to play?

India is a diverse country. People like to play all types of sports, but cricket is the most popular sport.

6 What benefits do you think sport can bring us?

Playing sport and bring us many benefits. By playing competitive sports, we learn competition, and by playing team sports we learn cooperation.

46. Daily routine

- 1 Do you like to plan what you will do each day? (Why?/Why not?)
Yes, I like to plan what I do each day. If I do not plan I tend to procrastinate and then all my work piles up and I start getting stressed.
- 2 Please describe your typical daily routine.
I get up at around six in the morning. Then I freshen up and go for a walk. I walk for around 5 km every day. If for some reason I do not go for a walk, then I feel something is missing from my life. After coming home I help my mother in household chores. Then I go to school/college. In the evening, I hang out with my friends for about an hour or so. Then I study for sometime. We are family members have dinner at around eight. We all watch TV together for about an hour. I go to bed at around 10.
- 3 What's your favourite time of the day? (Why? What do you do at that time?)
My favorite time of the day is evening time. We are family members have dinner together. We share our day's happenings with each other. We watch TV together. Sometimes we go for walk after dinner. So this is my favorite time of the day.
- 4 What do you usually do at this time of day?
(same as above)
- 5 Do you usually do the same things at the same time each day?
No, my timetable is not that fixed. Dinner time is more or less fixed. Sometimes I go to bed late, if I have to complete an assignment or prepare for some test.
- 6 How do you plan (organize) your study time?
I plan my study time very meticulously. I'm usually very diligent and try to study for 2-3 hours on school days, and 5 to 6 hours on weekends.
- 7 Do you ever (or, do you often) change these plans?
Yes many times, I have to change my plans. Sometimes there are guests at home and I have to help my mother. Then my timetable gets disturbed, but I usually make it up the next day by studying more.

47. People's ages

1. What do you think is the most important age in a person's life? (Why?)

(Similar to above) In India, what's the most important age in people's lives?

I think the most important age is eighteen in India. At this age adulthood starts and with it a lot of legal rights, like the right to vote, legally obtain a driving license for four wheelers, making independent financial decisions and many more.

2. Are birthdays important in Indian culture?

(Similar to above) Do people in India celebrate birthdays?

Yes, birthdays are important in the Indian culture. Birthdays are celebrated but in different ways by different people. Sometimes it's a party with the relatives and friends, sometimes people celebrate with only their family and eat out and sometimes it's a movie and a meal with friends.

3. What birthday is most important in Indian culture? *

The most important birthday in the Indian culture is the 18th one. (rest can be the same as in the answer to Ques.1).

4. What age in life is the most difficult? (Why?)

Every age has its own challenges and joys. I don't think that we can call any particular age the most difficult. Teenage years may be a little challenging, as in those years of adolescence children undergo both physical and hormonal changes, which may be a little difficult to deal with. They are neither children nor adults at that age.

48. Punctuality

1 Do you wear a watch?

(Similar to above) Do you think everyone should wear a watch?

Yes, I wear a watch and I think that everyone should wear one too, or keep a check on the time. These days please check time on their cell phones, however, the point is to be on time and not waste time.

2 In your country is it important to be on time (= be punctual)? (e.g., for meetings, work, classes)

Yes, it is very important to be on time to meetings, classes or for work. Time is valued a lot in India, as unlike money, time once gone doesn't come back.

3 Do you like to be on time?

(Similar to above) Is being on time important to you?

Yes, being on time is extremely important to me. I ensure that I am never late for my classes and other appointments and meetings. I understand that time is much more important than any other material thing or money.

4 How do you feel when others are late?

When others are late occasionally, it maybe due to a genuine problem, however, if someone is late very often, then it's definitely a habit that I do not appreciate or like.

1. How do you remind yourself to be on time?

I usually remember the appointments and meetings, but sometimes I set reminders on my phone to be on time.

2. Why are some people always late?

Some people are always late because they do not plan well and are not good at time management. They may also not value time.

3. Do you think it's important to be punctual?

I think it's very important to be punctual. It saves our time and the other person's time also. Time is the most precious commodity.

4. What will you do if you are waiting for someone?

If I am waiting for someone, I'll probably pass time by playing games on my phone or reading the news or chatting with my friends.

5. Do you think people these days are as punctual as they were in the past?

I think people are as punctual these days, as they were in the past. However, sometimes due to the traffic situation of today, despite wanting to be punctual, people are sometimes not able to reach on time for their work, meetings, appointments etc.

49. Names

1 Does your name have any special meaning?

Yes, my name has a special meaning. My name is Kiran. It means a ray of light. My name is very significant for me. It has been my identity for the last 56 years. It is a gift given to me by my parents. It brings out positive feelings from within me. I am proud of my name.

2 Is your surname very common in India?

My surname is Makkar. I think it is very common. I know many people with this surname.

3 Do you like your name?

Yes, I love my name. It is my identity. It is the meaningful name. It is my parents gift to me.

4 Would you like to change your name?

No, I would never like to change my name. I love my name as it is.

5 Do people in India ever change their names?

Yes, sometimes people change their name. Sometimes, when a girl gets married, her in-laws give her a new name and start calling her by that name. However, it is a very cumbersome process to change one's name in papers.

6 What name do people at home (your family members) call you?

My nickname is Mohini. At home everyone calls me by that name.

50. Birthdays

1. How do children celebrate birthdays in your country?

Children celebrate birthdays in different ways. Some children invite friends and cut the cake. Older children take their friends out for a party. Some people celebrate by donating for charity.

2. How did you celebrate your last birthday?

I took my friends out for dinner at Rangla Punjab, a famous restaurant in the suburbs of my hometown.

3. What kinds of birthday gifts do you like to receive?

I like to receive clothes, books, flowers as gifts. I take gifts as gestures of love. So I happily accept anything that anybody brings for me.

4. Is there a difference between the way you celebrated your birthday in the past and the present?

When I was younger, my mother used to make snacks at home and bake a cake. I used to invite my friends, but now I prefer to take them out for lunch or dinner.

51. Computer

1. Do you use computer very much?

Yes, I use computers a lot. I have a laptop I use for my studies, to stay connected to my friends and relatives living far away, to research on various topics, for entertainment I watch movies and play games.

2. When do you use a computer?

I use the computer everyday at home, usually in the evenings and after dinner. I use it to research for my assignments and to check my emails, check Facebook updates and post messages and sometimes I use it to watch movies or play games.

3. What do you use computer for?

I use it to research for my assignments and to check my emails, check Facebook updates and post messages and sometimes I use it to watch movies or play games.

4. What was your impression when you used a computer the first time?

I remember the day when I used the computer the first time. I was in class 6 at that time. I vividly remember how fascinated I was with the computer.

5. How did you learn to use a computer?

I learned to use a computer through school lessons. Later I got my own personal desktop at home and I learned a little more by using it more at home. Now I have a laptop that I use regularly.

6. Have computers changed your life in anyway (if yes, How?)?

Yes, definitely. Computers have changed my life. I am well connected with all my friends and relatives, irrespective of which part of the world they are in. It has made the research work for my assignments very convenient. I think it's a very good source of entertainment and with the Internet it is a boon for the humankind. Many everyday tasks can be done in a matter of a few clicks and in a few seconds, be it banking, shopping, etc.

7. Are computers used much in your country?

Yes, the use of computers has increased greatly in my country. It is a common household electronic equipment and almost all the workplaces make use of a computer, like in a grocery store, bank, coffee shop, school, post office, etc.

8. Do you think computer are useful in everyday life (how)?

Yes, computers are very useful in everyday life. We can pay our bills, book tickets, shop for anything, set reminders, connect with relatives and friends, research, entertain ourselves, create new things and do umpteen other things by using a computer.

9. Computers are now used a lot in education. What do you think of this?

I think it is the need of the day to make use of computers in education. It not only makes the lessons more interesting, it also helps make the children more techno-savvy, as technology is used in almost all fields.

10. Do you play computer games?

Yes, sometimes I play word games, puzzles or card games on my computer.

11. Do you think computers are perfect now or do they still need to be improved?

I think the computers technology, in terms of both hardware and software keeps changing and there is always something new that needs to be added as time passes. So, in the future I can foresee a lot of changes and improvements that are made to the computers.

52. Being in a hurry

1. When was the last time you did something in a hurry?

The last time I did something in a hurry was two months ago. I remember my exams were going on. I slept really late because I was studying and in the morning I did not hear the alarm. So I got ready in a hurry, and forgot my wallet at home.

2. Do you like to finish things quickly?

If I don't like what I'm doing, then I like to finish things quickly. But, if I am enjoying what I'm doing then I take my time.

3. What kind of things you would never do in a hurry?

I would never drive in a hurry, or cross the road in a hurry.

4. Why do people make mistakes more easily when they are in a hurry?

It is easy to make mistakes in a hurry, because the mind is preoccupied and so it is easy to forget certain things. That desire it has been rightly said that haste makes waste.

53. Museums

1. Are there many (or any) museums in your hometown?
No, there are no museums in my hometown. That is one museum of our great martyr Bhagat Singh, which is 30 km away. There is another Sikh museum in Amritsar in Golden Temple.
2. Do you think museums are useful for visitors to your hometown/country?
Yes, museums are very useful for the visitors. Museums provide knowledge and information. They also provide entertainment. Museums preserve a collection. Museums inspire people to do things.
3. Do you often visit a museum?
No, I don't often visit museums. I visited a science museum about a year ago. This museum is also near my hometown.
4. Did you go to any museums when you were a child?
Yes, I saw the Sikh museum in the Golden Temple when I was a child. I also saw the Bhagat Singh Museum during my school days. Our school organized an educational tour to this museum.
5. When was the last time you visited a museum?
The last time I visited the Museum was about a year ago.
6. Do you think museums are important?
Yes, museums are very important. (as answer 2)
7. Do you think it's suitable for museums to sell things to visitors?
No, I do not think museums should sell things to visitors. If museums start selling things then the whole purpose of museums would be lost.

54. Dance

When was the last time you went to a place where people go to dance in your country?
I have never been to any such place where people specially go to dance. In my country people specially go to dance in discos, pubs and clubs. But there are no such places in my home town. I love to dance on family functions.

When was the last occasion when you danced a lot?

The last occasion I danced a lot was last Sunday. It was my friend's birthday. He invited us to his home. We danced a lot on that day.

Do you like dancing?

Yes, I love dancing. I dance on all family functions like marriage parties and birthday parties.

Have you ever learnt dancing? Why? / Why not?

No, I have never learnt dancing. Unfortunately, there are no places in my hometown where dance is taught. All the steps I know, I've learnt from TV programmes and movies.

OR

Yes, I've learnt dancing. There is a very nice centre in my village which teaches Punjabi folk dances like Giddha and Bhangra.

Did you learn to dance? Why? / Why not?

No, I did not learn to dance. Unfortunately, there are no places in my hometown where dance is taught. All the steps I know, I've learnt from TV programmes and movies.

OR

Yes, I learnt dancing in my childhood. There is a very nice centre in my village which teaches Punjabi folk dances like Giddha and Bhangra.

Why do you think people love to dance?

People love to dance because they can express their joy. Dance is a form of expression. Dance is a good way to relieve tensions and worries. It also keeps the body fit.

Do you think children love to dance?

Yes, children love to dance because they can express their joy. Dance is a form of expression. Dance is a good way to relieve tensions and worries. It also keeps the body fit.

Do you see dance on TV?

Yes, I see a lot of dance reality shows like Dance India Dance, Nachh Baliye and Dancing Superstars.

55. Hats

Do you like to wear hats?

No, I don't like to wear hats. I find them very uncomfortable.

OR

Yes, I wear hats when I go out in the sun, or when watching a match in the stadium.

What kinds of hats do you have?

I have a baseball cap, woolen caps for winters, a beret and some fashion hats.

Where do you like to buy hats?

I usually buy hats at a store where such accessories are available and some such stores are there in a nearby mall. I have also bought a couple of them online.

Is wearing hats popular in your country? M a k k a r I E L T S

Yes wearing hats is popular in India. In different states of India there are different types of hats that are a part of the traditional attire. These days hats are very popular among the young generation. They wear them as a fashion accessory.

56. Singing

1. Do you often (like to) sing?
Yes, I like to sing, but as my singing abilities are not pretty good so I sing only in the bathroom.
2. When do you like to sing?
Whenever I'm alone I hum some songs to myself.
3. How much time do you spend in singing every day?
Not much, a few minutes perhaps.
4. What kinds of music do you like to sing?
I mostly like to sing film songs. I like Punjabi folk songs also.
5. Is it difficult to sing well?
Yes, it is difficult to sing well. I think only talented people can do it.
6. Do you want to be a singer?
No, I would not want to be a singer. I know I don't have the abilities.

57. Noise

1. How is the noise level in your city?

My city is an industrial city and on top of that it is on the national highway. So, the noise levels are very high.

2. Where does noise in urban areas come from?

The noise in urban areas comes from pressure horns of vehicles, industries and loud speakers.

3. Do you think it is important to be alone sometimes?

It is very important to be alone sometimes. Everyone needs to introspect at times. One needs to know about ones likes and dislikes and everyone needs time for one's personal work which can be best done in solitude.

4. What is the importance of belonging to a certain group?

There is a lot of importance of belonging to a social group. Man is a social animal and cannot live alone for long. One needs to share one's happiness and sorrows with others. That is why we join social groups and feel part of these groups. Social groups are a sort of support system. They give us support when we are low in life. It is mentally unhealthy to be alone for long.

5. What are problem you could have if you go out together in big group?

There could be a lot of problems in a big group. It is difficult to organise a big group. Mismanagement can lead to conflicts. It could end up in a lot of wastage of time. It has been well said that "two is a company and three is a crowd".

58. Bus or Taxi

1. How often do you take the bus?

I take the bus everyday. I go to school/college by bus.

2. When was the first time you took a taxi?

The last time I took a taxi was about two months ago. I went to Delhi to visit my relatives. I hired a cab from the railway station to their home.

3. What are the advantages of taking a taxi compared with buses.

The advantages of taxi are that you don't have to wait for the bus. You can start at anytime. A taxi takes you from one destination to the other whereas the bus will drop you at the bus stop.

4. Is it convenient to take the bus/taxi in your city?

The bus service in my city is very good and frequent. The taxi service is also very good, but I normally take the bus as it is much cheaper.

59. Mobile phones

1. How often do you use your mobile phone?

I use my mobile phone very often, in fact every day.

2. Can you describe your mobile phone?

I have an iPhone 5s. It is in golden color. It is rectangular in shape. It has two cameras. It has a 8GB Space. It has many features. It is like a mini computer in my hands.

3. What was your first mobile phone?

My first mobile phone was a Nokia phone. I don't remember the model but it was a very basic phone.

4. Would you buy a new one in the future?

I don't have any plans to buy a new phone in the future. I'm quite happy with my iPhone.

5. How has your mobile phone changed your life?

My basic mobile phone was it enough to change my life. It kept me connected with my family all the time, but my iPhone is a smart phone and is much more than a phone for mere connectivity. I can check my emails on my phone. I can surf the net on my phone. I can play games on my phone. I can do calculations on my phone. I can do so many other things on my phone.

60. HISTORY

1. Do you like (to learn about) history?

Yes, I like to learn about history. It is through history we come to know about the important events that gave way or shaped the way to progress or changes in any country. Also, history teaches us important lessons and we can learn from the achievements or mistakes of our ancestors. Everything in this world has its history. It's through that we value what we have today. For example, we value our independence today because of the knowledge of the independence struggle.

2. What historical event do you find most interesting?

The historical event I find the most interesting is the day India became an independent nation, on 15th August 1947.

3. Do you think history is important?

Yes, I think history is very important. We can learn a lot from history. We come to know about the way of life, culture and traditions of the past times. We can come to know about the important historical events that paved way for progress and development, like the Industrial revolution. We can get motivation by learning about the achievements of some people and we can also learn from the mistakes of our ancestors.

4. Do you like to watch programmes on TV about history?

Yes I like to watch programmes on TV about history. In fact, the History channel is one of my favourite TV channels. It has some great shows about history of different parts of the world.

5. Do you think you can really learn history from films and TV programmes?
Yes, definitely. TV programs and films make learning about history interesting and easy. Reading about history may become very boring after a while. Children also learn history better if an audiovisual medium is used.
6. Do you think the Internet is a good place to learn about history?
Yes, Internet is a good way to learn about history. It is a vast source of knowledge. We can search about any topic related to history and get all the information we need. There are also videos, documentaries, podcasts, e-books etc. also available on the Internet.
7. Can you name a person from history whom you would like to learn more about?
I would like to learn more about martyr Bhagat Singh, who was a freedom fighter in the struggle for Independent India.
8. Why would you like to learn more about him/her?
I would like to learn more about him because he is a motivation for the youth of today. I do not know much about him, but I know that his role in India's freedom struggle was integral and the British rulers hanged him at a very young age of 23 for the assassination of a British police officer.

61. Magazine

1. Do you read magazines?
Yes, I read magazines. Reader's Digest is the one I usually read.
2. Who prefers to read magazines – younger or older people?
I think it is a matter of personal choice and is not related to age.
3. Have you ever read online magazines?
Yes, I have read online magazines. But I prefer traditional printed magazines to online ones.
4. Did you read magazines when you were young?
No, I didn't read magazines, but I read comic books and other children's books when I was young. I started reading magazines in my late teenage years.
5. What kind of magazines are popular in your country?
There are many types of magazines popular in my country, like fashion magazines, sports magazines, housekeeping magazines, automobiles magazines, art & craft magazines and many more.

62. Internet –

1. Do you use internet (very much)?
Yes, I use the internet a lot, especially for research for my studies. I also use the internet for chatting with my friends, watching movies and playing games.
2. When was the first time you used the internet?
The first time I used the internet was when I was in around 10-11 years old. We got a computer and an internet connection set up at our home.

3. Is the internet very important (or useful) to you?

Yes, the internet is very important/useful for me. I mostly use it for research purposes for my studies. It also helps me stay connected with my friends.

4. Do you think you can (or could) live without the internet?

It is very hard to imagine a life without the internet. The communication and connectivity we have now because of the internet will suffer greatly. I would feel alienated/cut off from the world without the internet.

63. Neighbor –

1. Do you know your neighbors?

Yes, I know my neighbors well. I meet them daily and we are like a family.

2. Do you like your neighbors?

Yes, I like my neighbors. They are very friendly and helpful. In fact, we are like a family.

3. Why are neighbors important?

Neighbours are very important because they are next to our family. In fact, in today's era of nuclear families, neighbours are the only family we have in times of emergencies. Neighbours are the people with whom we share our walls. They are the first ones to help us in times of need.

4. When do you meet your neighbors?

I meet my neighbors in the evenings. We usually meet them in the park or outside my home. Sometimes we have some celebrations in our neighborhood or some community programs, where I get to meet my neighbors.

5. How often do you meet your neighbors?

I meet my neighbors very often, in fact almost daily.

64. Pop star –

6. Who's your favorite pop star?

My favorite pop star is the famous Punjabi singer, Diljeet Dosanjh. He is an excellent singer, performer and an actor.

7. Do you want to be a pop star?

No, I don't have the qualities or talent to be a pop star.

8. Do you like to go to concerts?

Yes, I like to go to concerts. I think live performances are very enjoyable and much different from listening to recorded music. We get to meet like-minded people, with similar interests.

9. Do you prefer live music or recorded music?

I don't prefer one to the other. I enjoy both equally. Live music has its own charm and energy, whereas recorded music can be enjoyed anytime, anywhere

65. Teenagers –

1. Do you like to spend time with teenagers?

I have a few cousins who are in their teenage years and I like to spend time with them. I get to know about what is the latest trend and what kinds of apps are popular among them.

2. Do you know anything about the kind of fashion that teenagers like?

Yes, I know about the kind of fashion that teenagers like, through the TV shows and movies. I also see a lot of teenagers when I go out and get a sense of the kind of fashion they follow.

3. What are the best things of being a teenager?

I think that the best part of being a teenager is the sense of responsibility that is developed in those years. It is also a stage of life, which brings a little more freedom, than the younger years.

4. How do teenagers entertain themselves?

Teenagers usually entertain themselves by watching movies, listening to music, hanging out with friends, chatting online with friends, playing outdoor sports, and other such activities.

66. Mathematics

1. When did you start learning math?

I started learning numbers in the nursery classes, but the basic math of addition and subtraction, started when I was in the 1st standard.

2. Do you like math?

I am not very good at math. However, I don't dislike math. I think it is very useful in our everyday lives.

3. Who taught you math?

I have had many math teachers throughout my school and college years, who taught me math.

4. Who's your favorite teacher so far?

My favorite math teacher is Ms. Roy, who taught me math when I was in the 7th grade.

5. Is math difficult for you to learn?

I don't consider myself very good at math. I find certain aspects of it very difficult to understand. I don't do manual calculations; I use the calculator app on my phone most of the times.

6. Do you like to use a calculator?

Yes, I use the calculator app on my phone whenever I have to calculate something. I think that it is very useful, accurate and saves our time.

67. Films

1. Do you like to watch films?

Yes, I love to watch films. I think it is a very good form of entertainment and gives us the much-needed break in our busy life. It is also a good way to spend quality time with friends and family.

2. Do you prefer foreign films or Indian films?

I like watching both, Indian and foreign films. I think that the Indian films keep us connected to our

culture and roots and through the foreign films, we get knowledge about other cultures. Both are an equally good source of entertainment.

3.How often do you go to cinema to watch a movie?

I go to cinema to watch a movie quite often, at least once or twice a month.

4.Do Indian people like to go to cinema to watch a film?

Yes, Indian people like to go to cinema to watch films. It is evident from the increasing number of multiplexes that are opening in every city and are almost always full of people.

5.What kinds of movies do you like the best?

I like movies that have a good story, with some good lessons or a message and those with good acting and direction.

6.What was the first film you watched?

I don't remember exactly, but one of the first films I remember from my childhood is

_____. (Add a couple of lines about the kind of movie and the story/what was it about).

68. Social Network

1.What kind of social networking websites do you like to use?

I mostly use the Facebook website for social networking. These days all the social networking sites have an app that we can install and use on our phones, so I don't usually visit the websites. I use my cellphone apps.

2.Are you a social person?

I am not a very social person. However, I have a good social circle of friends. I like to meet them at least once in two-three months.

OR

I am a social person. I like to meet new people and make new friends. I have a big social circle of friends.

3.What kinds of people do you like to be friends with on those websites?

On those websites, I only have friends whom I already know or whom I know through someone. I do not make new friends on such websites.

4.Is it easy to find real friends on a social networking website?

No, it is not at all easy to find real friends on social networking websites. People make fake ids, with fake information and dupe people.

5.What kind of chatting app or software do Indian people like to use?

Indian people like to use chatting apps like, Whatsapp, Snapchat, Hike, V-chat, Viber, etc.

69. POLITENESS

1. Who teaches you to be polite?

Our parents, teachers, relatives, friends and other acquaintances, teach us politeness. We also learn about the importance of politeness from stories we read and movies we watch.

2. How do Indian people show politeness?

Indian people show politeness in their actions, like talking softly, spending time with the elderly, helping people, greeting others with a smile and many other such small gestures reflect politeness.

3. Has the way people show politeness changed in India?

Yes, I think with the advancement in technology, the way we show politeness has changed. With the advent of the internet and social networking, it is very important to show respect to others in the way we write messages or emails, so as to not offend others. For example, when chatting with someone, it is not acceptable to type in capital letters. It is considered rude and impolite.

1. Are you angry with people who are late?

Yes, definitely I am angry with people who are late. I am very punctual myself and I feel irritated when somebody keeps me waiting.

2. Do you think that people have less free time today than in the past? Why?

Yes, I do feel that people have less free time today than in the past. Today, people have become workaholics. They run after money and in doing so they work longer hours. Moreover, today we belong to a materialistic society and to buy the luxuries we have to work more. In earlier times, life was slower and the needs of people were limited. So people had a lot of free time.

3. Do you think that the quality of living is increasing? How?

I feel that the quality of life has increased in many ways and in many ways it has gone down. People today enjoy greater comforts and have more money to enjoy life but on the other hand we face many problems today such as pollution and global warming which make the quality of life bad.

4. Today people use machinery to automate everything, is it good or bad?

It is both – good as well as bad. In many ways it is good. We have more time because of machines. We get good quality things because machines make uniform things. We do mass production because of automation and this boosts our economy as we can export things to other countries when we produce them in bulk.

On the other hand, many people have lost jobs because of automation. So, unemployment occurs and this leads to many other problems in society. Machines can also not give a personal touch to things.

5. How does modern technology help to save time?

Modern technology has touched all aspects of life. In transport industry we have much faster means of travel. In communication, technology has given us tools to connect to others at the click of a mouse. In the homes, we have washing machines and microwave ovens, which save our time.

6. Do you agree that people should let machinery do everything?

I do not agree that machines should do everything. In that way we shall become slaves of our own creation. We should know when, where and how much we have to use machines. We should

know where to draw the line. When we need mass production, we should take the help of machines. In doing repetitive and boring work we can let the machines take over. But where creativity is needed, we should do with our own hands.

70. TIME MANAGEMENT

1. Are you ever late for anything?

No, I am a very punctual person. I value time and am never late for anything, unless it is due to some unavoidable and unforeseen circumstances.

2. What excuses do you use when you are late?

I am usually not late for any meetings or appointments. However, if at all I am getting late due to an unavoidable circumstance, then I inform the person I am meeting, beforehand. I don't make excuses.

3. What excuses do people have when they are late?

People give excuses like car or bike breakdown or that they were stuck in traffic, when they are late

4. Are you good at organizing time?

Yes, I am good at organizing time. I set up reminders for important events and meetings. I am never late for an appointment.

5. How do you usually organize time?

I sometimes set up reminders for important events or meetings, sometimes I make lists of tasks to complete, sometimes I set deadlines for myself, especially when working on an important assignment/project.

6. Do you think planning is important for time management?

Yes, planning is essential for good time management. If we don't plan ahead, we will tend to waste time doing tasks/things which are unimportant or unnecessary.

7. Why do you think some people pay to learn time management?

Time management has become very important in today's fast-paced world. Some people pay to take courses on time management so that they can succeed and excel at their work. Some people are not very good at organizing and managing time, so they need to take up courses on managing time well.

8. Do you think children should learn to manage time?

Yes, definitely. We live in a fast paced world and children too need to manage their time well, so that they can deal with the competition and do well at their studies and later, at their jobs.

9. Why do some people find it hard to follow their plans?

Some people find it hard to follow their plans because of other pressing commitments, like family commitments. Some people maybe too lazy to follow their plans.

10. How would you teach your children time management?

Time management can be taught to children by helping them make a timetable and ensuring that they follow it. Also, children can learn easily from stories or movies, which teach them a lesson about the importance of time and managing it well. The parents are role models for children and they should set a good example for their children.

11. Do old people and young people manage time in a similar way?

No, old and young people do not manage their time the same way. Old people have more life experience and they understand the importance of time management better than the young

generation. The young people may be too impulsive or impatient and may not understand the importance of planning ahead. Another difference is the way the younger generation manages time. They make more use of technology and the old people may use the traditional methods, like a timetable or writing down a list of tasks.

71. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

1. Do you like fruits and vegetables? OR Do you like to eat fruit(s) and vegetables?
Yes, I like fruits and vegetables. In fact they are a part of my daily diet.
2. How often do you eat fruits and vegetables? OR Do you often eat fruit(s) and vegetables?
I eat fruits and vegetables daily. In fact seasonal fruits and vegetables are part of my daily diet.
3. Why do you think fruits and vegetables are important for us?
I think they are important because they have essential vitamins and minerals, which we must eat to be healthy.
4. What kind of fruit do you prefer?
I prefer all kinds of fruit. But I prefer seasonal fruits because they are readily available and cheap.
5. What fruit(s) (and /or vegetables) do you especially like to eat?
I like to eat all fruits and vegetables, but I especially like the okra and broccoli among the veggies and my favourite fruits are watermelon and mango.
6. Do you like the same fruits and vegetables today as you did when you were a child?
As a child, my favourite fruit used to be grapes, but now I like mango and watermelon more. Also, I wasn't very fond of vegetables as a child. Now I love all kinds of vegetables and fruits.
7. What fruit and vegetables did you like to eat when you were a child?
I liked all fruits as a child and my favourite fruit used to be grapes. I wasn't very fond of vegetables when I was a child.
8. Is it easy (or, convenient) to buy fruit and vegetables where you live?
Yes, it is very convenient to buy fruits and vegetables where I live. I live in a city and there are many fruit and vegetable sellers, who have stalls/stands set up in many parts of the city. In grocery stores also we have a fruits and vegetables section.
9. Do you think people should eat more fruits and vegetables?
Yes, I think people should eat more fruits and vegetables, as they contain essential vitamins and nutrients needed for a healthy body and mind. Also, it has become all the more important now to eat healthy food as most of the people lead a sedentary life.
10. Do you think it's (really) necessary to eat fruits and vegetables? OR How important is it to eat fruit and vegetables? OR What are the benefits of eating fresh fruit (or, fresh fruits and vegetables)?
Yes, certainly. It is essential to eat fresh fruits and vegetables, as they contain nutrients like vitamins and minerals, which our body needs to function properly and to remain healthy. Also, having a healthy diet makes us feel more energetic.

11. How much fruit and vegetables do you think a person needs to stay healthy?

I think fruits and vegetables are needed as a part of our everyday diet. Many dieticians suggest that we should eat fruits and vegetables of at least five different colors everyday.

12. Generally speaking, do children like to eat fruits and vegetables?

I think children are fond of fruits, but not many children like eating vegetables.

13. What are the benefits for children from eating fruits and vegetables?

Fruits and vegetables provide the essential nutrition required for a child's proper physical and mental development. It also helps build their immunity and protects them from catching infections.

14. (In India,) is there much difference between the fruits and vegetables that people eat today and what they used to eat in the past?

Yes, there has been a change in the fruits and vegetables we eat today in India, as compared to the past. In earlier times, mostly the local produce was consumed. However, now we have fruits and vegetables from the other parts of the country and the also from other parts of the world.

15. Would you ever grow your own vegetables?

Yes, I would like to have a kitchen garden in my home, where I can grow my own fruits and vegetables.

16. What's the difference between growing your own vegetables and growing vegetables on a large farm?

The main difference is the quantity of the crop. In a farm, the crop size is bigger than in a kitchen garden. In a kitchen garden, vegetables are grown for the consumption of the family member of the household, whereas at a farm the purpose mostly is to sell the crop in the market. When we grow our own vegetables, it is easy to maintain and control the quality of the produce. We can even decide to have organic produce by not using any chemical products. However, it is very difficult to maintain and control the pests and quality of the crop. Mostly farmers need to resort to the use of insecticides and pesticides to save the crops from pests.

17. What factors affect the growing of fruits and vegetables on a farm?

There are many factors that affect the growing of fruits and vegetables on a farm, like the soil quality, irrigation, weather, pests etc.

72. High school

1. Are you still in contact with your friends from high school?

Yes, I am in contact with my friends from high school. Many of them are now in different cities and countries. But we stay in touch through social networking apps and we also have reunions sometimes.

2. What is your high school like?

Give a brief description of your school – describe building(s), garden, playground and other facilities)

3. What happened on the first day of high school?

I don't remember exactly what happened. However, I do remember that all my classmates and I were feeling like we have entered an important stage in our lives and that we are grown ups now.

1. Did your parents choose your secondary school (= high school) for you?

Yes, my parents chose my secondary school. My high school and primary school were the same.

2. What subjects did you study in secondary school (= high school)?

I studied many subjects in secondary school like, social sciences, mathematics, the Hindi and English languages, science subjects like biology, chemistry, physics and geography, art and crafts, etc.

3. What was your favourite subject (= class) in secondary school? (= high school)

My favourite subject in secondary school was science. I liked science subjects because I learned about the basic principles of the way things work all around us.

4. And which class (= subject) did you like the least? (Why?)

There wasn't any subject I liked the least. I liked all the subjects in secondary school.

5. Which secondary school subject do you think is most useful for people in adult life?

I think all the subjects that we study in secondary school are useful for people in adult life. A strong foundation is built in primary and high school years that helps us throughout our life.

6. What part of your secondary school education did you enjoy most? OR Did (do) you like your secondary school life?

I enjoyed my secondary school education a lot. There is no one part that I liked more than the other. I liked the fact that our school had an equal focus on extra curricular and physical activities, and not just on the academics.

7. How do you feel about your high school (secondary school)?

I think that high school years were the wonder years and I miss those times.

8. Why did you choose to attend (= to go to) that particular school?

My parents chose my school for me. I think I was too young to decide on my own and my parents chose the best school for my siblings and me.

9. Which class did (do) you enjoy the most? (Why?)

I enjoyed all the school years a lot. However, there was a lot of excitement and a feeling of pride when I got promoted from the primary wing of the school to the high school wing

73. Emails –

1. Do you often write (or, send) emails?

No, I don't often write/send emails. I sometimes write official emails, like for sending in a job application through email and sometimes I write to my friends.

2. What do you write about?

I sometimes I write official emails, like sending a job application. When I write to my friends or relatives, it is informal and I ask about their health and wellbeing and tell them about what's going on in my life.

3. Do you think emails are useful?

Yes, I think that emails are very useful. Emails are convenient, timesaving, cost-effective and easy to send and receive. These days, emails are a good way to communicate for both formal and informal purposes.

4. What kinds of emails do you send and receive?
I mostly receive promotional or spam emails advertising various shopping websites or products. I sometimes receive emails from my friends who are living in another country and at times I receive official communication, e.g. emails from the bank or the Income Tax department.
5. Do you think it is a good thing that some companies send out letters/spam emails for the purpose of advertising?
I think sending spam emails for the purpose of advertising is a good marketing strategy and promotes a product or a service. However, it sometimes becomes a nuisance when it is sent repeatedly.
6. How often do you write letters?
I don't write handwritten letters any more. If I need to, I send an email. All official and personal letters can be sent through emails now.
7. What do you write about?
It depends whom I am writing to. When I'm writing to my friends and relatives, it's usually about what's happening in my life and to ask about their wellbeing. When writing an official letter, it is for a specific purpose and it is formal.
8. On what occasions do you write letters?
I write letters very rarely and there are no specific occasions when I write them.
9. Do you like writing letters to your relatives and friends? (why/why not?)
Yes, I like writing to my relatives and friends, but I write emails or messages to them. I don't write handwritten letters now.
10. Do you and your friend keep in touch by (handwritten) letter?
No, I don't stay in touch with my friends through handwritten letters. I text them or chat with them or send them an email.
11. How do you keep in touch with your friends and relatives (by email, letter, by phone or by any other way)?
I stay in touch with my friends mostly through the online social media apps and websites, like Facebook, Whatsapp, Instagram, etc.

74. RAINY DAYS

1. Does it rain much in India? (Where? When?)
India is a diverse country with different climatic conditions in different regions. So there are some parts of India that receive a lot of rain, like Cherrapunji in Meghalaya, Amboli in Maharashtra, etc. Some places receive a lot of rainfall only during the monsoon season, like Mumbai, Chennai, Goa, etc.
2. Does it rain much in your hometown? (Include how often)
It doesn't rain much in my hometown. It is only during the monsoon season, that is in the months from June to August that we receive some rainfall.

3. In what season does it rain the most? OR When (in what month/season) does it rain most in your hometown?

It rains the most in my hometown in the monsoon season, that is in the months from June to August.

4. What about the other parts of India? OR In which season does it rain most in other parts of India?

India has a varied terrain. In many parts of India, it mostly rains in the monsoon season. However, it also depends on the geographical location as it affects the rainfall in many regions.

5. Would you prefer to have, more rain or less rain (in your hometown)?

I would prefer to have more rain in my hometown. In the last few years, there has been a drastic change in the seasons and the summers get very hot. If there is more rainfall in the summers, there will be respite from the heat.

6. Do you like rainy days? OR How do you feel on rainy days? OR Do you feel sad on rainy days?

I like rainy days in the summer season because the temperatures drop and we get respite from the summer heat. In winters I am not too happy when it rains, as it becomes very cold after it rains.

7. How does rain affect different people's moods? OR How does rain affect people's lives?

I think rains affect people's moods when it restricts their activities or leads to a loss in the work or business. Some people feel happy when it rains as the weather becomes pleasant and people can enjoy hot beverages and fried snacks.

8. Do you prefer rainy days or sunny days?

I prefer rainy days in the summers and sunny days in the winter season. Rains give us respite from the heat in the summers and we can enjoy sitting out in the sun on a cold winter day.

9. What do you do on rainy days (or, on a rainy day)?

I enjoy hot beverages, like coffee and fried snacks like fritters and samosas on rainy days. It gives us an opportunity to stay at home with family and spend quality time with them.

10. What do you usually do when it rains (or, when it starts to rain) and you are outside?

If it rains when I am outside, I usually look for a café or a place where I can sit and enjoy coffee and some snacks.

11. Do you think rain is good? (Why?)

Yes, I think rains are good. Rains are important to maintain the ecosystem's balance. Rains help with maintaining the groundwater levels. They make the dust settle down and help clean the environment. For agriculture-based economies, rains during the rainy season are very important for a good crop.

12. How does rain affect (life in) your country?

Agriculture is a major part of India's economy and that is largely dependent on timely rains. So a lot of farmers depend on a good monsoon season for a good crop. Unseasonal rains can have an adverse affect on agriculture, as it can destroy crops. In places where there is water shortage, people depend on rains and save rain water in reservoirs.

13. Is there any part of India where it doesn't rain much? (Where?) OR Is there an even distribution of rain throughout India?

India is a diverse country with different climates in different parts. There are many parts in the east of India that experience a lot of rain throughout the year. In most parts of India, monsoon season is the time when most of the rainfall happens. In some western parts, like in the deserts of Rajasthan, there is very little rain. Sometimes some states experience droughts because of no rainfall for a very long period of time.

14. What effects can a shortage of rain (a drought) have on people's lives?

Droughts/Shortage of rain can have adverse effects on the livelihoods of many people, especially those who are dependent on agriculture. Sometimes people are forced to leave their hometowns due to water shortage and start afresh somewhere else and face hardships. Many people die each year in India and all over the world because of droughts.

15. Can you remember any time when it rained particularly heavily in your hometown? (When?)

Yes, I remember that during my childhood it used to rain continuously for days and the roads and parks got filled with water. We used to enjoy a lot playing in the rain and in the pools of water. This used to happen during the monsoon season. Now the amount of rainfall has reduced drastically due to climate change.

16. Does rain ever affect transportation in your hometown? (How?)

Yes, sometimes the rain affects the transportation. It is mostly on some roads where the drainage system is not good or when it is blocked. At such times the water logging happens on the roads and the movement of traffic is affected.

17. Do you think the seasons have changed in recent years, compared to the past? (Why? How?)

Yes, I think seasons have changed in the recent years because of global warming and the consequent climate change. The summers last longer and the winters are shorter. Also, the amount of rainfall during the monsoon season has reduced. Sometimes we hardly get any rains during the monsoon season.