

makkar IELTS

English for Exams

makkarIELTS Speaking Guesswork MAY- AUG 2019 (FIRST VERSION)

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1. Describe an advertisement that you remember

- What is it
- When and where you saw it
- What happens in it

- These days are the days of advertisements.
- We came across some interesting and some repetitive adverts.
- I see several advertisements daily but the one advertisement that has impressed me the most is about the customer awareness titled 'jago Grahak jago ', which means 'wake, O' consumer wake'
- It is issued by the government of India, and has a strong social message
- This is a creative advertisement and I found it very interesting.
- I have been watching this advertisement for many years on TV channels as well as on radio.
- Last time I noticed it when while I was watching a reality show.
- I still remember it because it was bit unique and the way it was presented was quite catchy.
- In this advert we see a child, who goes to chemist shop to buy some medicines.
- The clever shopkeeper gives him an expired medicine.
- The little boy outsmarts the shopkeeper when he gives him coins which are no longer in circulation.
- It is a slap on the face of the shopkeeper.
- This advertisement has a message to all the consumers that they should be aware of their rights.
- I found this advert an eye opener.
- Also, it conveys message in a smart way.
- It sheds light on the consumer rights.

Option 2

Describe an advertisement you remember well

- What is it
- When and where you saw it
- What happens in it

- I don't like ads as they are usually nothing more than strategies by companies to promote their products.
- However, it is impossible to avoid ads nowadays.
- They seem to be all around us.
- I love watching cricket matches, and the commercial breaks during such matches are very frequent.
- Here, I would like to Talk about an ad by Nestle company.
- Its catch line was 'Thank you, Mom. '
- This is a small video in which the company pays tribute to motherly love.
- The first time I saw this video, I was moved and started crying. It was really touching.
- It features a couple of situations that showed how player's mothers helped them through times of trauma and stress while growing up.
- At first, we see children learning to walk.

- They keep falling, but their moms don't give up and patiently help their kids stand up and encourage them to try again, obviously bribing them with a Nestle chocolate
- Then we see the same kids learning how to handle a bat and ball and play cricket under the scorching heat of the sun.
- Again, we see how difficult it is for them, but they manage to succeed because their moms are there for them, motivating them not to give up, and again the motivation is Nestle chocolate.
- Then we see these grown-up kids become cricket champions, and the first people they rush to in order to share their happiest moment are their moms, with chocolates.
- Of course, the ultimate goal of this ad was to promote the company and its products. But at the same time this video spread a very positive message to people all over the world.
- It melted my heart and reminded me of important things such as love and support of my parents, that I usually take for granted.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. Where usually do we see adverts?

We see ads all around us – on TV, on radio, on roadsides, in newspapers, in magazines, on the internet, on phones and as flyers.

2. Are there any advertisements at school?

Sometimes, supermarkets and fast food outlets give money to schools and open their outlets in schools. This is a way of advertising their products.

3. Are there some inappropriate adverts, like that of a condom?

There are some inappropriate ads, like the ad of some perfumes, which imply that if a boy wears that perfume, girls will flock around him, and the ads of some drinks like coke and pepsi. The ad of condoms is not inappropriate in my opinion. It is an important step in sex education.

4. Why does the government allow such ads?

Government allows such ads, because these ads spend a lot, which boosts the economy. Not only does the government earn, the people working in these ads also earn a lot.

5. Do you think it is bad for children?

Yes, sometimes children are lured to buy such things, but I feel that parents can play a very positive role by keeping an eye on their children and guiding them what is right or wrong.

6. Do parents complain about it?

Yes, parents complain about it at times, but the advantages these ads are giving to the country, are much more than the negative effects of these ads.

2. Describe an occasion when the vehicle you were traveling in broke down

- When was it
- Where did it happen
- Who was with you

- It hasn't happened very often with me that the car, bus or other conveyance I use for travel, broke down and I had to halt in between a journey.
- But, here I would like to talk about an incident that I still vividly remember like it was yesterday.
- It was about 2 months back when I was travelling alone on my two-wheeler, from my house to my friend's.
- It was the weekend just after our exams, and we were free after having studied hard for the exams.
- My friend lives in the neighbouring village and her house is about 7 kms from my place.
- I left my place at 2 in the afternoon.
- Just after about 3 Km, my bike started making odd sounds out of the engine.
- I was not able to figure out the problem as I had never faced such an issue with my bike earlier.
- All of a sudden the bike stopped and wouldn't start.
- I pulled off the bike to the side and tried to see what was wrong.
- However, I didn't understand the issue.
- I called my friend, as I was midway between her/his house and mine.
- She requested a mechanic in her village to sit behind her on her scooty and they reached me soon.
- Fortunately, the mechanic was intelligent enough to diagnose the problem and he was able to start the vehicle.
- He, however told me that what he had done was only a temporary fix and that I should get the service of my bike done as soon as possible.
- It took about 1 hour to fix the problem but I felt relaxed after getting the issue resolved.
- As it was already late, I told my friend that I would visit her some other time and returned home.
- From this experience, I learnt that a machine could not be relied 100% always and it may break down at any time.
- Now, I always keep my two-wheeler serviced regularly, so that such a problem doesn't happen again.

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Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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3. Talk about a singer or musical band (favourite singer/musical band) you enjoy listening to

Who is it?

Why do you like listening to their music

- Music is the essence of life; without music everything is lifeless.
- There are many popular bands and musicians in my country such as Euphoria, Bombay Vikings, the Agni band, and so on.
- But here I would like to talk about a very popular musician of my country; he is none other than A.R.rehman.
- He is a south Indian.
- He is in his 40's.
- He is not very tall but looks very handsome.
- He has composed many songs which have become world famous.
- His song 'Jai Ho' from the movie 'Slum dog Millionaire' won the Golden Globe award.
- He first became popular from the music he composed for the movie 'Roja'.
- His music is very heart touching.
- He usually plays the fusion music.
- It is the blend of the Indian classical and western classical.
- His music is a good example of globalization.
- No wonder, his music appeals to people of all countries. So he has a global audience.
- Even if a person doesn't understand the lyrics, his music can make them dance.
- His music proves that music has no language.
- It unites people.
- Rehman is the founder of the Chennai-based rock group, "Nemesis Avenue".
- He has mastered various music instruments like Keyboard, Piano, Synthesizer, Harmonium and Guitar.
- His curiosity in Synthesizer, in particular, increased because, he says, it is the "ideal combination of music and technology
- I once saw an interview of A.R.Rehman on TV.
- He is a very down to earth person.
- Although he has achieved great heights, he is not at all proud.
- So I just love A.R.Rehman and his music.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. Does music industry prefer to make more money than producing good music?

There can be no money without producing good music. A music composer can't earn unless he actually works on his art and skills to produce better and better music every time. So if the Industry people aim to earn money, they can only fulfil that by producing good music.

4. Describe a water sport that you would like to try in the future

- What is it
- Where you will do it
- Whether it is easy or difficult
- Why would you like to try it (makkar | ELTS)

- The water sport I would like to try in future will be River Rafting.
- Although I do not know how to swim but river rafting is done by wearing safety jackets, so one does not drown in the water.
- It is an adventurous water sport.
- There are many other water sports like deep sea diving, jet ski, para sailing etc but I want to try this first.
- I learnt about river rafting from one of my best friends.
- He did River Rafting last year during the summers and he told me it is really exciting.
- In my country people go to Rishikesh for white water rafting.
- It's a beautiful town located in the state of Uttrakhand.
- People do rafting on Ganges River which flows between the Himalayan mountains.
- One can do rafting for 12 kilometers or 16 kilometers. (makkar IELTS)
- Rafting is not a difficult sport, it can be done by people of all age groups.
- But, you need to have an expert guide you because at some places it gets dangerous.
- That is why they provide safety equipment like helmets and life jackets to everyone.
- Rafting is done early in the morning.
- Each raft can carry approximately 6-8 people and a guide sits at the end.
- The raft is inflated using air and people paddle to drive it forward.
- During the course, there are several rapids in the river which bring a lot of thrill.
- When raft goes through the rapids it gets very fast and can sometimes go up in the air as well.
- I want to try this sport because I have never tried adventure sports in my life and this water sport sounds really exciting to me.
- I will probably do rafting during the next summers.

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Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. Which is the most popular water sport in your country?

According to me, the most popular water sport in my country is White Water Rafting. It doesn't necessarily require a swimmer to do the sport. One has to wear a life jacket and be seated in the raft. The adventure level is moderate and it also includes calm sailing sections too.

2. Why do people like to do things near water?

Water is a necessity and serves the purpose of adventure and recreation too. People like to camp and have a bonfire near water. They enjoy fishing and having parties near the coast. The views and weather around water during sunrise and sunset is pleasant and soothing.

3. Do you think schools should teach students to swim and why?

Absolutely! Schools should teach students how to swim. It is not just a complete workout, it is a life skill that can help students in moments of need and emergencies.

4. Are there many schools teaching swimming?

Not many, but some of the good schools do teach swimming now. To teach swimming, schools have to invest funds and space to build a pool and hire a good instructor. It isn't possible for many of the schools.

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5. Describe an occasion when you got up extremely early

When did you get up early

Why you got up early

What did you do?

How you felt about it

- Everyone has heard the famous quote, “Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man, healthy, wealthy and wise.”
- I believe that this quote is true and most of the successful people rise early.
- Well, I am morning person who loves to get up early in the morning.
- I get up at around 6 am every morning.
- There have been many times when I have gotten up extremely early as well.
- Today, I would like to talk about a day when it was very important for me to wake up at 2 am.
- It was the day of when my final exams for 12th standard began.
- I remember the date was 3rd of March, and my first exam was of English.
- Although I had studied well throughout the year but I wanted to give my best shot for the exams.
- I find it difficult to study late during the night so I decided to get up early for my exams, so that I can revise everything before going to the exam centre.
- I slept at around 8 after dinner, so that I could wake up early.
- I set multiple alarms on my phone to make sure that I woke up on time.
- As soon as I got up, I washed my face and made some tea for myself, so that I feel fresh.
- My exam was to start at 9 am, so I had good 5-6 hours to revise the syllabus.
- During those 5-6 hours I rummaged through my notes.
- I also took 2-3 breaks in between and did some meditation to relax myself.
- Studying during those final hours gave me a lot of confidence.
- I was able to remember everything that I was revising.
- My parents also felt proud to see me preparing really hard for my exams.
- Finally, I was able to get good scores in my finals because I woke up extremely early in the morning.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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6. Talk about a prize you want to win

What prize it is

Why do you want to win

- Everyone loves prizes, winning them makes one happy.
- Prizes also motivate us to work hard and prove the fact that hard work is key to success.
- I have not won many prizes in my life but one prize I would like to get would be the first prize in marathon race which is held every year in my city.
- The race is organized by Standard Chartered Bank.
- It is held to spread awareness about diseases like cancer and also to make people aware about the benefits of healthy living.
- All the money collected from this race goes to a charity.
- The winner of the race gets a cheque of Rs 1 Lakh along with a trophy, medal and a certificate.
- The winner also gets a chance to represent the city in other marathon races held across the world.
- Every year almost ten thousand people from our city participate in this race.
- The race is held in the first week of November, normally the first Sunday.
- Last year one of my best friends won the second prize in the race.
- He finished the distance of 42 kms in approx. 3 hours.
- After seeing him get the second prize, I felt motivated to participate in the race.
- I am not a professional runner but since then I have started running.
- Nowadays I can run 30 kilometers in approx. 2.5 hours and I am working on improving my time.
- Hopefully I will be ready by November.
- Preparing for this race has made me healthy and I have also learnt a lot from running.
- If I do not win this year, I will keep trying until I win the prize.

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7. Talk about a time when you gave advice to someone

(makkar | ELTS)

- Well in my country people give free advice to each other all the time.
- People give advice even when nobody is asking.
- They do it to show care and help others.
- Today, I would like to talk about a time when I gave advice to one of my cousins about what studies he should pursue for his senior secondary education.
- My cousin had recently completed his 10th standard and he was really confused about which stream he should opt for.
- He had the option to choose between science, commerce and arts.
- His doubts were related to career prospects in these streams and most importantly he asked me that which one is easy or difficult to pursue.
- Since he was tired of studies, he did not want to put a lot of effort but still he wanted to have a successful life.
- Before advising him about the various streams I asked him about his interests and he told me that he was interested in Computers.
- He started using computer at a very early age, so he is really good at it.
- I told him about Computer programmers who work for companies like google.
- I told him about the work they do and how much salary they earn.
- I also showed him the offices of google and the facilities like gym, food and other games that are provided to the employees on campus.
- He got motivated after learning all these details and decided he also wanted to become a computer programmer.
- So, I suggested him to take an aptitude test to check whether he has a logical mindset to pursue the science stream.
- He followed my advice and gave the aptitude test. His results showed that he had excellent skills to become a programmer.
- He was really happy with my advice and now he consults me for all the important decisions he has to make.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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8. Talk about a problem solved through the Internet

- There is no denying the fact that internet is one of the biggest problem solvers nowadays.
- There are millions of problems which people across the world solve using Internet every day.
- If you have any problem, be it personal, technological, medical or related to anything in life, Internet can offer you numerous solutions.
- Today I would like to talk about a time when I fixed my mobile phone using the internet.
- Unfortunately, during the last winters, I accidentally dropped my phone in the water and it stopped working.
- I was standing in the kitchen, checking messages on my phone when suddenly my brother came from behind to scare me.
- I was not expecting him to be home so I got shocked and, in that moment, I dropped my phone into a jug full of water.
- I immediately pulled the phone out of water but by that time the damage was done and the phone stopped working.
- I felt really bad as it was an expensive new phone that I got recently as a gift.
- I scolded my brother for scaring me like that but I was more worried about the phone as I did not have enough money to buy a new one or get it repaired.
- So, I immediately started searching google for solutions to my problem.
- Luckily, I found a video youtube explaining how to fix your phone in such scenarios.
- The person in the video suggested to immediately disconnect the battery from the phone and use a hair dryer to blow the water away.
- After that I had to keep my phone in a rice container for a day.
- The rice would help to suck the moisture out of the phone.
- I immediately followed the procedure and prayed that it would work.
- Most of the people who had viewed the video gave positive comments about this technique.
- It was one of the longest days of my life, I also kept this secret from my parents as they would also get worried and scold my brother.
- Next day I pulled the phone out of the container and connected the batteries and luckily it was working.
- I thanked God and sent a thanks message to the person who had made the video.
- So that was the day when Internet saved my life.

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9. A person you think has interesting ideas and opinions

Who this person is

- How you know this person
- What kinds of ideas and opinions he has
- How do you think of this person

- I know many people who have a lot of interesting ideas and opinions, but here I would like to talk about my paternal grandfather, who is the most knowledgeable person in my eyes.
- His name is Manmohan Singh.
- He is in his early seventies, and retired from Punjab education services.
- He is not very tall, but looks very handsome.
- He generally wears white kurta pajama, but on formal occasions he wears pant shirt.
- He has a great sense of humour and can turn any tense situation into a happy one.
- No one can ever get bored in his company.
- One can have a discussion with him for hours on any topic on Earth.
- He is an ardent reader and reads 4 newspapers daily.
- He reads the editorial section in depth.
- He says that reading the editorials makes him look at things from different perspectives and then he can make opinions of his own.
- You can talk to him about politics, sports, business, Bollywood and many other things and you will be surprised at his knowledge.
- Although he is retired, he leads a very disciplined life.
- He gets ready in the morning and goes to a nearby park where many senior citizens like him come and chit chat with each other.
- I think very high of my grandfather.
- I am very proud of him.
- Many of my relatives and neighbours come to him for advice.
- He loves company and is very happy when he is surrounded with people.
- He loves meeting new people and making friends.
- So, my grandfather is the most knowledgeable person and has many interesting ideas and opinions.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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10. Describe a time when you enjoyed your visit to a park or a garden

Where it was (makkar |ELTS)

- What it looked like
- What you did there
- And explain why you liked it there

- I have visited many gardens in my life.
- But here I would like to talk about the Rock Garden in Chandigarh.
- It is very different from the conventional gardens as there are no trees and plants in it like other parks.
- I went there last month with my friends.
- We had heard a lot about the tourist attractions of Chandigarh and wanted to visit it once.
- We were four friends – Ravi, Rohan, Rajinder and I.
- Ravi took his car and we shared the expense of diesel.
- We saw many places like the Rose Garden, Sukhna Lake, Mini zoo and the Rock Garden.
- The Rock Garden by Nek Chand is very interesting because it is made entirely of trash.
- We spent two hours there and clicked a lot of photographs.
- About 5000 people visit the rock garden daily.
- It has around 5000 sculptures.
- It is a unique garden that consists of various art objects.
- But the best part about the rock garden is that each of its artwork has been made by using waste material.
- The Rock Garden has become immensely popular.
- Rock garden has been established in the form of an open-air exhibition hall.
- The garden has sculptures made by using a variety of different discarded waste materials like frames, mudguards, forks, handle bars, metal wires, play marbles, porcelain, auto parts, broken bangles etc.
- The garden highlights the value of materials many people consider trash.
- People come from different parts of the world to see this amazing garden.
- It is located in Sector 1 near the Sukhna Lake.
- Nek Chand received the PadamShri in 1983 for his efforts.
- A sculpture also appeared on an Indian postage stamp.
- The Chandigarh Rock Garden is now acknowledged as one of the modern wonders of the world.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. Are public gardens very important in India? What do you think are the benefits of having gardens in the city?

Yes, public gardens are very important, not just in India but everywhere in the world. They act as the lungs of the community. As it is, we are living in concrete jungles. These are places where people come in spend some time amidst nature.

2. Are there many public gardens in India?

Yes, there are many public gardens in India. The city and town development authorities have made it mandatory to include gardens in residential areas where people can come and enjoy the beauty of nature, and also socialize with each other.

3. Do you think there are enough public gardens in your hometown?

Yes, there are enough public gardens in my hometown. Every colony has at least one garden.

4. Very often, public gardens are not designed in a simple way but, instead, are laid out in a rather complex way. Why do you think this is the case?

Sometimes, authorities do landscaping of the gardens so as to make them more attractive. Once these gardens are well developed, they can become tourist attractions too. My friend, who recently visited Bangalore told me that she visited the LalBagh over there, which has tourist importance. She says a topiary area over there, where shrubs were cut in such a way that they made animal shapes like elephant and giraffes. She also saw many bonsai plants over there.

5. Do you think governments should provide public gardens for people to visit?

Yes, the government should provide public gardens for people to visit because people will come to know about different plants. If a small and nominal entry ticket is also there, then enough money could be collected for their upkeep.

6. What do people do when they go to a public garden?

People enjoy the atmosphere of the garden. They breathe fresh air, and enjoy being in the lap of nature for some time.

7. How do people of different age groups use public gardens?

Young people do brisk walking in gardens, and the elderly just do a leisurely stroll. Both age groups enjoy being with nature

What are the benefits of park in the city?

Which age group likes to visit the park more?

How could people in the city make sure there is a good park in the city?

11. Describe a practical skill you learned

- What this skill was
- When you learned it
- How you learned it (makkar | ELTS)
- And explain why you think it was important

- I have learnt many practical skills in my childhood from people around me in my life.
- Here I would like to talk about a very useful practical skill of cooking, which I learnt from my mother.
- I have been slowly learning it from my mother since my childhood.
- My mother is in her forties and she is very tall and beautiful.
- She has a gifted hand in cooking.
- She has her unique way of teaching us, I mean me and my sister, how to cook.
- She never made us feel as if she was teaching us.
- She just kept us involved in the kitchen while she cooked.
- We learnt a lot just by observing her.
- I learnt cooking because I too want to be able to cook like her.
- I also learnt cooking because it is a very useful skill in today's time.
- Moreover, as I plan to go abroad for my higher education, this skill will be very useful.
- I will not face any food problems.
- I am a vegetarian and I have heard that veg. food outlets are very few in foreign countries.
- This skill has proved very useful because many times I have been able to attend to guests when my mother was not at home.
- My mother not only taught me simple routine cooking but also some Chinese dishes.
- She also taught me how to make pizzas in the electric tandoor.
- She also bakes excellent cakes.
- Whenever anybody in our neighbourhood celebrates a birthday, the cake is always baked by my mother.
- She loves experimenting in the kitchen and she has many of her own recipes which are quick and easy and at the same time very delicious.
- She also presents her dishes very well.
- She says that the look of the dish is as important as its taste.
- I am fortunate, I have a talented mother who has taught me this useful skill.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. What age will make it difficult for a person to learn a skill?
I believe that age is not a factor. Willingness to learn can make a person of any age learn anything. Recently, I taught my grandpa how to use a computer and made his facebook ID. Now he and his computer are inseparable. He is very active on the facebook.
2. Will the age of 5 or 20 be better?
It depends on the skill. If the skill is stitching clothes, then 20 is better. If the skill is related to technology, the 5 is as good as 20.
3. Who will you learn a skill from, friends, teachers or parents?
I will learn from anyone who is willing to teach me patiently. I can also learn from the Youtube videos on the net.
4. What's the difference between children learning what they like and learning what they have to learn?
Children learn very quickly if they like what they are learning. But if they are forced to learn, they do not learn it well, as it is a half hearted approach.
5. Do you think boys and girls should learn the same skills?
Yes, I think boys and girls should learn the same skills. There are no gender differences nowadays. Everybody should be free to choose what they want to learn.
6. Why do boys tend to have better critical thinking skills?
I don't think there is any difference in the critical thinking skills of both genders. There maybe individual variations but definitely not gender variations.
7. Why do girls like shopping?
I think everyone likes shopping nowadays. Today, we belong to a consumerist society and both genders like to go shopping.
8. Do you like to learn new skills constantly?
Yes, I like to learn new skills constantly. I feel very happy when I learn something new. It gives me a sense of fulfillment and inner joy which I cannot explain in words.
9. What's the most difficult thing for learning?
Difficulty is a very subjective thing. What maybe easy for one person may be difficult for the others. So it is very difficult to say what is the most difficult thing for learning
10. What kinds of skills are practical for university students to learn?
University students should learn communication skills, as all other skills go waste if the person lacks in communication skills. Students should also learn practical skills because only theory can never be enough.

11. Where can we learn practical skills, from?
We can learn practical skills during internship programs while studying in universities
12. What kinds of communication skills are important?
All types of communication skills that important.
13. Should old people read books?
Yes, old people should read books. Books are the best companions.
14. What's the most important skill a person needs to have?
The most important skin a person needs to have is communication skills. Without this skill, all other skills are useless. Language skills are also important. Academic skills are also important.
15. What is the most important practical skill in modern society
16. Which one is more important, cooking or driving a car?
17. What kind of job require practical skills?

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12. Describe a person who speaks foreign language well

- Well, I know many people who are bilingual, or even multilingual.
- In India many people know three languages. One is Hindi, the second is the language of their state. For example Punjabi is the language spoken by Punjabis.
- And of course, English, which is taught in our schools right from class 1.
- However, here I would like to talk about my uncle Rambeer, who can speak Flemish very fluently.
- English is the second language in our country and many of us can speak it quite fluently but Flemish is rarely spoken and understood here.
- Flemish is a Dutch language as it is spoken in Belgium.
- However, my uncle Ram had graduated from the Leuven university in Belgium and stayed in Brussels for roughly 7 years .
- I guess this is the time when he learned the language.
- My uncle must have learned the language as part of his academic study or to converse with the locals.
- Having said that, his study in a university and his 7 years of staying in the country must have improved his knowledge and language fluency to a great extent.
- This is the time he got friendly with a local girl and later they got married. Now he can speak the Flemish language like a native speaker.
- He has an outstanding and natural accent and a pleasant speaking style that can impress anyone.
- Once he came with his wife To attend a family function.
- I heard him speak Flemish with her, and he seemed to speak like a pro.
- Now he is a senior citizen and he teaches in a college as a visiting faculty.
- He is a devoted teacher who is loved by his students.
- All in all, I would say because of his skill in speaking a foreign language, he is sought after as a translator by various professionals.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

Follow Ups and any additional cue cards will be released in updated version of this PDF file (around 15 May 2019). Please check instructions on Page 2 of this PDF file to download the latest version. This is the first version of May-August 2019 Speaking PDF (Release Date: 7 may 2019)

13. Talk about a historical building

- Which is the building
 - Where it is
 - How you know about the building
 - Why you think it is important
-
- I belong to Phagwara, and there are many important buildings in Phagwara.
 - There is an ancient Shiv Temple and Lord Hanuman Temple
 - Then there is Haveli, which is in the Suburbs of Phagwara.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a Sikh temple, which is dedicated to the 6th Guru of Sikhs, Guru Hargobind Ji
 - It is said that after fighting with the Mughals, Guru Hargobindji reached here and rested under a tree.
 - People built a gurdwara there in the memory of his visit.
 - It is a beautiful building with a huge hall in which the holy book of the Sikhs, Guru Granth Sahib is placed.
 - Hymns and chants can be heard every morning and evening.
 - There is also a holy pond in which there are many fish.
 - I could spot two catfish the last time I went there.
 - People go to pay their obeisance to the almighty.
 - I also go there once or twice a month.
 - I get great peace when I go there.
 - I love sitting by the pool side and watch the fish while listening to the soothing music coming from inside.
 - It has become a common place for solemnizing Sikh weddings.
 - My cousin's wedding also took place over there.
 - There is a famous college near the gurdwara.
 - This building is important because of its historical and religious significance.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. What kinds of buildings are popular in India now?

India is a diverse country. All types of buildings are popular in India. It depends on geographical area and also on the density of population. In metropolitan cities like Mumbai and Delhi, there are tall buildings to accommodate more people, but smaller towns and cities have buildings, which spread horizontally and not vertically. In areas with heavy rainfall, there are sloped roofs, whereas in other areas there are flat terraces. So, it is difficult to generalize what types of buildings are popular in India now.

2. Compare old buildings and modern buildings. Which do people prefer to live in?

Old buildings were more spacious, but modern buildings are more compact. Old buildings spread horizontally, but modern buildings spread vertically. Old buildings mostly used locally available materials, but modern buildings use materials from around the world. Old buildings had visible wiring and pipelines, but modern buildings have concealed wiring and water pipes. Today people prefer to live in modern buildings. Modern buildings are more comfortable and easy to manage.

3. How do people in India feel about old buildings?

People have different feelings about old buildings. Some people think that these should be demolished and new ones should be made instead. However, others feel that we should preserve these old buildings

4. Do old people and young people in India have the same attitudes towards old building?

Old people and young people do not have the same attitude towards old buildings. Old people are emotionally attached to old buildings, and so they want to preserve them and restore them. However, young people like the modern buildings instead because they think that old buildings can be hazardous to live in.

5. Is it important to preserve old buildings? (Why?)

Yes, it is important to preserve some old buildings; especially those, which have some historical importance and can attract tourism. However those buildings, which are in a very dilapidated state should be demolished and new ones built instead.

6. What aspect of culture do old buildings reflect?

Old buildings reflect how people lived in the past. Most old houses were very spacious. The bathrooms were in one corner. Most houses had a central courtyard around which there used to be bedrooms.

7. Do you think it's worth the money to preserve old buildings?

I do not think it is a waste of money to preserve those old buildings, which have some historical significance and can earn revenue in the form of tourist dollar. Some old buildings can be put to good use. For example, the Sainik School of Kapurthala was once the home of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

8. How have buildings changed in the past few years?

Buildings have changed a lot in the past few years. Today we have more high-rise buildings. Materials used in the buildings are also imported from all over the world. Buildings today focus more on utility

than beauty. People are using prefabricated materials for doors and windows and so less of wood is used. Today's buildings are more energy-efficient.

9. Are expensive buildings a waste of money?

It depends. If too much money is spent to improve the façade of the building, then it is a waste of money. But, if money is spent to make the building more energy efficient and utilitarian, then it is certainly not a waste of money.

10. Is it important to design a building

Yes, it is very important to design a building. It would be very unwise to just start constructing without a plan. The lighting, ventilation, security and many other things have to be considered. A well-designed building has proper space management and saves a lot of hassle later on.

11. Can natural calamities affect people living in tall buildings?

Yes, definitely. That is why very tall buildings need highly skilled architects and engineers. Today's architects can design skyscrapers, which can bear the brunt of the natural calamities.

12. What has been the biggest change in your hometown in the last few years?

The biggest change has been the building of two flyovers, which have greatly improved the traffic.

14. Describe a person who helps others in his or her spare time

- We live in a world which is full of people with different nature and attitudes.
- Some individuals find joy in achieving success whereas some find bliss in helping others.
- Today, I would like to talk about one such person whose life motto is to help others and fight for human rights.
- His name is Prabloch Singh.
- He is in his early thirties and is tall and handsome.
- He has done his graduation in Computers and works with an IT company.
- But after his work hours, he takes the role of a super hero where his mission is to help as many people as possible.
- He is also the founder of a human rights organisation called Middle Finger Protests.
- His journey for human rights and causes started when he was very young.
- He helped in bringing justice for the family of an air hostess who was murdered in a bar by an influential person.
- Even though he got many threats to his life, he continued his protests to fight for the justice
- His role was also picturized in a movie called No one Killed Jessica.
- Similarly, he has led various other protests to bring justice to other victims.
- He also does a lot of charity and social work for people by organizing free food stalls and distributing clothes to the needy.
- He has been awarded at national and International level for his contribution to humanitarian causes.
- He has also represented India as an ambassador for Human Rights at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- The best thing about him is that he is not afraid of fighting for the right cause, even if he has to make a lot of sacrifices.
- He is an inspiration for today's generation.
- When I talk about him, I feel motivated that I should also give back to the society.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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15. Talk about a place where you spend time with your friends

What is it

Where is it

Why do you go there

What do you like about that place

- We all need some leisure time and there's no better way to enjoy that time with friends.
- Whenever we plan to spend some leisure time, me and my friends like to go to Viva Collage Mall.
- We usually go there every week on weekends or fortnightly.
- The Mall is right by the National Highway and falls between Jalandhar and Phagwara.
- Since me and most of my friends are from Phagwara, it is just a 15 minute drive from our city to the Mall.
- One of my friends is from Jalandhar and it is convenient for him also to reach there within 10 to 15 minutes.
- We choose to go there because the Mall has several facilities and options of recreation under one roof.
- It has a multiplex which screens latest movies, it has a couple of restaurants too. Also, it has several stores where we can shop from whenever we want to.
- Additionally, we like go there because even if we don't want to spend on anything, we can roam around and enjoy the crowd there just be sitting on benches in the mall.
- All this in an air conditioned environment and that too for free!
- What I like about this place is the ease of access for my friends, the option to watch movies or eat or do shopping.
- Also, being students, we sometimes run out of money and in such times, we can still have our leisure time in the Mall without spending on anything there.

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16. Describe a time you visited a place with friends.

- I have never been on any bicycle or motorbike trip
- So here I would like to talk about a car trip that I found really interesting
- Last year my friend 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 friend 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 friend 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, JhilmilDhaba, 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 HawaMahal, City Palace, Amer fort, Maharani Palace and so on.
- The next day we went to ChokhiDhani.
- 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.
- 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.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

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17. Talk about someone who encourages you to achieve goals

Who is the person?

How is he/she related to you?

How does he/she encourage you?

Something about that person which you like the most?

- I think motivation is very important in life.
- Without motivation or inspiration, it is very difficult to achieve goals in life.
- Some people get motivated internally while some rely on others to guide or encourage them.
- Today, I would like to talk about my brother who has always supported me in whatever I have done and his guidance has helped me achieve many goals.
- My brother's name is Preet and he is a Captain in the Indian Army.
- He himself has been successful in everything that he has done in his life.
- He has been a topper throughout his academic and professional career.
- Whatever challenges life has thrown at him, he has always cleared them successfully.
- At the same time, he has also helped me to become successful in my endeavors.
- Recently, he helped me in achieving my fitness goal.
- For a long time, I wanted to join the gym and become fit.
- But I was not regular with my exercise routine and there was no one at the gym to guide me.
- My brother came home for 2 months' vacation and I shared my problem with him since he is from an Army background.
- He told me that he will join the gym with me and he helped me plan a routine for my fitness.
- We started going together to the gym and throughout the training he pushed me to give my best performance.
- Within few weeks I could see changes in my strength and fitness levels.
- After a period of 2 months I was able to achieve my fitness goal.
- I can perform lot many exercises without any difficulty and I was also able to complete a marathon race.
- I have developed a lean muscular body and wherever I go people always ask me how I was able to do it.
- I always give the credit to my brother who stayed with me and encouraged me to achieve this goal in life.
- In the end I would like to say that, like my brother, I also try to motivate people to work harder and fulfil their dreams

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18. Describe an unusual vacation you had.

You should say:

What you did

When and where you did it

Who you did it with

And explain why you think it was interesting or unusual.

- Few months back while our visit to a friend's hometown, all of a sudden a friend proposed to go inside a nearby forest and have a holiday there.
- This was a plan proposed by Rohan (...say one of your friends name...) and 4 of our friends agreed to be part of this trip.
- This was bit dangerous as people rarely go inside the forest and from the local people we had heard different scary and wild stories about this jungle.
- Our main attraction was the abandoned house inside the jungle and we planned to stay there and take photos of wild life and the abandoned house.
- We knew that my friend's guardians won't permit us to do that and hence we planned not to let them know about it upfront.
- On a Thursday morning we left the friend's house and bought the necessary ingredients, vegetables, foods and other things that would be required for us for the stay.
- We entered inside the jungle and to our surprise the inside was much more open and beautiful than we thought it would be.
- With some difficulty we reached near the abandoned house and spent few hours there.
- This was a very exciting and unusual experience for us.
- We collected some wood and made arrangements for cooking.
- We ate the food we cooked and it was horrible in taste.
- However, we were looking for adventure and interesting stuff, so the bad food did not kill our spirit.
- We could not enter the abandoned house, as it was locked and very fragile. We took several photos of the place and we noticed that some of the wild animals were observing us with suspicion.
- I have to confess that it was a bit dangerous and imprudent thing to do but we enjoyed our interesting and unusual holiday inside a forest.

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19. Describe your favorite clothes

- What is it like
 - Who gave it to you
 - When you wear it
 - Explain how you feel about it
-
- Everyone loves fashion nowadays. Even I also like to try new outfits everyday and especially on the functions or special occasions
 - I have got a huge collection of different dresses and suits in my cupboard.
 - Here, I would like to talk about a traditional suit, which my maternal gave me as a gift on my birthday.
 - It is a bottle green suit with magenta and golden embroidery
 - It also has a multi-coloured stole to go with it which had a golden lace on all sides
 - It is studded with golden beads
 - It has a very traditional ethnic touch to it
 - It is a very beautiful suit
 - The stole is in crinkled silk
 - She gave me matching accessories also
 - She gave me a golden beaded purse to go with it.
 - Whenever I wear the suit, I wear my traditional Punjabi shoes, which match perfectly with the suit.
 - When I wear that suit everyone compliments me
 - I feel very good when I receive those compliments.
 - Actually, my aunt runs her hobby classes of cooking in Chandigarh. I stayed with her during my vacations and helped her.
 - She could accommodate more number of students because of my help.
 - She offered me money, but I refused because I had not helped her for money.
 - So she bought this expensive suit for me on my birthday.
 - I really like the suit and have worn it on many occasions.
 - Last time, I wore this suit at my college farewell.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. What kinds of clothes do people wear after work?
People wear comfortable and casual clothes after work, because usually at work, people have to wear uniforms or formal clothes. Once people come back home, they like to relax and want to be more comfortable.
2. What kind of clothes should people wear at work?
At work people should wear proper and formal clothes. At some workplaces, uniforms are needed, which gives them an identity and develops a sense of discipline. It also depends on the type of work people do. If someone is working as a gym instructor, he or she cannot wear formal clothes to work. They have to wear sports wear.
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3. Do you think students need to wear school uniforms?
Yes, I think students need to wear school uniforms, as they act as a social leveler/equalizer. Uniforms give an identity to the students and also inculcate a sense of discipline among students. Uniforms are also good for the school's security, as if any miscreants enter the school, they can be easily spotted.
4. Where do Indian people buy clothes?
Indian people buy clothes from shops and stores in the local markets and in shopping malls. There are many small-scale stores and boutiques that are run from home, from where people shop for clothes. Also, online shopping is very popular in India. There are many popular shopping websites, like Amazon, Flipkart, Snapdeal and so on, from where people buy clothes.
5. Does personality affect how people choose what to wear?
Yes people with good personality always like to wear expensive clothes which are made of fine material although they tend not to wear lot of glamorous clothes nowadays but still they prefer to wear expensive clothes made out of the finest material
6. When should people wear formal clothes?
People should wear formal clothes to work and on formal occasions like functions, interviews etc
7. Do people wear formal clothes more often than before?
I think the trend is changing; people nowadays wear less formal clothes because fashion is providing them with abundant options. Even few companies like facebook and google allow people to come to office in casual clothes. People find themselves more comfortable in casual clothes.
8. What clothes do university students wear for their graduation ceremonies?
University students normally wear a gown and a cap on their graduation day. It is a trend to throw the caps in the air, once the graduation ceremony is over.

20. Talk about a game show or quiz programme on Television

- I like watching TV in my free time and there are many shows that I like to watch.
- Today, I would like to talk about a quiz show which I like to watch.
- The name of the show is 'Bournvita Quiz contest'.
- It is hosted by Dereck O'Brien.
- The sponsor of this show is Cadbury India.
- In this quiz contest, students from different schools from across India participate.
- The questions are from different topics ranging from Science to Entertainment.
- The winners get an Apple Ipad and a gift hamper from Cadbury.
- I find this show very interesting because it helps increase my knowledge about various topics.
- It is also very exciting to watch students from all parts of India compete.
- I am amazed to see young children with such vast knowledge about various topics.
- It is very motivating and encouraging for students.
- This show has changed its format with time.
- It started as a live quiz show in 1972.
- It was held live in different cities.
- Then it became a radio show and in 1992 it was broadcast on TV.
- Now there is an app through which everyone can participate in this quiz contest.
- They even have this show on YouTube where we can participate live.
- Now I can watch the show and also participate in it through the app.
- My friends and I also sometimes compete with each other.
- I think this is one of the best quiz shows.

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21. Describe a time when you invited someone to have dinner at home or a restaurant

- I am a very social person and I love to connect with people.
- I also love to try new restaurant or cuisines.
- So, I often go out for dinners or invite people for the same.
- Recently, one of my cousins was visiting us from Canada with his family, so I decided to take them out for dinner.
- I asked them about their preferences for food but they said they would like to go wherever I took them.
- Finally, I decided to take them to Barbeque Nation because one can enjoy multiple cuisines there and the best part is that one can have unlimited food.
- This restaurant is located in the central market of my city and there is always a huge waiting list.
- So, I made a booking in advance with them for 6 people.
- My cousin had never been to this restaurant before.
- When we reached there, he was astonished to see the interiors of the restaurant.
- The restaurant is built on a contemporary theme.
- I then explained them about the unlimited food concept and they got really excited as they were looking forward to trying Indian and Chinese food after a long time.
- At this restaurant a charcoal grill is placed at the table and one can barbeque the starters on it.
- The restaurant has a very unique concept in which there is a flag on the table and until you turn it down, they do not stop the starter service.
- My cousin and his family enjoyed all the delicacies and thanked me for bringing them there.
- There was also a big screen which was running Live Cricket Match from IPL tournament and since we both are fans of Cricket, we enjoyed watching cricket along with really tasty food.
- We also recollected our childhood memories and at the end we felt it was a beautiful evening that we enjoyed.
- I believe people should often have dinner together as it is a good way to spend time and build healthy relationships.

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22. Describe a time that children made you laugh

- I know many children, and I have spent time with many of them, but here I would like to talk about my nephew and nieces, who are 7 years old.
- Their names are Abhi, Suhavi and Nimrat and they are triplets.
- They are my cousin Jagdeep's children, who lives in Gujarat.
- Last year my cousin spent a week with us, when he came to Punjab in December.
- All the kids are very cute and I just adore them.
- They also look chubby.
- When they smile, they have dimples on both cheeks, which look very beautiful.
- I always feel like picking at their cheeks but they scream when anybody does so.
- They have curly hair and do not like getting their hair combed.
- I shared my room with the kids and they love to play with me
- I am a very organised person and keep my room spic and span, but the kids loved to mess everything up.
- Normally I don't like if anyone messes up my things but with the kids I didn't mind at all.
- I would make sad faces, when the kids fiddled with my things, but they would look at me with their cute smile and dimples and then I would forget everything and start laughing with them.
- They are only 7 years old but they really know how to twist everyone around their little finger.
- It is sometimes very amusing to watch their small pranks.
- Once they were not eating their dinner, so their mom locked them in a separate room and told them they will be allowed outside if they finish their meal.
- After 10 minutes they knocked and said that they had finished their food and their plates were empty.
- But in reality, they had hidden the bread inside their pockets, which we realized the next morning when we found pieces of flat bread on my bed.
- This situation made everyone laugh a lot, as all of us were outsmarted by the young kids.
- They are also very curious and ask a lot of innocent questions which make everyone laugh.
- I love them a lot and when they grow up I will tell them all these stories about their childhood.

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23. Describe a time when you heard a stranger talking over the phone

When

Where

What were you doing at that time

- Everyone has a mobile phone these days.
- There are many instances when we can overhear the conversations of other people, especially in crowded or public places.
- I remember one such instance when I heard someone talking over the phone and I couldn't help but hear it.
- It was on a train journey from Delhi to Chandigarh, around 3-4 months ago.
- There was an old lady sitting next to me.
- Even though I was reading a book, I could figure out from her conversations that her children were calling her to enquire about her journey.
- Towards the end of the journey, she got a call again.
- It was from one of her children and she was talking about the pick-up arrangements from the railway station.
- I could understand from her conversation that the arrangements made by her children were canceled by the driver due to some reason.
- She was getting a little worried about how she would be able to get home.
- She was talking about not knowing how to use the Uber app on the phone.
- I decided to step in and help her with it.
- I offered to book the cab for her through the app.
- She gladly accepted and made me speak to her daughter.
- I explained where I live and that dropping her mother would be on the way.
- She was extremely grateful and thanked me for the help.
- When we reached, I booked a cab to drop her first and then me.
- She was very thankful and offered to pay for it.
- I politely declined. She gave me blessings and we exchanged our contact numbers.
- I always feel happy/content when I think about that day and being able to help someone.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

1. Some people like talking on phones in public transport, what do you think about this situation?
Personally, I don't mind people talking over phones in public transport. As long as their volume isn't too high and disturbs the co-passengers, I don't have issues with them. However, some people are too loud and become a nuisance for others. That is something I dislike a lot.
2. What are the bad effects of talking over a phone in public
It may inconvenience people around the place when someone is talking over phone in a public place. Places like museums, libraries and places of worship require peace and when someone talks over phone at such places, it is a nuisance.
3. Why do people always break the rules
Some people are careless by nature. Some break rules in situation of an emergency. However, some do it as a adventure and for recreation. Irrespective of the reason, rules are meant to be abided to and offenders should be penalised.

24. Describe something that you brought home from a tourist place

What is it

When did you buy it

From where did you buy it

- There are many things that I have bought from tourist places
- Here I would like to talk about a wooden candle stand which I bought from Shimla last year
- I went to Shimla with my friends on a school trip
- It is a very beautiful place to visit
- We stayed at hotel Mountain View
- In the evening we went shopping
- Actually there is a very popular market called Lakkar Bazaar over there.
- I purchased key chains with carved wooden alphabets as souvenirs for all my family members
- But one special thing I bought was a candle stand.
- It has lots of carvings in it
- It is in natural wooden colour.
- It is the main centrepiece of our living room table.
- We have put up a coloured candle on it.
- Everyone who comes to our house compliments it.
- I feel very proud then
- It also keeps the memories of my Shimla trip alive.
- Most of my friends are now in Canada for their higher education.
- So, this candle stand is the thing I brought home from a tourist place.

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25. Describe an occasion when you received an incorrect information

What was the incorrect information?

When did it happen?

Why did it happen?

How you manage the situation?

- Sometimes, we get provided with incorrect information.
- Although such instances are rare but they do cause a lot of trouble.
- I was also given an incorrect piece of information about a College where my cousin wanted to take admission for the course of Hotel Management.
- It was last year that she was planning to take admission after her class 12 results.
- We googled all the possible colleges which offered the course and finally decided on a institute in Dehradun.
- The website had given a lot of incorrect information about the college.
- Sadly, all of it was mere claims and when we actually went there to see the college, nothing from the claims came about to be real.
- Although the hotel that ran the college was good but the actual college which we went there for was nothing but a two-room college being run in the backyard of the hotel.
- We all were shocked to see the so-called college which was shown as something big and elaborate on the website but was actually lesser than a primary village school.
- Immediately, to manage the situation, we decided to cancel our admission plans there and re-planned for my cousin's admission.
- Later, she changed her mind and decided to pursue the course of Mass Communication.
- We got her admitted to a University near our city and she is doing very well there.

Part 3 - Follow up Questions

Follow Ups and any additional cue cards will be released in updated version of this PDF file (around 15 May 2019). Please check instructions on Page 2 of this PDF file to download the latest version.

This is the first version of May-August 2019 Speaking PDF (Release Date: 7 may 2019)

26. Describe a person you have seen (met) who is beautiful or handsome

- When and where you saw or met this person
- What the person looked like
- Why do you think this person is handsome or beautiful (@makkariELTS)

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- I have seen many beautiful and handsome people in my life.
- Here, I would like to talk about a person whom I find the most handsome.
- He is none other than my father.
- His name is
- He is in his early fifties.
- He is not tall, but looks very handsome.
- His hair has started greying, but he doesn't colour or dye his hair.
- He believes in growing grey naturally.
- He generally wears kurta pajama, but on formal occasions he wears trousers and shirt
- He is very health conscious and is very particular about his morning walk.
- He runs his own business and has about 10 people working for him.
- He is a very down to earth person and is loved by all in our family and neighbourhood.
- The reason I find him the most handsome is not just because of his looks , but also because of his loving and caring nature.
- I remember, once a person in our neighbourhood met with an accident and needed blood transfusion.
- All his relatives backed out, but my father donated blood without even thinking twice.
- Whenever anyone needs any help, he goes out of the way to help him in whatever way he can.
- He is my father, but in him I find a considerate friend.
- He listens to all my problems very patiently and guides me whenever I am in a difficult situation.
- He is revered by all in the business community and is respected by his employees .
- He believes in leading by example.
- He is always on time to work and so his employees also do the same.
- So, because of his qualities, I find him the most handsome person.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions -- makkar|IELTS

1. Is it too easy to become beautiful?

I really believe that beauty is more about a person's actions than his looks. So in this respect, it is about doing good deeds and helping others. This sounds easy but it is really difficult. If we talk about physical beauty even that is difficult. A person not only needs to be regular with physical exercise but also manage his or her diet.

2. The disadvantages of being beautiful?

The biggest disadvantage of being beautiful is the unwanted attention a person receives. Sometimes, it is too much and a person might not be able to handle it. Also, there is a common misconception that beautiful people are not intelligent. I think pretty people have to work extra hard to show their other talents.

3. Does someone face a lot of pressure if they are beautiful?

I think it depends on the person. Some people are beautiful, but don't bother much about the attention they get because of their beauty and behave normally. Some beautiful people may not be able to handle the attention they get and may feel stressed. I also think that beautiful people have the stress to maintain their beauty.

4. Is looking beautiful a good thing or a bad thing?

Well, it is good to be beautiful, but I also feel that it is the inner beauty that ultimately matters. So having a beautiful heart is better than having beautiful looks. Outward beauty remains of no value if the person is impolite and has no empathy for others. A not so beautiful person, who always has a warm and welcoming smile may look more beautiful than a very beautiful person with a snobbish nature.

5. Should clothes selling companies hire beautiful models? Why?

Well, companies have to sell their products and beautiful models can make their clothes look very good. Their sales can skyrocket because of these models. So, they should hire such models.

6. Do you think when companies or business shops hire beautiful models to stimulate or increase their sales is a good thing?

Yes, it is good for the companies, because in this way they can increase their sales considerably. But, people should always try those clothes before buying. They have to realise that the those beautiful models have maintained beautiful bodies, and any clothing which looks good on those models may look very unbecoming on them.

7. Do you think beautiful appearance is important?

Yes, beautiful appearance is very important nowadays, because many jobs require a presentable appearance. But i feel that a very good appearance can be maintained by dressing nicely and carrying yourself well. Very beautiful features are not necessarily needed for beautiful looks.

8. Do you think the children should learn to dress well?

Yes, definitely. Life has become very competitive, and to remain ahead you have to present yourself well. The first impression about any person is made from his clothes. Wearing presentable clothes should be taught to all children from their early childhood.

27. **An intelligent person that you know**

- Who is the person?
- What does he do?
- Why do you think he is smart?
- How do you feel about him? (-m a k k a r |ELTS)

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- I know many intelligent people.
- I find some of my friends, teachers and neighbours very intelligent.
- Here I would like to talk about my friend Sonia, who is very brilliant.
- She is 18 years of age.
- She is not tall, but looks very beautiful.
- She has curly hair and has sparkling black eyes.
- We studied together from 1st to 10th.
- Then she chose the medical stream, whereas I opted for commerce.
- I remember vividly, that she always stood first in class.
- We used to study together at home also because we were neighbours.
- I was weak at maths, but she guided me in such a way that I started getting good grades in maths also.
- She was in the good books of all teachers.

- She was not only good at studies, but also participated very actively in extra-curricular activities.
- She participated in a state level quiz show organised by the Rotary Club and bagged the trophy for our school.
- She has a great sense of humour and can turn any tense situation into a happy one by cracking jokes.
- She has a lot of ready wit.
- I just love her company.
- She has recently taken the IELTS and has scored 7.5 band overall.
- She has motivated me also to take the IELTS so that we can study together in some good college in Canada.
- So, Sonia is the person whom I find very intelligent.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions - m@kk@rI3LTS

1. Are most intelligent people happy? Why?

Not necessarily. Intelligent people have high expectations of life. They may feel unhappy if things don't go according to their expectations. But, at the same time i think it is difficult to generalise. Intelligent people know that happiness is a state of mind, and so they may try their best to stay happy.

2. Do you think intelligent people are selfish?

No, selfishness has nothing to do with intelligence. I think it is personal nature to be selfish. A person who is intelligent may get success in his life and may seem to be selfish, but actually he is not. Even people who are not so intelligent may be selfish. It is basic human nature to look after one's own interests first. So, it cannot be said that intelligence makes people selfish.

3. Do you think intelligent people are helpful?

Well, a helpful nature also has nothing to do with intelligence. Anybody can be helpful, but intelligent people can help in better ways with their intelligence. People who are not intelligent but have money can help by giving money, but intelligent people can help by educating the poor.

4. Who do you think plays a more important role in children's education, parents or teachers? Why?

Well, both have a vital role in children's education. The role of both parents and teachers is different, but equal. So, it is difficult to say, who has a greater role. In social education, parents have a greater role, but in academic education, teachers have a greater role.

5. What qualities do you think a good teacher should have?

A teacher should have good communication skills. Without good communication skills, a teacher cannot teach well. Secondly, he should have depth of knowledge of the subject. Then, he should be impartial. He should have no bias towards the rich or poor students. He should be able to come down to the level of the student to teach well.

6. How do teachers help children in their education?

Teachers help in all possible ways. They work hard to provide good academic knowledge to the students. They have to keep themselves up-to-date with the latest syllabi and teach students according to the requirement of the time. They can also do some career counselling and advise the students any career path according to their aptitude.

7. Why are some children more intelligent than others?

It can be because of genes. Some may be born intelligent. Some children may work hard to achieve that level of intelligence.

28. Describe a time when you were cheated/ when someone lied to you / someone did not tell you the complete truth

- What was the occasion/ What the situation was
 - When this happened
 - Who was the person
 - What did he hide about
 - Why do you think the person did not tell the whole truth
-
- There have been many times in my life when I felt cheated.
 - Sometimes the person lied to me and sometimes some truth was hidden, which is also as bad as being lied to.
 - Here, I would like to talk about an occasion when my mother lied to me.
 - Actually, it was my 16th birthday, and my mother had planned a surprise party for me.
 - When I got up in the morning, I observed that everybody was behaving strangely and nobody in the home wished me properly.
 - When I asked them what the matter was, they just shrugged their shoulders and said that it was a routine day and they refused to admit that their behaviour was any different.
 - I was very upset, but I got ready and went to school.
 - My friends were also behaving very strangely on that day and were discussing things with each other, but when I went near them, they would stop talking or change the topic.

- Actually, my mother had invited all of them and were making plans to come to my home that evening.
- My mother had obviously told them to keep it a secret from me.
- I could smell something fishy in their behaviour, but could not make out what it was.
- I felt very low and sad.
- After school when I reached home, I found that my mother had decorated the drawing room with balloons and buntings and had baked a special chocolate cake for me.
- All my sadness disappeared and I hugged my mother tight.
- She had hidden the whole plan from me because she wanted to surprise me.
- She just wanted to see my happy face. Her joy is in making me happy
- When my friends arrived, we all had a hearty laugh and then we enjoyed the snacks prepared by my mother. We also danced a lot late into the evening.
- It was a day to remember.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. Do you think telling White lies is acceptable sometimes?

Yes, it is. White lies are good lies. They are told so as not to hurt the sentiments of the other person. They have a good cause and so it is alright to tell white lies. For example, a mother may hide from his child that he is suffering from a fatal disease and may not live long.

2. Do you think honesty is the only important quality that should be in a person.

No, I don't think so. Honesty is important, but intelligence, helpful nature, a good sense of humour and many other things are equally important.

3. Do you think children should be taught honesty in young age.

Yes, they should be taught honesty at a young age. Honesty is something parents can teach without any extra effort. All they have to do is to lead by example. Children imbibe everything from their parents. They generally act and behave as their parents do. As such honesty has no lessons. Children are natural apes. So, if parents are honest, so are the children.

4. Do you think being completely honest all times can be not good?

Yes, sometimes being too honest means being too blunt and may sound rude or even hurt the other person's self esteem. For example, if a four year old makes a drawing which you think is not at all good, you can still tell the child that she has done a good job. That will encourage the child to draw again and become better. Similarly, at times a doctor may have to tell a cancer patient that he will get well, even if the chances of recovery are next to nil.

5. Why do people lie sometimes?

Sometimes people lie for hiding certain things. They may not want to reveal that information and so have to lie. Some may tell white lies because the truth may hurt others

6. How would you define white lies?

White lies are good lies, which are told to encourage someone or to protect the sentiments of the other person from being hurt.

7. Some people say liars are those who have a good memory, what do you think?

Liars need good memory and there is no doubt about that, but whether they have good memory or not is questionable. Those who do not have good memory may be caught very soon because they will forget what lie they told and in what context.

8. What are the other ways to teach children about honesty except having parents or teachers teach them?

Media can teach honesty to children by showing animated stories with morals. Children can also learn honesty from their peers and by reading books.

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29. Talk about an interesting old person you met

- Who is this person?
- How you met him? How you know him
- What you do with this person (optional)
- Why you found him interesting?

- I know many old persons, but here I would like to talk about my friend Sonia's grandfather.
- I met him about 6 months ago and I found him very interesting.
- His name is Mr Jaswant Singh.
- He is in his mid seventies.
- He is not tall, but looks very handsome.
- Even at this age he is very lithe and agile.

- Sonia tells me that he is very health conscious, and never misses his morning and evening walk.
- He retired as a colonel from the Indian army.
- Once i visited Sonia's place to work on a project and there I met him for the first time.
- He was sitting in the lobby doing something on his laptop.
- I found it very interesting that a person of his age was so comfortable with a laptop.
- He was placing an order at Amazon.in for some headphones.
- My parents find it difficult to handle a smartphone and he was using a laptop like a pro.
- He greeted me very warmly and so I started chatting with him.
- I was amazed at his vast knowledge.
- He told me stories of his life in the army.
- He told me how he participated actively in the Kargil war.
- So now whenever I go to Sonia's house, I make it a point to sit with him for some time and learn something new.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. Do you think old people and young people can share the same interest?

It may sometimes be difficult for old people and young people to share the same interests. Young people are generally more energetic, so they prefer outdoor sports, but old people can only play those games which are not physically trying. It would be wrong to say that they cannot share the same interest. They both can share the same interest in TV programs, movies, indoor games, etc.

2. What skills can the old teach the young?

Old people today have seen a lot of changes in their lifetime. My grandfather has told me many stories of how difficult his life was when there were no vehicles and horses were used for transportation. He has also seen a lot of technological advancements. For example, the evolution of music started with radio and was followed by gramophones, cassette players, cd's and dvd's, and finally I-Pods and Mobile Phones. The most important life skills such as adaptability, versatility and openness to change, can be taught by the old to the young.

3. What skills can the young teach the old?

Young people are faster at learning about modern technology and better at operating gadgets. They can definitely teach these skills to old people. Also, since young people are now entering various businesses, other young people understand them and can do a better job of negotiating prices of goods and services. This too is an important skill for old people who are always keen to get a good bargain.

4. Do you think the old people should live with their family?

Ideally they should. But, if not possible for some reasons, they should be in old age homes and not live alone. Living alone can be dangerous for them.

30. Describe one of your grandparent's jobs

- What it was?
 - How long he or she had this job?
 - How he or she got the job?
 - Whether you would like to have this job?
-
- Most young people are very close to their grandparents.
 - Our grandparents pamper us with their unconditional love.
 - They always have a lot of stories to share about the challenges they faced as youngsters.
 - My grandfather was born in Lahore in the year 1925 which now falls in Pakistan
 - He was married at the age of 12 and started working as a farmer at the age of 16.
 - He was very gifted and innovative in his work. He changed the crops every year and made his own organic fertilizer.
 - By the age of 20, he was able to double his land holding and employ others to work in his farm.
 - When the partition between India and Pakistan took place, he had to leave all his land behind and move to Phagwara with his family.
 - This was very difficult for him since he had no land, and only knew farming as a source of livelihood.
 - He started by working in somebody else's field as a farm hand, and with his unrelenting hard work and honesty, he was able to acquire land and send all his children to college
 - When my father completed his Bachelors in Agriculture and joined my grandfather, he inherited 250 hectares of land and 200 cows.
 - Today, i have joined the family business. Most of our land is now rented to other farmers.
 - However, my grandfather still works as a farmer by caring for our kitchen garden and always reminds me of the value of doing things with our own hands.
 - He is 93 years old and is a source of inspiration for everyone.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What do you think is the most difficult job?

The most difficult job is that of a Judge. Judges need to listen to all sides of the story, examine the evidence and take decisions which can make or break an innocent person's life. Their judgement should always be unwavering from the rule of the law. They cannot be hasty or too slow in giving their judgement. They must take a side based on the information available and this often leads to one side always being unhappy. Hence, their job is the

most difficult. In fact, an examiner is also a kind of judge as the score that they assign based on their assessment is also a huge responsibility.

2. What are other difficult jobs?

Some other jobs are difficult as well. For me, any job which disturbs our natural body-clock or social life is difficult. For example, many professions such as the police, armed forces, doctors, airport / other transportation staff and even call centre employees have to be on call and work around the clock. This is very difficult.

3. Do difficult jobs deserve high salary?

While simply giving a high salary does not offset the long term damage to one's health; it does give a feeling of satisfaction and prevents employees in difficult jobs from feeling exploited or disgruntled. Owing to their frequent absence from home or lack of a social life, they have to give a lot more gifts to their family and loved ones to keep them happy. Whatever you pay such professionals will never be high enough for the price they pay in the service of the economy or community. Professionals in difficult jobs definitely deserve a high salary.

4. Is it easy to find well paid jobs in your country?

No, it is not. Nowadays there are many applicants for a single job, and this goes in favour of the employers. They get workers at very low salaries.

5. Do you think it is beneficial to provide training to your employees?

Training is definitely helpful employees as they come to know about the working of the company. This improves their work efficiency and this ultimately benefits the company.

6. Do you think robots would replace human workers in the future?

Not 100% in the foreseeable future. Robots are replacing humans in many fields, but all human workers can never be replaced by robots. For example robots are doing complicated surgeries, but behind the scenes very specialised human doctors are operating those robots. Repetitive manual work in factories is being done by robots. In the future more such manufacturing units may be there where robots will be used, but there will always be need of humans to operate those machines with artificial intelligence.

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31. Describe a kind of food that people eat during special events

- What it is
- How is it cooked
- Why do people eat it
- Why you like it
 - What event people usually it
 - Why is it for the special event

- India is a diverse country.
- There are many types of food that people eat on special events.
- These food vary from the north to the south and from the east to the west.
- For example, in North India, people eat jalebi as a dessert on dussehra, they eat rice pudding on Lohri, fritters on Diwali and makki ki roti and Sarson ka saag on family functions in winters. Makki ki roti is a chapati made of maize flour, and sarson ka saag is a dish made of mustard leaves.
- The reasons why people like to eat is kind of food are varied and many.
- First, it is a custom to cook and eat these dishes on these occasions. Second, these foods are tasty and loved by all. Finally, all the ingredients are easily available everywhere.
- Here, I would like to talk about Jalebi, which is a hot favourite of the people of Punjab.
- It is customary to eat jalebi on dussehra, but it is also eaten on other festivals and occasions like birthdays and weddings
- It is made by deep frying maida batter in intricate circular shapes and finally these are soaked in sugar syrup.
- Jalebi can be served warm or cold, but I like it more when it is warm.
- It is orange in colour
- It can be made in various thicknesses, but I personally like the thin and crisp jalebis.
- Undoubtedly Jalebis are loaded with calories still it is a food that people eat and relish on special occasions.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. Which food is generally popular in your country?

India is a diverse country. Different types of food are popular in different parts of India. For example, in North India, wheat chapati and dal sabzi is a common food, whereas in South India, idli dosa is eaten in routine.

2. Why some people prefer planting food themselves?

People prefer planting food like vegetables themselves because they want to eat vegetables grown without insecticides and pesticides. Moreover, when they eat something they have grown at home, they pluck the vegetables just before cooking. This retains the freshness of vegetables.

3. Will there be more and more people planting food in future?

Yes, I definitely believe that more and more people will be maintaining kitchen gardens. Vegetables and fruit available in the market has been sprayed with many harmful chemicals. Therefore, urban farming is becoming very popular and will grow in popularity in the future also.

4. What kind of food is good for a party?

It should be according to the weather and the occasion. It should also not be too spicy or oily. If it is a children's party, it should be according to their liking.

5. Do you think people should eat every meal with their family?

It would be ideal, but unfortunately it would not be practical in the contemporary lifestyle. Everybody is busy and mostly people have breakfast on the go. I think one meal a day should be shared with all the family members together, for at least 5 days a week.

32. A subject you did not like when you were at school but now you find interesting

- What was the subject
- Why you did not like it then
- Why do you find it interesting now
- Why you became interested in it?

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- I studied many subjects at school such as Punjabi, Hindi, English, physics, chemistry, biology, maths, history, geography and environmental science.
- I was good at all of these, but I was not much fond of studying EVS, that is environmental science.
- I remember it was added in our school curriculum when I was in 5th.
- I always took it as an extra burden and never liked to study it
- Perhaps, I was not aware of the importance of environment at that time.
- Moreover, as it was a new subject, our teachers also didn't take much interest in teaching us in a way that ignited our interest.
- However, now I realise that the environment is deteriorating very fast and we all need to put in our bit to prevent further damage as far as possible.
- Many programs on TV stress the importance of our environment.
- Once I was watching Ted Talks India - Nayi Soch, a show hosted by the king of Bollywood, Shahrukh Khan, in which he calls different people to talk about various things. One such person he called was Shubhendu Sharma, who talked about the method of growing a tiny forest of 300 trees in a small area.
- Ever since that time I got interested in the environment.
- Governments around the world are taking steps to save the environment.
- But what most people fail to see is that their small steps at individual level can also cumulatively lead to massive results.
- For example, if every person planted a tree and nurtured it for the first few months, in a few years we would have more than a hundred crore fully grown trees.
- If each one of us started saying no to plastics, it would make a huge difference.
- So, EVS was the subject I didn't like at school, but like now.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What is your opinion of modern education (in schools)?

I think that modern day education has changed for the better. The schools today have smart classes and technology has been incorporated really well in the classroom. Also, the focus now is also shifting from an exam-based approach to a more learner friendly approach that leads to a better understanding of concepts and various subjects.

2. What school subjects do you think are most important (in primary school or high school)? Why are they important?

I think that all the subjects currently a part of school curriculums are essential for the holistic development of a child. These subjects range from sciences, languages, literature, history, social science, moral science, etc.

3. What subject or subjects do you think will be the most important in the future?

I think all the subjects are important, however, it is becoming increasingly important that all the schools incorporate technology and have computer science and applications as an important part of the school curriculums. There are many schools in India and many other developing and under-developed countries, where the students still don't have the access to technology.

4. What school subject do you think will be the most useful in adult life? (or most useful for society?)

I believe that all the subjects that we are taught in the school time help lay the foundation of a good citizen. Through mathematics we learn to do everyday calculations, through history we stay connected to our roots, through social sciences we get to know about society, laws, rules and so on.

5. Which subjects do you think should be optional and which should be compulsory?

Subjects like mathematics, history, the sciences – like biology, physics, chemistry, computers, social, etc., languages, literature, etc. should be compulsory. Besides these, sports should be a part of the school curriculum, as a compulsory subject. However, the students should have an option to choose from different sports. Arts & crafts should be included as well, and the type of art and craft can be an option for the students. Studying of any foreign language can be an optional subject.

6. What are the advantages of studying computing in high school?

Studying computing is very advantageous. We need computing in our everyday life- when we shop, pay bills, and so on. When we set deadlines we calculate the days and time we have, we need to compute taxes, interests when saving money, and it is needed in so many other everyday things.

7. In the west, (upper) high school students are allowed to choose many of the subjects they study. Do you think it would be a good idea in India?

I think in India, all the subjects should be taught till high school and like it happens now, students have an option to choose the subjects they want to study in the senior secondary education. I think we have a good

education system and it builds a strong foundation, which is evident from the fact that many Indians are working in the western countries and are in great demand there, especially in the IT and finance sectors.

8. Do you think learning many subjects at one time is better or learning one subject is better?

At school level, there should be basic information of many subjects. However, at university the student can have a choice of learning one subject of his interest.

9. Do you think learning many subjects is beneficial for work?

Definitely. Learning many subjects makes a person an all rounder. He can always apply certain things learnt from various subjects at work. For example, a music composer needs some knowledge of maths to make his compositions better.

10. What subjects are more practical to learn nowadays?

All subjects have their own importance. Sciences, computers, environment and even languages are needed in today's times.

11. Do you think all teachers should have entertaining teaching styles?

To some extent, yes. If teachers have an interesting way to teach, they would be able to hold the attention of students. However, the entertainment factor should not be that overpowering that the education value gets lost.

33. Describe a time when you showed or taught a young person how to do a thing

- Who was the young person
 - When it happened
 - What did you teach him/her
 - How did you feel after teaching
 - Do you think the young person was benefited
- Learning and teaching is a part of life that we sometimes don't even realise we are doing.
 - We observe others and learn things, and similarly others may be observing us and learning things.
 - Here i would like to talk about a time when i taught my 8 year old niece Gia how to make a 3d origami swan.
 - Gia is very fond of arts and crafts
 - I had made a 3d origami swan, which she liked a lot.
 - I liked her enthusiasm to learn and so taught her very patiently.
 - I took 16 sheets of A4 paper and folded it twice lengthwise and then cut the strips.
 - Then I cut each long strip into 8 equal parts.
 - From one A4 sheet I had 32 pieces.
 - Then I taught her to fold each small piece into triangles.

- Basically, we have to make triangles and then fit them into each other to form different shapes.
- I had learnt that from a youtube video on the net.
- I took a long time to learn as there was no one to guide me.
- But Gia picked up very fast.
- One month later, I went to her house and I saw that Gia had made a vase and an owl using the same 3D origami technique.
- My cousin told me that Gia had become obsessed with 3D origami.
- I felt very happy that I had taught my little niece something so artistic.
- Gia participated in a contest - Best out of waste
- She made 3D origami from old magazine paper.
- She won the first prize.
- We are all so proud of her.
- My cousin tells me that Gia has taught this technique to many children of the neighbourhood and all mothers are very happy that their children have become so creative.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What skills should be taught to children?

Children should be made all rounders. They should be taught communication skills, cooking skills, computer skills and many more.

2. What can children learn from teachers and parents?

Children can learn a lot from parents and teachers. They can learn academic skills from teachers and social skills from parents.

3. What are the skills that you wanted to learn?

I wanted to learn classical dance like kathak, but unfortunately there is no teacher of classical dance in my hometown.

4. What skills do adults need to have?

Adults need to have good communication skills, cooperation skills, conflict management skills, skills related to their job and many more skills.

5. How can people be motivated to learn new things?

I think the desire to learn new things cannot be taught. They just come from within a person. I believe everyone has a desire to learn new things. Most of the time, the desire stems from the need to learn that thing. For example, if a person has to move to Montreal, he could have better job prospects if he knows French. So, he may want to learn French.

34. A person you would like to study or work with

- Who is that person?
- Why would you like to study with him/her?
- What will you study?

- I normally study alone as I find it hard to study with someone else.
- However, there are times when I don't feel like studying and it helps if someone can motivate me.
- Moreover, there are subjects like history, which I find really boring to study alone.
- In these cases, I do prefer studying with someone else.
- I had a classmate, Yash in 10th standard and many of my friends told me that he was a very good study partner.
- So if I do get a chance, I would like to study with him.
- He has many unique qualities.
- First, he has a very good grasping power, so he was always able to understand things really quickly.
- He is also very patient. I have heard from friends that he can sit and explain things for hours.
- One of my major problems in studying has been my inability to memorise facts and figures and he is very good with mnemonics, which I feel like can be really helpful for me.
- I remember in school days, he made a mnemonic for the first twenty elements of the periodic table and it became so popular in the school.
- Everyone used it and that's why perhaps my entire class found chemistry very easy.
- That's one more reason I would like to study with him. He is willing to share his knowledge.
- I have heard him saying many things in class that the best way to increase one's knowledge is to share knowledge.
- At the moment he is doing masters in economics in Canada.
- He is at the same college I am interested in attending.
- Hopefully, I would get a chance to meet him there and study something together.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What kind of people do you like to study or work with?

I like to study or work with people who are intelligent, cooperative and helpful.

2. Do you think managers can be friends with their subordinates?

Yes, they can. But the subordinates must realise that such a friendship can be affected if they become complacent at their work well because of their friendship.

3. Which one is more important for you at work, development in work related skills or the recognitions from your supervisor?

Both are equally important for me. Development in work skills is very essential to progress and get promotions at work. Recognition from supervisors gives me the impetus to work even harder.

4. Should children be allowed to choose whom they want to sit with or it should be decided by the teacher.

In the primary classes, it should be decided by the teachers, because the teacher will know better which students could be more helpful for each other if made to sit together. In senior classes, children can figure out for themselves about whom to sit with.

5. Should children be involved in management activities of the school?

I believe that they should be. They feel important and they learn confidence. They can voice out their problems and help the school authorities find answers for them.

6. How should one behave in office to get along well with others?

One should behave nicely. One should be polite to others and cooperate with them. One should not do leg-pulling of other colleagues.

7. Is it important for children in school to get along well with others?

Yes, it is very important for children to get along well with others. If children learn how to get along with their peers at school, they will learn how to get along with others in life when they are older.

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35. Something you bought but did not use much

- What was the thing
- When did you buy it
- Why you bought it

- Why you didn't use it often?

- We all like to do shopping
- We see beautiful things around us and want to buy them even if we don't need them much.
- I have also bought many things which i haven't used much, but here I would like to talk about a watch which I bought 6 months ago.
- One day, while I was surfing the net, I came across an ad of a Titan watch which caught my fancy.
- There was a discount offer going on.
- Fortunately, I had saved up some of my pocket money
- So, I ordered it online
- I was very happy when I received it.
- It is a beautiful watch, with a square dial and a golden strap
- I wore it regularly for a few days.
- But very soon I started forgetting to wear it.
- My cell phone is always there with me and I can check the time on that.
- Last month my cousin came from Canada and brought for me a fitbit smart watch.
- Since then my Titan watch has become redundant.
- It is lying in my room on my bedside table.
- I have got a lesson that whenever we do any shopping, we should think ten times about its usefulness for us.
- Otherwise we will be piling up things we will hardly ever use.
- Whether we realise it or not this clutter adds stress to our lives.
- As it is we are filling up our landfill sites by our use and throw culture.
- We keep on buying new things and the old ones keep piling up.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. Are you an impulsive buyer?

At times, yes. But not always. When there is a sale going on, I buy impulsively and pile up things. I know that is not good, but I can't control myself. The word 'sale' is very tempting.

2. Do you care about the pollution caused by packaging?

Yes, I do. I have started buying things, which have less packaging. But, apart from that there is little a common man can do.

3. Do you pay attention to environmental protection?

Yes, I do. I don't waste water and electricity. I have planted a few neem and Gulmohar trees in my house, and water them regularly. I carry my own cloth tote bag when I go shopping and do not accept plastic carry bags.

4. Do people in your country care about waste classification?

Yes, they have started to, especially in the big cities as of now. It has not yet started in small towns and villages. People put recyclable waste in one bag and the non recyclable in another.

5. How do you deal with items you do not use anymore?

I try to give clothes, shoes and old utensils to the needy people in my area. It is easy to find them. There are maids who work in houses and gardeners who can do with hand-me-downs.

36. Talk about a newly built public facility (such as parks, cinemas etc) that improves/influence local life quality in your city

- What the facility is
 - Where is it
 - How does it improve the life quality
 - How you feel about it
-
- India is a developing country and the government is providing many amenities to the citizens
 - Recently the government has stressed on the need for public toilets, cleanliness and education.
 - In our city there were many open areas that were unused and unattended
 - The local administration oftown has developed these into open or outdoor gyms.
 - There are exercise machines that are very simple to use and easy to maintain.
 - Senior citizens do not have to go far for physiotherapy and exercise.
 - The women do not sit on the benches and chat instead they exercise
 - This facility has added value to the health and also made good use of public land.
 - Around these parks we can see some hawkers selling healthy food like milk ,juice and cottage cheese.
 - These have made areas around them very proactive and full of life.
 - This endeavour made by our local administration is catching up in the neighbouring towns as well.
 - Earlier these dirty corners were full of accumulated garbage and were breeding grounds for germs.

- Many mischievous elements used to sit and play cards here but now the parks are full of positive energy.
- I would say the creation of open gyms have not only improved physical health but also contributed for mental peace and beautification.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions -- makkar|IELTS

1. What measures should be taken to deal with damage on public facilities?

First of all people should themselves be aware that if they use these facilities nicely only then they will be able to use them for a long time. Otherwise, the facilities may be destroyed. The government should appoint people for the maintenance of these facilities. Another thing that can be done is that a very small fee should be charged for these facilities. That money could be used for the maintenance of these places.

2. What are the differences between old facilities and new facilities?

Old facilities are like parks and libraries. New facilities are gyms and leisure places.

3. What facilities do young people and old people like in your country?

Young people like gyms and leisure centres. Old people like parks, health centres and libraries.

4. What is the difference between facilities in the countryside and the ones in the cities?

In the countryside the facilities are related to education and health. In the cities there are many entertainment facilities also.

37. Talk about a friend or person who recently got success

- Who was the person
- When did he get success
- How you felt
- Why you think it is important

- We all strive to be successful in our endeavours
- It is a fantastic feeling when our efforts result in success
- Recently, my very successful friend Shruti sent me a thank you note.
- Knowing that I played an important part in her journey, filled me with pride
- Shruti's grandmother is an excellent chef and ever since I have known Shruti, I have visited her house every week to have her "Ammi ji ki chai" - a special tea with hand picked spices
- Last year, Shruti and I were discussing how much we enjoy her Grandmother's tea.
- We knew that every tea lover would relish it but to be sure, we also wanted to do a small test

- Hence we hosted a party for 100 people. We served 2 different teas at the party and asked people to write how they felt about both the teas. Ammi ji ki chai was a huge hit!
- This led to the birth of the Brand “Ammi ji’s”
- While Shruti took care of the packing and sourcing, I held the responsibility of Marketing.
- We started taking orders through Facebook, and gradually expanded our online presence to Instagram.
- People from across India can now place orders of “Ammi Ji’s” products on Amazon, Flipkart and on their own website too.
- Today Shruti employs 10 people to take care of different aspects of her business.
- Her product portfolio has expanded to include pickle’s, Marmalade and chutneys. Ammi ji herself oversees the quality and ensures that all ingredients used and the taste is authentic.
- Shruti’s success is an inspiration to all women across the nation, and her and Ammi Ji’s journey has been published in various business magazines

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What kind of people are considered successful in the society?

Those who have made a lot of money and have made some property are considered successful. Those who have settled their children well are considered successful.

2. What does it take to become successful?

It takes strong will power and hard work to become successful.

3. What are the reasons for failure?

Failure can just happen. Sometimes the timing may not be right. Sometimes, the person may not have put up his best.

4. Do you think a university degree would guarantee one’s success in career?

No, definitely not. Just a university degree cannot guarantee success. The person may not get a satisfying job. The person may not be able to get along with colleagues. So, it is clear that only a degree is not enough to get success in career.

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38. Describe a person you wanted to be similar to when you were growing up

- Who is this person?
 - Where and under what circumstances did you meet him/her?
 - What were the physical attributes - eg. height / hair / eye colour / scent?
 - What quality about him / her inspired you?
 - How was the attitude of this person towards you and towards others
-
- I have wanted to be similar to many people when I was growing up.
 - Here, I would like to talk about my aunt, Jyoti, whom I really wanted to be like.
 - She is my father's cousin and is a doctor.
 - She is in her early forties and is tall and beautiful.
 - She has a wheatish complexion and has short curly black hair.
 - When she smiles, she has a deep dimple on her right cheek, which makes her look very beautiful.
 - I vividly remember, the first time I met her in a family function when I was in 8th.
 - She had come from Canada and seemed to be the hot favourite of all family members.
 - I was impressed by her way of talking.
 - I could see the look of admiration everyone had for her.
 - When my father introduced us, she gave me a warm smile and hugged me tight.
 - I immediately developed a liking for her.
 - The whole day I remained with her like her shadow.
 - I really wanted to be like her.
 - My father invited her to spend a day or two with us at our home.
 - She spent the weekend with us.
 - I can never forget those two days.
 - Now I am planning to go to Canada for my higher education.
 - My favourite aunt is there, so even the thought of being with her makes me happy.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions -- makkar|IELTS

1. What kind of famous people do children like?

Children like famous film personalities, sports personalities, comedians, singers and many more.

2. What good qualities do famous people have?

Famous people have good communication skills. They also have good leadership skills. They are hard working and focussed.

3. Do you think advertisements aimed at children should be endorsed by famous people?

No, I don't think so. Children follow these famous people blindly. If common people they will try to see the message behind the ads.

4. Can you compare the past and the present of children's life?

In the past children were very obedient. They did not question things. Parents and teachers were their only source of knowledge. Today's children are the most well informed than ever in the history of mankind. They have the power of the satellite TV and the Internet. They sometimes know even more than their parents do. They question things. They want to know more and more.

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39. Historical period you want to know more about

- What period do you want to know about
- Why do you want to know about it
- How do you think you can know about it

- History has never been my favourite subject
- But there are some periods of history, which have always fascinated me, and I would like to know more about them
- One such 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, granaries 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 had prolonged droughts and famine because of deforestation.
- Sometimes I dream of going back to the past and uncovering all these hidden mysteries.
- So this is the period of history I would like to know more about.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

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.

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 past.

4. Do you think it is important to know about history? OR What can we learn from history?

Yes, it is very important to know about history. History tells us about our past. It teaches us many things. Everything has its history. We enjoy the freedom we have today only because we knew that once we were slaves. History also teaches us not to repeat the mistakes of the past. We learn about the progress we have made through history.

5. How can people get reliable historical information?

People can get reliable and historical information from books written by eminent historians, from museums, and from art galleries. Nowadays many reliable sites have information about history on the Internet.

6. How do you think famous historical figures can serve as models for young people today?

Famous historical figures can definitely serve as role models for the young people of today. For example, when the young people of my country learn about the sacrifices done by our great martyrs, they are filled with a sense of patriotism, and want to do something for the country

7. Do people in your country like to visit museums?

Yes, people in my country like to visit museums. They learn a lot from them. The modern interactive museums are more interesting for the young people and children. For example, people of my state like to go to Pushpa Gujral Science City museum more than the other museums because they have a lot to do and see over there.

8. Who do you think likes to go to museums more – children or adults?

Both, children and adults like to go to museums, but children enjoy those museums, which are interactive.

9. Do you think museums should be free of cost to enter?

No, I do not think museums should be free of cost. These museums require a lot of maintenance. So a minimum fee should be there. Moreover, people do not value something, which is given to them absolutely free.

10. Do you think local people and tourists should pay the same amount to enter a museum?

Yes, local people and tourists should pay the same amount to enter museum. If tourists were charged more it would be unfair. Some people think that local people are already paying for the upkeep of the museums through taxes, so it would be okay if tourists were charged more. But I feel that tourists are helping in the economy in many other ways, so there is no need to charge them more for museums or other historical sites.

11. How do you think the museums of the future might be different from the museums of today?

What the future holds in store, no one can tell, but as far as I can see, the museums of the future would be more interactive. New things would be added to them from time to time. Activities would be there to entertain the children and others. Audiovisual aids would be used more.

12. How do you think the museums of the future might portray the 21st century?

Museums of the future might portray the 21st Century as an era of rapid progress in the field of technology, transport, education and health.

40. Describe a time when you found something that someone lost

- What did you find
- When did you find
- Where you found it
- How you returned it back to its owner
- How you felt?

- ★ There have not been many times when I found something important that someone lost.
- ★ But, I remember that once I was walking from the bus stop to my home, that I saw a small string like thing popping out of a heap of dust
- ★ It was golden in colour, and out of curiosity I pulled it up.
- ★ I was surprised to see that it was the string of a small pouch.
- ★ It must have fallen off and got buried in the dust.
- ★ I opened it and there were about Rs500/- in it and an EasyDay membership card.
- ★ There was no other thing in it.
- ★ There is an EasyDay store in Phagwara, and I thought that I would go there the next day and try to know the owner.
- ★ I told my mother about the pouch, and she was happy that I had thought of trying to know the owner.
- ★ The next day, I went to the Easy Day store and showed them the card.
- ★ They told me that the card belonged to Harpreet Kaur and gave me her number.
- ★ I called her and told her about the pouch.
- ★ She told me that she had lost it only a day before and had searched for it everywhere she thought it could be.
- ★ She told me that it had Rs. 500/-
- ★ She told me to leave the pouch at the store and that she would pick it up from there later.
- ★ She asked my name and address.
- ★ Two days later, someone knocked at our door in the afternoon.
- ★ My mother and I had just taken lunch, and were sitting in the lobby.
- ★ We opened the door and saw a good looking lady standing there.
- ★ She said that she was Harpreet and that she had come to thank me.
- ★ She said that although the amount was not much, she appreciated my effort of going out of the way to return it.
- ★ She had brought a Cadbury's Chocolate for me as a token of thanks.
- ★ Believe me it was the sweetest chocolate I had ever eaten.
- ★ We asked her to have tea with us, and now she is a good friend of my mother and they both are in touch through Whatsapp.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What are the things that people always lose?

People lose all sorts of things. They lose money, credit cards, cell phones, their certificates, luggage and many more things

2. Why some people are able to find things easily?

Some people can find things easily because they try to figure out where they might have lost them and then try and look for them. Some people have anti-theft tracking devices fitted in their bags, which help them track those things. Apple iphones have the feature - Find my iphone, which can tell where the phone is.

3. Should parents teach children on what to do when they find lost things?

Yes, parents should teach children to return the thing they found. They should teach their children the ways to track the owner. If the thing is very important such as someone's certificates, then they can be reported in the police station.

4. Why are historical items important for a country?

They are important because they tell about the past. Archaeologists can get valuable information about the life of people from those things.

5. Should we preserve the item there itself?

Yes, we should ideally, but if that place has no infrastructure to preserve that thing, then it is better to shift it to some good museum.

6. Why do people vandalise historical things?

People do so because they don't realise the importance of those things.

7. Why do some people like to collect things?

Some do so because they have a sense of pride in their collection. They have emotional attachment with those things. Others do so because they know that one day those things may be worth a fortune. Philately and Numismatics are hobbies that can be very rewarding monetarily.

8. Do people like to collect things for maintaining memories?

It depends on the type of things. I like collecting photographs, birthday cards and hand written letters, but not clothes and shoes. Cards are reminders of beautiful wishes,

but clothes and shoes unnecessarily occupy space. So whenever I buy new clothes and shoes, I give away some to the needy.

9. What do you like to collect?

I like to collect photographs, cards and handwritten letters. My grandfather had written a few letters to me, which I re-read once in a while. His is no more now, and so I remember him through those letters.

10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of keeping collections?

Advantages are that these collections become mirrors of the past, but disadvantages are that they occupy space and sometimes just gather dust as we hardly ever need those things.

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41. Describe your idea of a perfect home or dream house

- Where this place would be
- What it would look like
- When you would like to live there
- Explain why it is ideal to you

Note: This question could be asked in present tense as well

Describe an ideal house

- Where this place is
- What it is like
- When you want to live there
- Explain why it is ideal to you?

Sample answer (For those who live in villages)

- 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.
- My dream home would be 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.
- 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)

- 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.
- My dream house would be 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.
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Part 3 Follow Up Questions -- makkar|IELTS

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.

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.

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?

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.

42. Things you usually do well (or do regularly) for your job or study

- i. What are the things
- ii. Where you do it
- iii. When you do it

Or Describe something you do to help you study or work

- What it is
- How you learnt it
- When you do it
- How you feel about this method?

- We all make efforts to work or study well.
- I am a student and I also do certain things so that I can study well.
- One such thing is that I always study on my study table and chair and never on my bed.
- I have seen that when I study on my bed, I fall asleep very soon and all my plans of studying till late night go unfulfilled.
- I can also concentrate better when I study on my study table.
- Secondly, I make it a point to switch off my cell phone when I have to study.
- Cell phone is very distracting and if open Whatsapp, then I start chatting with friends and waste precious time
- Another thing I do is that I shut the door of my room so that my siblings don't disturb me.
- Sometimes I play some music while studying.
- This kills the background noise
- I also make it a point that my bed is not cluttered and when I hit the bed, I can sleep soundly.
- I usually study at home, so I take all these steps at home.
- I study mostly in the evening for 3-4 hours every day.
- When I have to study seriously, such as near my exams, I take all these steps.
- By taking all these steps I can study better and also sleep better.

Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. What kinds of jobs need patience?

All jobs need patience. Without patience, things can go wrong and then even more patience is needed, as more time is wasted. So, one can do things better by doing things with patience, and it also saves time.

2. Do you think people need to be patient in their free time?

Yes, of course. The age old adage - Haste makes Waste - has a great meaning even today.

Time is the most precious commodity. So, even free time should be managed well and with patience.

3. Do you think Indian parents should allow their children to do whatever they want to do in free time?

Parents should plan the free time of their children to some extent, especially when children are very small. Even after that parents should keep a watchful eye on them, even if they loosen the reins.

4. What is the routine of people in your country?

It is very difficult to generalise. India is a vast and diverse country. Routine depends on age group, gender and occupation. Mostly people go for work in the morning. They watch TV and spend time with friends and family in the evenings.

5. What are the routine activities that old people and young people in your country do?

Old people go to parks and religious places. Young people go to gyms and hang out with friends.

6. What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to do so many things in my free time. Sometimes I listen music, sometimes I watch TV and sometimes I play with my pet dog, Nora.

43. Describe a good law in your country

- What is the law
- How you came to know about this law
- Whom does it affect
- Why is it good (makkariELTS)

- Laws are made by the government for the smooth running of the society .
- Without these laws we would be living in utter chaos and anarchy.
- There are many laws worth mentioning, such as - ban on smoking in public places, wearing helmet while riding a two wheeler, law against female foeticide and against cutting trees

- But here I am going to talk about a law on banning the use of plastic carry bags
- I came to know about this law from TV news.
- This law affects each and every person on Earth.
- In 2016, India banned the use of carry bags below 50 microns thickness, but it was could not enforced well, because of lack of alternatives.
- However, in June 2018, on World Environment Day, the theme was “Beat Plastic Pollution”, and so the government has planned to be strict in the implementation of this law.
- Actually, this year, India was the global host of the World Environment Day.
- So, our PM Mr Narendra Modi asked every state and Union Territory to launch a massive campaign against the use of plastics.
- Plastic in all forms, such as carry bags, drinking straws and plastic bottles have been banned and strict fines are imposed on the violators of this law.
- Plastic is non-biodegradable and fills up our landfill sites.
- If burnt, it emits harmful fumes in the air.
- So, I think this is a good law and we all need to cooperate with the government by abiding by this law.
- We should make it a habit to carry our tote bags with us when we go shopping and refuse to accept plastic bags.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. Do you think this law is acceptable to the people?

Yes, I think this law has been accepted well by the people of India. There is growing awareness about the environmental issues and Indians too are making their efforts to save and preserve the environment.

2. Is there any situation wherein people may disobey the law?

Yes, there are situations when people disobey the/this law. The main reasons for such laws not being followed by the people are personal profits/benefits and the convenience that they may have to give up.

3. Do people like being a police officer in your country?

Yes, many people in my country like being a police officer. Every year there are several people who take the tests to become a police officer. The competition that exists for such exams is a clear indicator that many people strive to become police officers and serve their country.

4. What qualities should a police officer possess?

A police officer should possess many qualities. He/she should be physically fit and active and should have a passion to serve the people and the Nation. Some other qualities are honesty, eagerness to search for the truth and bring justice to people, some skills like martial arts or other such combat skills to fight the criminals, courage, fearlessness, determination, and many more such qualities.

5. Why some people prefer to be a lawyer?

Some people prefer to be a lawyer because they want to ensure that everyone receives justice and is treated fairly by the law. They may have a desire to fight for others' rights and ensure that everyone gets a fair chance to justify their actions. Some people choose this profession because of the prospects of earning money and fame.

6. Should people be penalised when they use mobile phones while driving?

These days vehicles are well equipped with a system wherein you can connect via bluetooth to your mobile and you can be handsfree and still use your mobile. but if a driver is talking or texting on the phone while driving he should be heavily penalised.

7. Is kindness the most important quality of a police officer?

No, kindness is certainly not the best quality of a Police Officer. A Police officer has to be honest, straightforward and very curious while performing his duty.. Unfortunately we cannot afford to be very kind as the criminals may take advantage of the situation

8. Do you think both men and women can be police officers?

These days we are living in an egalitarian society so gender bias doesn't hold ground in any profession. Every man and every woman is worthy of any profession .So both and men and women are equally capable of serving in the police department

9. Do you think the police officers are paid too much?

I think in the Western world police officers are paid well in accordance to their duties but in the developing countries their salaries do not match the work they do, they deserve better salaries. But I do not agree that they are paid too much because they face too many dangers of life and limb while performing their services.

10. Do all Indian people obey the law?

Human psychology is the same everywhere in the world when the citizens know that they are going to be caught, penalized ,put behind the bars ,they will obey the law.A law well implemented is well obeyed. I think Indian people know they can find loopholes to save themselves they do not obey the law .I have come across very honest Indians and very dishonest people from other nations so system that has to get strict .

44. An important decision you made with help of someone

- What was the decision
- Who helped you
- How he helped you

- I think that decision making is an integral part of our life and we are constantly making decisions, either big or small.
- If we do not make decisions then life will become boring and we will not be able to move forward in life.
- Today, I would like to talk about an important decision which I made with the help of my sister.
- I have recently completed my schooling/graduation and it was time for me to decide what I wanted to do in my life.
- I was confused about what course should I opt for my further studies as I did not want to opt for traditional courses like engineering or medicine.
- I wanted an option which would provide me a bright future and at the same time should be interesting as well.
- I searched a lot on the internet about alternative courses and colleges but as there was too much information, i got more confused.
- So, I decided to consult my elder sister who is living in Canada.
- She is working in the Media and entertainment industry.
- When I asked her for advice, she suggested me to pursue a course in Animation as she knew about my interests in this field.
- She also suggested me some good colleges in Canada for this course and she explained me about the job opportunities that I will get after completing this course.
- Animation is quite popular these days and in future there will be a huge demand for people who are certified in this field.
- My family also liked the idea when I told them that I have finally decided to pursue a course in Animation.
- So, this was one of the most crucial decisions of my life, which I made with my sister's help.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. Do you always ask for help when making decisions

Yes, I mostly seek my parents' or siblings' advice when making decisions. I feel that they understand me and are able to give me the best guidance and suggestions.

2. Do you think teenagers are able to take decisions on their own

Today, the teenagers are very well-informed and have a great exposure because of the access to technology. So, most of the teenagers are able to take good decisions when it comes to small, everyday decisions. However, for the bigger decisions like choosing a career path, they still need the experience and the guidance of their elders.

3. Why some can make quick decisions and some cannot?

Some people who can make quick decisions are very clear about what they want and do not waste any time making decisions. They have a clear, straightforward approach to things. However, there are some people who are not very quick at making decisions, as they may be confused and have a lot of external factors which affect their decision making skills. It could be because of a lot of and varied advice from family, friends, and relatives. Some people may feel pressured due to personal circumstances and other societal constraints. So they take a lot of time to decide on what to do or choose.

4. What should national leaders consider when they make decisions?

National leaders consider the public interests when they make decisions. They also consider the future of the nation when making certain decisions.

45. Talk about a thing you complained about something (but finally got a good result)

- What did you complain about
 - Who you complained to
 - When it happened
 - What was the result and why you were satisfied with the result?
-
- Well, I am a kind of person who usually does not like to complain a lot.
 - But when something is not done in the right way, I feel it's my duty to get it corrected, because complaining about it will make sure that it does not happen again.
 - Today, I would like to talk about a situation when I complained about a service and eventually got it corrected
 - It happened during last month when I had to get my account statement from the bank, which I needed for applying my visa
 - When I reached the bank in the morning, the officer told me that the bank's printer was broken.
 - He asked me to come back again the next day.
 - When I went to the bank the next day he again told me the same reason.
 - I requested them to get it fixed as it was an urgent requirement for me, but the bank officials did not seem to bother much about it.

- So I decided to file a complaint with the higher authorities.
- I came back home, opened the bank's website and sent an email to the bank management at their headquarters
- I immediately got a call back from them and they said they will take strict action against this complaint.
- I thanked them and went again to the bank.
- To my surprise, as soon as I entered the bank, the manager came to me with my account statement.
- They had got the printer fixed immediately after my complaint.
- I came to know that a lot of other people were also suffering because of this issue.
- The manager asked me to take my complaint back as senior management issued a notice to him for not listening to the customers, but I refused to do the same.
- I told him it is his responsibility to look after the customers and listen to their problems.
- He then apologised for it and promised me that in future he will take great care about it.
- So this was a time when I complained about something and got a good result.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. When do people usually complain?

People usually complain when they have been inconvenienced or face a discomfort. The other main reason for people complaining is when they have been duped or cheated by someone. There are also many people who may complain without any valid reason, as they may have a complaining attitude.

2. Can complaining help solve problems?

Yes, there are many scenarios when complaining helps solve problems. For instance, when a product/appliance/gadget stops working or malfunctions, complaining to the customer support or service helps solve the problem. There are many situations when people get duped or cheated and if they complain to the authorities, they are very likely to get justice.

3. What other measures you should take to solve problems rather than complain

Sometimes complaining is not the best solution to problems that we face. For instance, the traffic problems in many cities are due to people themselves not following the traffic rules. However, complaining about it doesn't solve it, taking steps and initiatives at the individual level can help resolve such issues.

4. What kind of people complain

People who are aware of their rights and entitlements complain when they do not receive what they deserve or have been promised. However, there maybe some people who complain without any

valid/solid reason. Such people are usually unaware and do not want to take responsibility for their actions.

5. Do you usually get angry?

No, I do not usually get angry. However, there are situations which make me angry, like when I see someone doing or saying something wrong and inappropriate. Sometimes reading or watching the news about crimes, corruption, and terrorist attacks and innocent people losing their lives makes me angry.

6. Do you think customers' complaints will improve product or services?

Yes, definitely. Every company knows that the customer is the king nowadays. If they get a complaint, they listen to it and try to improve. If they improve only then they retain their customers.

7. Is it necessary for companies to set up customer service?

Yes, it is necessary for companies to set up customer service. They have to listen to their customers. Positive feedbacks, as well as negative feedbacks are important for every company.

8. Are there any disadvantages to set up customer service?

Yes, sometimes some rival company may misuse and put up negative things just to spoil the name of the company.

9. Would you buy things in the shops in which you have made complaints before?

If my complaint has been listened to satisfactorily then I would go there again. This means they care for their customers.

10. What product or services do people in your country like to complain about?

People complain about everything that doesn't live up to their expectations. Supposing, someone has paid a heavy amount for some product or service and they don't get back what they expected, they complain.

46. Describe an outdoor sport that you haven't done yet and would like to do in the future. Please say

1. What activity is it?
 2. When and where would you like to do it?
 3. What special skills or equipment would you need?
- There are many outdoor activities which I haven't done yet 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.
 - I came to know about it through an ad on TV of this company called Jumping heights.
 - I am really fascinated by this activity.
 - 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.
 - All other equipment is provided by them.
 - My cousin has tried this activity once
 - 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.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. Why do old people like to watch sports on TV?

I think people of all age groups except the children like to watch sports on TV.

Watching sports is an individual liking or choice. It does not necessarily depend on the age group.

2. Are there many sports programs on TV?

Yes nowadays there are actually TV Channels which are dedicated to sports and they telecast sports events from all over the world. If you switch to any of these channels you can see the live or recorded coverage of lots of different sports

3. How often do you play sports?

Well I am a cricket fan and I love to play cricket whenever I get free time, which is normally over the weekends.

4. Should children spend more time playing sports?

Children should maintain a healthy balance between sports and academic life.

They should devote equal time to both as all round development is more important than focusing on just one skill

5. Do you think that group sports are more useful than individual sports?

I think both types of sports have individual importance, like group sports teach us about teamwork and coordination, individual sports help in improving our decision making skills.

47. Describe a time when you had to change your plan / you changed your mind

- When was it
- What was the plan
- Why you had to change it
- How you felt

- Normally, I plan my activities very meticulously.
- But, sometimes things do not go as planned and one has to change one's plans.
- Here I am going to talk about a time when the weather forced me and my friends to change our plan
- I vividly remember a time when my friends and I had planned to go to a museum, Pushpa Gujral Science City, near my hometown, where we could not go because of heavy rainfall.
- Last year, in our summer vacation, we planned to visit this museum.
- This museum is at a distance of one hour from my hometown.
- As I live near the bus stand, my friends had to assemble at my house and then we had to go to the bus stand and catch a bus for the museum.
- It was cloudy, and we could anticipate that it would rain, but we never thought it could be that bad.
- Just as we were about to leave it started raining heavily.
- We thought we would wait for sometime for the rain to slow down and then we would go
- But it started raining cats and dogs, and the rain went on for five hours at a stretch.
- We could not go anywhere
- My friends were also stuck at my house
- But we made it a day to remember
- My mother made a nice lunch and many snacks for us and we played carrom board
- Although we could not go to the museum, we had a fun time together
- Even after the rain stopped, there was a lot of water logging on the roads and my friends could not go home till late evening.
- So that was a day when the weather changed our plans.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. Do old people often change plans?

I think by the time one becomes old, he/she has learnt the importance of planning and doing things on time. So they like to go as per the plan because deviations from plans often create problems which old people do not like

2. Do young people like to change plans?

Young people nowadays are working on multiple things, they like to do multitasking, in order to achieve this, they make frequent changes in their plans. But at the same time young people

like to be in control of things they do and if it is often interrupted by changes then they won't like them.

3. What are the common reasons when people need to change plans?

The reasons for changing plans are mostly circumstantial. Changes are hardly planned. If something or other comes up then people have to change their plans.

4. How would you tell your friends when you must change your plan?

If I make any changes in my plan then I will immediately inform it to my friends or anyone else who is involved in the plan. I will explain to them the reasons behind the change. Informing immediately is necessary because then other people can understand and plan their time accordingly.

5. What kinds of plans are practical?

I think simple plans which involve less people are always practical like planning for a trip or outing etc. But plans which involve a lot of people and are hard to achieve tend to be less practical as they need a lot of time to execute and there is dependency on too many people.

48. Describe a party / describe a party you attended or joined

- When was it
 - Who joined you? M A K K @ R i E I T S
 - What happened in the party
-
- I have celebrated many parties in my life.
 - But here I would like to talk about a birthday party, which I enjoyed a lot
 - It was the birthday of my younger brother.
 - It was his eighteenth birthday
 - I threw a surprise party for him.
 - My parents were also with me in this plan.
 - We invited a few of his close friends and some relatives.
 - After my brother left for college that morning, I decorated our home with buntings and balloons.
 - My mother baked and iced the cake.
 - Actually she has a gifted hand at cooking and baking.
 - I ordered some fritters, spring rolls, sandwiches and pastries for the guests.
 - I even organised some games such as musical chairs, treasure hunt and passing the parcel.
 - When my brother came home that day, we all were waiting for him.
 - We welcomed him by playing the birthday tune.
 - Everyone clapped and wished him happy birthday. M A K K @ R i E I T S
 - He was really surprised and very happy. I could tell it from his face.
 - The he cut the cake and we all enjoyed the cake and snacks
 - Then we played the games.
 - Everyone enjoyed a lot.
 - I gifted a cell phone to my brother.
 - He always wanted it but my parents wouldn't let him buy one.
 - I always felt his desperation for the phone, so I had planned to gift him one on his birthday.
 - He received many other gifts also but my gift was the most special for him.
 - We all danced a lot that day.
 - I felt great happiness that day.
 - I realised that true happiness lies in giving happiness to others.
 - My brother is very dear to me
 - May God give him a long and happy life!

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. Do children like to party?

Yes, they do. Party means fun and enjoyment to them. It means new clothes, lots to eat and a chance to dance and make merry.

2. Do adults like to party?

Yes, adults like to party. To adults, it means a time to get together with friends and family. It means having a break from the monotonous routine life. It is a time to recharge one's batteries.

3. Do you like loud music in party?

No, personally I don't. It gives me a headache. But most of my friends do. They think that any party is incomplete without loud music.

49. Describe a healthy lifestyle you now. You should say:

- What it is?
 - How you know it?
 - What one would do living in this lifestyle
 - Explain why it is healthy
-
- Health is one of the most important things in our life today, so it is very important to live a healthy lifestyle.
 - In order to stay healthy people do a lot of things.
 - Some people join a gym, play a sport or even consult a dietician.
 - Today, I would like to talk about a lifestyle which is a mix of the above as it involves regular exercise and good eating habits.
 - I have also implemented it in my routine.
 - I have joined a gymnasium near my home.
 - I go there everyday in the mornings at 6 and exercise for approximately 1 hour.
 - At first, I do stretching exercises in order to warm up my body.
 - Then I do running on the treadmill for 10 mins.
 - After that I do weight training according to my weekly schedule.
 - People who go to gym mostly work on muscle training thus making them more healthy and stronger.
 - I work on one muscle everyday like biceps, chest etc.
 - I also take protein shakes after returning from the gym and keep a check on what I eat.
 - I try to measure my calorie intake and do not eat items that contain too much fat or carbs.
 - I also eat lot of fruits, green vegetables and eggs.
 - This lifestyle is healthy because exercising regularly makes you a stronger person., both physically and mentally.
 - I have reduced a lot of weight after joining the gym and now my body is in good shape.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. How should schools teach students to live healthy?

Schools can do a lot of things to teach children about living healthy. They can introduce health as a subject in student's curriculum. Schools can also provide sports facilities to the students which will motivate the students to make exercise a part of their everyday life

2. What can doctors do to help people solve health related problems?

In our country doctors are considered next to God, so people always take their advice seriously. Since prevention is better than cure, I feel doctors should suggest preventive measures like exercise so that the dependency on medicines can be reduced

3. What kind of lifestyles are unhealthy?

Lifestyle that involve eating junk food and no exercise is very unhealthy. Secondly, taking work or any other stress is also leading to a unhealthy lifestyle. People should avoid such lifestyles because as they say, "Health is Wealth".

4. What do people in your country do to maintain health?

In my country, people do various things to maintain health. Some people like to do Yoga, some like running, some prefer to go to the gym and some prefer playing a sport. People are also consulting dieticians nowadays in order to reduce weight.

50. Describe a time you received horrible (bad) service. You should say:

- When it happened
- Where did it happen
- Who you were with
- What happened
- Why the service was horrible

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- There are many occasions when I have received extremely good service at places like hotels, restaurants, government offices etc
- But sometimes things went wrong and the experience was not good.

- Today I would like to talk about one such incident when I received horrible service at a restaurant
- It happened during the last summer.
- I had just finished my college and all my friends decided to go for a party.
- One of my cousins from Canada, who is also my best friend was also visiting us during that time.
- So we decided to go to a newly opened restaurant in our city.
- We had heard a lot of good reviews about this restaurant from everyone.
- It was a Chinese restaurant located in the centre of our town.
- When we reached the restaurant we were told to wait for 1 hour as the restaurant was completely full and there was a waiting period to get inside.
- So we had to stand in a queue for more than 1 hour to gain entry inside the restaurant.
- The moment we entered the restaurant we noticed the tables were dirty, so we asked the waiter to clean them.
- It took them 15 minutes to do the cleaning and then ask us for ordering.
- We ordered quickly as we were very hungry.
- But despite our repeated requests to hurry up, they took 1 hour to prepare our food.
- We also complained to the manager but his response was also not good.
- He said we will have to wait as there is huge rush.
- Finally, our food came and it did not taste good as it was not cooked properly.
- We again complained to the manager but he was not ready to listen to us.
- So we paid the bill and left to eat at another restaurant.
- This was the bad service that we received at a restaurant and we will not recommend this restaurant to anyone.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. What kind of services are bad services?

I think not all services are bad services, only when a particular service fails to fulfill its offering than we can call it a bad service. For example if a restaurant does not serve good quality food or delays the service, it can be called as a bad service.

2. Why do some people choose to remain silent when they receive bad services?

Some people choose to remain silent because they think it is a waste of time to complaint against bad service. They think it might lead to unnecessary argument which they want to avoid.

3. Who should be responsible for bad services?

I think it depends on the situation but mostly the person who is providing the service should be held responsible because it is their duty to make sure that customers are not disappointed.

4. As a boss, what would you do to prevent bad services?

As a boss, I would make sure that everything is well organised and the staff is trained well to handle all the requests. Also I will train them to be polite with the customers.

51. Describe a time when you enjoyed free time. You should say:

- When it was
- Where you were
- What you did
- How you felt about it?

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- There have been many situations in my life when I have got a chance to enjoy free time.
- Today I would like to talk about the time when I had just completed my secondary education and I was free for couple of months.
- It was during the spring of 2016 and my exams had just got over.
- I had four months with me before I started college.
- Since I was waiting for my results so I had nothing else to do.
- Also I worked really hard for my examinations, so I wanted to take a break.
- For the first month, I did nothing at all.
- I just sat at home all day long and watched my favorite shows on TV.
- After that it started to feel boring so I decided to visit my cousins in the village.
- There I did a lot of fun.
- I used to go to the fields with my uncle everyday and played a lot of games with my cousins at home.
- I really cherish those days as I had a very good time with my relatives.
- I came back home in the month of June and it was very hot during this time of the year.

- My results had also come and I passed with great marks and was looking forward to join college.
- I still had two months before my college started so I decided to join some activity.
- I signed up for guitar classes in the evening and joined a gym nearby my home.
- During the daytime I went to a NGO near my home where I taught maths to children of 5th Standard.
- I believe all these activities brought a positive outlook in my personality and I felt really good at that time.
- I became more healthy and mentally strong.
- I also learnt the importance of the time and I think one should utilise the free time in a constructive manner instead of sitting idle.

Part 3 - Follow Up Questions

1. What do people in your country like to do when they are free?

People do a lot of things during their free time, most of the people like to gossip with each other or get in touch with friends and mobile. Nowadays, most of the people use the mobile phones to listen music or watch videos whenever they are free.

2. Do you think parents should make plans for their children?

Yes parents should definitely make plans for their children because if they are kept free then they will get bored and might create trouble for others. Also the children can learn a lot of things if their parents plan their time

3. Do you think most people are able to manage their free time?

I think most people get very little free time these days so they do not think about managing it. Everyone is very busy these days and people hardly get time to relax so whenever they get free they like to do nothing

4. What is the difference between the things people did in their free time in the past and the things they do nowadays?

In the past there was hardly any technology so people mostly did gossip during their free time whereas nowadays people have access to lot of gadgets which keep them busy when they are free.

SPEAKING PART 1

INTRO QUESTIONS

Important for May-Aug 2019

1. Work or studies
2. Festivals
3. Running
4. Perfume
5. Sky
6. Crowded Place
7. Sharing
8. Patience
9. Being Bored
10. Cities
11. Color
12. Cooking
13. Drink Water
14. Foreign Food
15. Gift
16. Holiday
17. Home
18. Hometown
19. Letters
20. Map
21. Morning Routine
22. Movies
23. Music
24. Paintings
25. Park or Garden
26. Photos
27. Plants
28. Rainy Days
29. Save Money
30. Shoes
31. Sports
32. Sunglasses
33. Teachers
34. Transportation
35. Watch
36. Weather
37. Space Travel

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. Work or Studies

(General Training students are likely to be asked questions related to their job experience which could be personal)

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. Festival

- a. What is your favorite festival?
My favorite festival is Diwali. It is also known as the festival of lights and is celebrated during winters.
- b. How do you celebrate this festival?
I do a lot of things on Diwali. I buy new clothes, clean my house and decorate it with colorful festive lights. I also distribute sweets with my friends and exchange gifts. In the evening, I light the candles at the temple and burst firecrackers.
- c. What is the most popular Indian festival?
Diwali is the most popular festival in our country as people from all walks of life celebrate it with great enthusiasm.
- d. Do you like Western festivals?
Yes, I like to celebrate Christmas. It is a beautiful festival. I like to wear red clothes on Christmas day. I also go to the Church and enjoy Christmas cake with my friends.

4. Sky

- a. Do you like to see the sky?
Yes I love to see clear blue sky and appreciate the nature. Looking at the sky reminds me that there are no limits and boundaries in life and we can achieve anything we want.
- b. How about stars?
Yes I also like to see the stars sometimes. I read about constellations during my childhood and I like to find them in the sky. My favourite constellation is Orion.

- c. Which is a good place to see the stars?
I think mountains are the best place to see the stars. There is less pollution in the mountains so the stars are clearly visible and they also appear more closer.
- d. Do you know something about stars?
There are millions of stars in our galaxy and our nearest star is sun. It provides us the energy that makes life possible on our planet.
- e. How often do you look at the sky?
I do not often look at the sky during the daytime when it is sunny, but yes I love to see the sky during the night when there are lot of stars in the sky.
- f. Do you prefer the sky in the morning or the sky at night?
As I mentioned earlier, I prefer watching the sky during the night because it is more comfortable.
- g. Can you see the moon and stars at night where you live?
Yes I can see the moon and stars as I live on the top floor of my house and I have a beautiful view of the sky from the rooftop.
- h. Is there a good place to look at the sky where you live?
In our city, the best place to look at the sky is at the lake. There one can also see the reflection of stars and moon in the lake and it's a beautiful view.

5. Crowded place

- a. What places do you think are often crowded?
There are lot of public places which are mostly crowded like shopping malls, sports stadiums etcetera.
- b. When was the last time you were in a crowded place?
Last time I went to a crowded place was a concert that I attended on New Years Eve. A famous singer had come to perform at a resort and thousands of people had come to attend the event.
- c. How do you feel when you are in a crowded place?
It depends on the place and the occasion. If I am at a shopping mall or a public place like airport then I tend to be very careful about my belongings. If I am at an event, I try to enjoy it as much as I can.

6. Sharing

- a. Did you share anything with others recently?
Yes I shared my bike with a friend. My friend's bike had gone for repair and he was finding it difficult to commute to college so I lent him my bike for few days.
- b. Did your parents teach you to share when you were a child?

Yes my parents taught me that sharing is caring. They always told me to share my toys with my friends.

- c. What kind of things do you like to share with others?
I share a lot of things with my friends like food, my bike etc. When we are playing cricket I take along my cricket kit which everyone shares.
- d. What kind of things are not suitable for sharing?
Things that are personal like clothes are not suitable for sharing. The reason is that it is not hygienic to share such items.

7. Tea and Coffee

- a. Do Indian people like to drink tea or coffee?
Yes Indian people love to drink tea a lot. We drink tea almost 3-4 times in a day. Those who live in the city prefer coffee nowadays as compared to tea.
- b. Do you prepare tea or coffee for guests at home?
Yes I have prepared tea many times for the guests. I have a special recipe for making tea and all our guests always appreciate my tea.
- c. When was the last time you drank tea or coffee?
Last time I drank tea was yesterday evening with my friends. We went to an outlet called Chaayos and had Ginger tea and some sandwiches.

8. Patience

- a. Were you patient when you were young?
Well I do not remember exactly but I guess I was patient. My parents never told me that
- b. How do you feel when other people are not patient?
It feel bad when other people are not patient because if we do something in hurry then there are chances that things can go bad.
- c. Are you less or more patient when you are angry?
I normally do not get angry, but whenever I do its momentary. I also go silent when I am angry and try to reason logically with people. So I am more patient when I am angry.

9. Sunglasses

- a. Do you have a pair of sunglasses
Yes, I have Rayban aviator sunglasses. I bought them from Sector 17 in Chandigarh. They look really nice on me.
- b. How often you wear them?
I wear them whenever I go out in the sun, sunglasses help in protecting your eyes from the harmful UV rays of the sun
- c. Have you ever lost sunglasses?
Yes, unfortunately, I have lost my sunglasses couple of times. It feels very bad when you lose an valuable item but now I try to be careful and always remember where I have kept them

- d. Do people in your country wear sunglasses?

Yes people in my country do wear sunglasses. Some people wear expensive sunglasses whereas some buy the lesser expensive one's as a style accessory

10. Drinking water

- a. Do you think we should drink a lot of water?

Yes we should definitely drink a lot of water as it is good for our health. Drinking water has lot of health benefits, it keeps our skin and body hydrated. If we do not drink enough water, our body will suffer from dehydration.

- b. How often you drink water?

I try to drink at least 3-4 litres of water everyday, so I normally have water after every 2-3 hours during the day.

- c. Do you drink bottled water or water from machines?

I like to drink water from machines like water purifier because I believe water in machines is more pure and safe as compared to water that is packed in plastic bottles

- d. What kind of water do you like to drink

Well, I like to drink water at room temperature because when I drink cold water I get a sore throat

11. Maps

1. Do you often use maps?

Yes, I use maps for navigation. Nowadays I use maps application on my mobile for directions while traveling. The app also tells me about the traffic and the time it would take to reach the destination.

2. Who taught you how to use a map?

We learn to use maps in our school but nowadays mobile apps like google maps have made learning maps easier.

3. Do you prefer electronic map or paper maps?

I prefer electronic maps on my mobile as it is more interactive and it tells me the directions, traffic information and time to reach my destination.

12. Being Bored

- a. What do you do when you feel bored

When I feel bored, I call my friends and talk to them in order to pass time or I see updates on social media. Sometimes I watch videos on youtube when I feel bored.

- b. What kind of things are boring to you ?

Well, there are lot of activities that I find boring like Reading a novel. I find it very boring to wait for someone.

- c. Do you think young people are more likely to get bored?

Yes younger generation gets bored easily when they have nothing to do, the primary reason behind this is that the younger generation is very impatient and wants immediate results without working hard.

13. Foreign Food

a. Have you ever tried foreign food?

Yes, I have a tried a lot of different cuisines like Italian, Mexican, Japanese Chines, etc.

b. Do you like to try new food?

Yes, I call myself a foodie, I absolutely love to try new food, especially the local food of any new place that I visit.

c. What kind of new food you have tried recently?

Recently, I went on a holiday to Thailand and I tried the street food over there. I dont remember the name of the dish, but it had noodles, prawn and vegetables.

d. What kind of foreign foods are popular in your country

In my country most popular cuisines are Italian and Chinese. Most of the people like to eat Pizzas and Noodles when they eat outside

14. Saving Money

a. Did you save money when you were young

Yes, when i was young I saved some funds from my pocket money and I later used them for buying books.

b. Have you ever given money to other children

No, I have never given money to other children. I believe only parents should give money to their children and they should teach them to use it wisely

c. Do you think parents should teach children to save money.

Yes, as I already mentioned parents should teach children about money management as it is an important skill in life

d. Do parents give pocket money to children in your country

Yes, parents in my country do give pocket money to their children.

15. Physical Exercise

1. What kind of exercises you do?

I like to do all kinds of exercise like weight training at the gym, running for cardio exercise and yoga for stretching and meditation.

2. Do you think children should play sports regularly?

Yes children should regularly play sports as it helps them in staying active and healthy. It is also a good break from their monotonous study routine.

3. What was the favourite sport when you were young?

My favourite sport was cricket when I was young, it is also my favourite sport now. I remember I used to play cricket continuously for 5 to 6 hours during my holidays. Batting was my favorite part in cricket.

4. Do you like extreme sports?

Yes I like extreme and adventure sports such as Formula 1 racing, sky diving and deep sea diving. It is thrilling to watch these sports on television. I would also like to try these sports one day

5. What kind of exercises are popular in your country?

In my country yoga is the most popular exercise as it has originated from here. People nowadays also like to join gymnasiums for weight training.

16. Travel (Space Travel)

1. Do you want to travel in outer space?

Yes, I would love to travel to moon or any other planet like Mars. I want to see how our planet, earth, looks from Space

2. What would you do if you had the opportunity?

First of all, I will be really excited and inform all my friends and family. I will do a lot of planning for this trip so that I cherish it for lifetime.

3. Do you think it's necessary to see other planets?

Yes we can gain a lot of information from other planets. Some of this information might be helpful in solving existing challenges on earth or discovering how life started.

4. When was the last time you went traveling?

Personal answer

5. Do you like to travel by air?

Yes I would like to travel by air, but unfortunately I have not got the opportunity to travel by air yet.

17. Plants

1. Do you keep plants at home?

Yes there are lots of plants at my home. I keep them in the mud pots. They look very beautiful and are soothing to the eyes.

2. What plant did you grow when you were young?

When I was young I grew a plant known as money plant. I grew it in a glass bottle. Since it is called as money plant I believed that if this plant grows, I will also become rich.

3. Do you know anything about growing a plant?

Well I am not an expert but I know we have to regularly feed water and manure to the plant and we should keep it in sunlight for it to grow. Sometimes we also have to use insecticides to prevent it from insects.

4. Do Indian people give plants as gifts?

Yes nowadays Indian people are gifting plants to each other and I believe it is a really good gift. People often gift a small variety of bamboo which can be kept inside homes and offices.

18. Dream job

1. What was the dream job for you when you were young?

When I was young I wanted to become a pilot

2. Have you changed your mind on your dream job?

Yes I have changed my mind as it is very expensive to become a pilot and it involves lot of studies. But I still plan to take flying lessons.

3. What do you plan to do in the future?

Personal Answer

4. What kinds of jobs are popular in your country?

In my country computer or IT related jobs are more popular these days because these are well paid jobs.

5. Have you had full-time or part-time job before?

Personal Answer

19. 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 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.

Farm Animals

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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

14. 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.

15. What's your favourite wild animal (from your country)?

The Bengal Tiger is my favourite wild animal.

20. 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.

21. 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.

22. Sleep

1. How many hours you sleep everyday

I sleep around 7-8 hours everyday. I think it is necessary to sleep for atleast 6 hours everyday.

2. Is it necessary to take a nap everyday

Yes it is very important to take a nap everyday because it gives a much needed break to our body and we feel refreshed after sleep.

3. Do old people sleep a lot? Why

Yes old people tend to sleep a lot because due to old age they get tired easily and they need more rest as compared to young people.

4. What time you usually go to the bed?

I normally go to the bed around 11 PM but if I have important work or have to prepare for exams I sleep early so that I can study or work by getting up early in the morning.

5. Do you always have a good sleep?

I am a happy person so I normally have a good sleep, but if I am disturbed about something or my health is not good I find it difficult to sleep.

23. Handwriting

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.

2. Do you think computers might one day replace handwriting?

Even though technology has reduced the need of writing skills, still, I feel that it is very important in today's world and will remain in future as well.

3. Do you usually write by hand or write using a computer?

Well it depends on the situation, if I am sending an email to my friends or texting them then it is usually by computer or mobile phone. When I am studying and making notes then I usually write by hand.

4. When do children begin to write in your country?

Nowadays the children have started writing a lot earlier. They normally join the schools at the age of 4 and they begin to write at the age of five

5. 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.

6. Do you write letters?

Yes, I do. I write e-mails to my friends and relatives.

7. 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.

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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

24. Fruit

1. What is your favourite fruit?

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

2. 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.

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.
9. How did you come here(get here) today?
I came here/got here by bus/car/bike today.
10. 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)
11. 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.
12. 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

28. 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 GurdasMaan'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.

29. 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.

30. 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 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.

31. 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.

32. Visitors

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.

33. 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.

34. 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?

This is the first version of the May-Aug 2019 Speaking Topics, for updates refer to instructions on Page 2

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 off 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 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 you bright colors I feel energetic, but light shades make me feel calm.

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

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

6. Does color matter when you buy things?

Yes, definitely. Colour 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 you don't like to have in your home?

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

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 on 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.

35. Family

1. How often do you meet with your family?

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

1. 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.

1. 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.

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

Yes, we are a very close-knit family.

1. 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.

36. 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

37. 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.

38. 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.

39. 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 kkar 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)?

1. (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.

5. 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.

6. 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

40. 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.

1. 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 kkar 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.

41. 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. Makkar 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.

42. 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.

43. 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.

44. 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.

45. 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.

46. 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.

47. 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 attract 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.

48. 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 den

49. 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

50. 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 receive

51. 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.

52. 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.

53. 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.

54. City Life

1. 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)

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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

5. Do you often eat out (go to restaurants)?

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

6. 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.

55. 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 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 county/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.

56. 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.

1. 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.

1. 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.

5. 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.

6. Have you ever raised (kept) a pet bird? No, I have never raised a pet bird. There is a lot of work involved.

57. 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.

1. 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.

58. 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.

59. 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.

60. 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.

61. 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 as 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 as 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.

62. 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 it's 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.

63. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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

64. 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.

65. 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.

66. 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.

67. 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.

68. 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.

69. Dance

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Do you like dancing?

Yes, I love dancing. I dance on all family functions like marriage parties and birthday parties.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Do you see dance on TV?

Yes, I see a lot of dance reality shows like Dance India Dance, NachhBaliye and Dancing Superstars.

70. Hats

1. 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.

2. What kinds of hats do you have?

I have a baseball cap, woolen caps for winters, a beret and some fashion hats.

3. 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.

4. 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.

71. 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.

72. 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".

73. 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.

74. 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.

75. 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.

76. 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.

77. 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.

78. Neighbor –

1. Do you know your neighbors?

Yes, I know my neighbors well. I meet them daily and we are like a family.

1. Do you like your neighbors?

Yes, I like my neighbors. They are very friendly and helpful. In fact, we are like a family.

1. 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.

1. 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.

1. How often do you meet your neighbors?

I meet my neighbors very often, in fact almost daily.

79. Pop star

1. 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.

2. Do you want to be a pop star?

No, I don't have the qualities or talent to be a pop star.

3. 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.

4. 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

80. 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.

81. 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.

82. 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).

83. 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.

84. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

85. 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.

86. 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.

87. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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

88. 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.

89. 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.