Kiran Makkar
English for Exams

# Kiran Makkar's Speaking Guesswork

## SEP- DEC 2025

## FIRST VERSION

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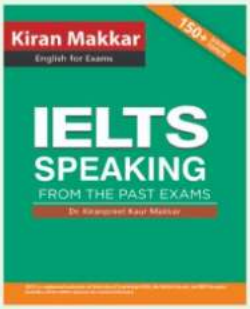


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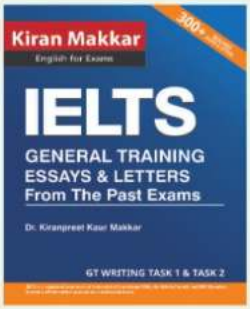


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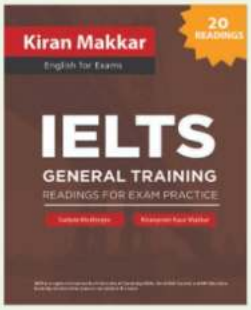


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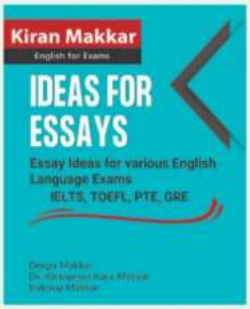


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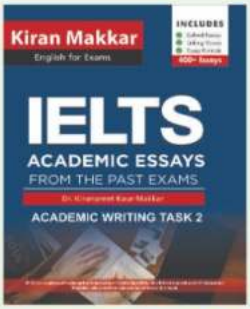


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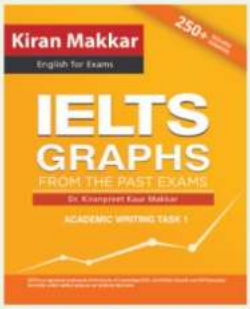


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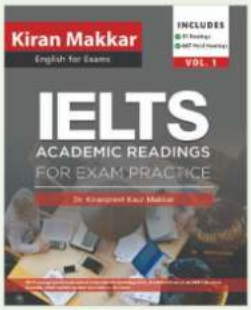


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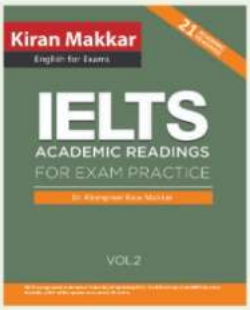


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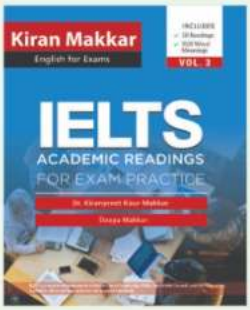


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# 1. Describe an interesting traditional story

You should say:

- What the story is about
- When/how you knew it
- Who told you the story
- And explain how you felt when you first heard it

- Well, I've come across many traditional Indian stories, like the Mahabharata, Panchatantra and Jataka tales.
- But, one story that has always fascinated me the most is the Ramayana.
- The Ramayana is one of the greatest Indian epics, and it tells the story of Lord Rama.
- He is sent into exile for fourteen years, and during this time his wife Sita is kidnapped by the demon king Ravana.
- With the help of his brother Lakshmana and Lord Hanuman, Rama eventually fights a great battle, defeats Ravana, and brings Sita back.
- I first heard this story from my grandmother when I was a child.
- She used to narrate it to me at bedtime.
- She was such a wonderful storyteller.
- She would use gestures and facial expressions that made the story come alive.
- I remember begging her to continue reading, but she usually allowed only one chapter per night.
- On holidays, though, I sometimes convinced her to tell me a little more.
- What impressed me the most was the character of Hanuman.
- I was amazed by his superhuman strength and courage—he could fly over oceans and even carry mountains on his shoulders.
- But as I grew older, I also realized that the story was more than just about heroes and villains. It taught me values like truth, honesty, and determination.
- And interestingly, it also showed that even Ravana, who was the antagonist, had some admirable qualities.
- So, for me, the Ramayana is not just an epic but also a source of inspiration.
- It makes me proud of India's cultural heritage, and I feel that it carries lessons that are relevant even today.

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Follow ups

What kind of stories do children like?
I think children mostly like imaginative and adventurous stories. They especially like stories with superheroes, talking animals or magical lands like Harry Potter and fairytales. Moreover, I think they like stories with moral lessons, because they can easily connect with them.

What are the benefits of listening to stories before bed?
I think there are many benefits. Firstly, it builds the bond between children and parents. Secondly, it calms the children and lets them sleep peacefully, forgetting their worries and finally, it is a good way to teach moral values and lessons to children.

Why do most children like listening to stories before bedtime?
I think it is because they feel they very calm during bedtime. They are free of worries. Moreover, I think it lights up their imagination and they even dream about the characters and places in their sleep.

What can children learn from stories?
Children can learn many useful values from stories like honesty, discipline, determination from stories. Moreover, they also learn new words, grammar and even communication skills to a certain extent.

Do all stories for children have happy endings?
Most do have a happy ending, but some stories also have a sad ending. I remember reading a story when I was young ' The Little Match Girl'. The main character freezes to death in the story because she is afraid of getting scolded by her father. It made me really sad then.

Is a good storyline important for a movie?
Yes, a good storyline is extremely important. I think the audience only connects with a movie and becomes emotionally invested in the characters if the movie has an engaging storyline. Most classic movies today are remembered for storyline rather than their technical aspects.

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## ✈ Visitor Visa (All Countries)

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## 2. Describe a successful sportsperson you admire

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- What you know about him/her
- What he/she is like in real life
- What achievement he/she has made
- And explain why you admire him/her

- I admire many sportspersons like Virat Kohli, Neeraj Chopra but the sportsperson that I admire the most is Mary Kom.
- She is a legendary Indian boxer who is often called Magnificent Mary.
- She has made India proud many times with her accolades and achievements in boxing.
- I first came to know about her through the Bollywood movie Mary Kom.
- It was released in 2014 with Priyanka Chopra playing her role.
- The film showed her struggles, the lack of facilities she faced in her village in Manipur, and how she balanced her career with her family life.
- After watching the movie, I became curious and read more about her real journey, and I was truly inspired.
- She is a six-time world champion and also an Olympic bronze medallist.
- She has won almost every major title in boxing and has received many prestigious awards like Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and Padma Vibhushan.
- From her interviews, I came to know that despite all her success, she is still very humble and grounded.
- She is a mother of three children and still managed to continue her boxing career at the highest level.
- The reason I admire her is not only because of her medals but also because of her determination and perseverance.
- She came from a very small village, with limited resources, but never gave up on her dreams.
- For me, Mary Kom is not just a successful athlete but also a role model who shows that with dedication and courage, nothing is impossible.

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Follow ups

Should students have physical education and do sports at school?
Yes, I think it is important for many reasons. To begin with, it creates an interest in students to pursue sports a career. In schools, they get the right guidance and coaching, which they might not get at home. Secondly, there is lack of physical activity in after school hours nowadays because of mobile phones and video games, which makes it important that students do some physical activities at school.

What qualities should an athlete have?
There are many qualities required in an athlete, but I think the most important are discipline, mental strength and determination. Discipline makes sure that athletes train consistently and have self-control on their diet. Mental strength is required to deal with pressure and failures, which are a crucial part of any sport and finally determination, so that they never give up even during tough times. Finally, I think every athlete should have sportsmanship. They should respect their opponents, follow rules and stay humble even when they win.

Is talent important in sports?
Of course, talent is important, but I think hard work is much more crucial than talent. Even the most talented people fail, when they don't put in the hard yards. So many child prodigies disappear into oblivion just because they take their talent for granted and don't work hard.

Is it easy to identify children's talents?
I don't think it is always easy. In some cases, children showcase their talent for example in singing, dancing or drawing from very early on, whereas in others children's talents remain hidden till they get the right exposure and encouragement.

What is the most popular sport in your country?
Many sports are popular in India like hockey, football, badminton, kabaddi but nothing comes even close to cricket. Cricket is like a religion in India, and many people play it even in adulthood.

Why are there so few top athletes?
I think the right combination of talent and hard work is very difficult to achieve. There are very few people who are talented but also work hard and polish their skills. Moreover, to become a top athlete, one needs to have great mental fortitude and ability to lead to disciplined life. Also, there are many who do not get the right exposure at a young age.

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## 3. Describe a talk you gave to a group of people

You should say:

- Who you gave the talk to
- What the talk was about
- Why you gave the talk
- And explain how you felt about the talk

- One talk I remember giving was in my school.
- I had just won first prize in an inter-school science quiz, and my teacher asked me to share my experience with the whole class.
- I mainly talked about how I prepared for the quiz, what study material I used, and the small problems I faced during practice.
- My teacher wanted me to explain it so that other students could also get inspired and also follow the same steps.
- Initially, I felt quite nervous because I was not used to speaking in front of so many people. However, once I started talking, I became more confident, especially when I saw my friends listening carefully.
- After I finished my talk, a lot of my classmates came up to me and told me that they learnt a lot of me.
- So, eventually I felt really proud of myself.
- Overall, it was a great experience.
- It gave me more confidence in public speaking and also showed me that even a small talk can motivate others.

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Follow ups

What benefits does the internet bring to communication?
Internet brings a lot of benefits to communication. Firstly, we can communicate instantly with each other from any corner of the world and at our own convenience. Secondly, through internet, we cannot only talk but also share photographs, videos with each other.

Which one is better, being a communicator or a listener?
Both listener and communicator have their own benefits. Being a listener helps you to understand other's perspectives and show others that you respect their opinions, while being a communicator helps you to convey your ideas and give feedback on other people's ideas. I think it really depends upon the situation.

What qualities does a person need to have to be a good communicator?
Good communicators should possess a lot of qualities. They should have clarity in what they are saying. They should have a good body language and maintain making eye contact. They should use gestures and intonation to emphasize on the critical parts.

What qualities do people need to speak in public?
The first quality that people should have to speak in public is confidence. They should also be prepared about the topic they are going to speak on. Another quality they should have is to engage audience by making eye contact and by presenting ideas in organized way. I think being witty is also crucial, as people need to hold other's people's attention and it is impossible without use of humour.

How important is it to be a good listener when communicating?
Being a good listener is very important when communicating because it shows that you respect other's opinions and thoughts. It also helps in reducing misunderstandings and resolve conflicts by understanding other people's opinions. Moreover, we can only provide feedback if we listen to other people properly.

What kinds of people often give speeches?
There are different people who give speech often which include professionals like, politicians, business leaders, motivational speakers and so on. Apart from this, students also deliver speeches regarding their academics or to express their thoughts on various topics.

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## 4. Describe a good habit your friend has, and you want to develop

You should say:

- Who your friend is
- What habit he/she has
- When you noticed this habit
- And explain why you want to develop this habit

- I want to talk about my friend Ravi.
- He has this really good habit of waking up early every single day.
- I first noticed it when we were preparing for exams.
- While I used to stay up late at night, he went to go to bed early and then wake up around five in the morning.
- He told me that he feels fresh and studies better at that time.
- Because of this habit, he always has more time in the day.
- He manages to exercise, finish his homework, and still has free time left.
- I, on the other hand, often wake up late and feel like half my day is already gone.
- I really want to develop this habit because I think it will make me more productive and organised.
- Initially, it will probably be difficult for me, but if I manage to do it, I am sure I'll feel more energetic and make better use of my day.
- So, even though it's a small change, I think it can make a really big difference in my life.

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Follow ups

What habits should children have?
Children should exhibit many habits. They should eat properly, maintain personal hygiene, sleep on time and get up on time, be punctual, listen to parents and teachers and follow instructions carefully. They should also finish their homework on time and not procrastinate.

What should parents do to teach their children good habits?
As parents, it is very important to set ground rules for children by making time routines that allocate fixed hours of leisure activities and doing homework. They can also reward their children for good behaviour and habits like getting up on time and sleeping on time and similarly punish them when they do something bad repeatedly.

What influences do children with bad habits have on other children?
The problem today is that most of the bad habits are considered cool. So other children just copy them to appear cool. Sometimes, children also lose their good habits when they see that the other children are not punished for their bad habits.

Why do some habits change when people get older?
I think it's mainly because people become mature and their circumstances change. For example, in childhood or teenage people often sleep late but as they grow older, they automatically become more disciplined as they need to go to work in the morning. Similarly, many people quit junk food as their metabolism slows and their body can't handle as much unhealthy diet as earlier.

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## 5. Describe a time you saw something interesting on social media

You should say:
- When it was
- Where you saw it
- What you saw
- And explain why you think it was interesting

- I remember one video I saw on Instagram some months ago.
- It was about solar panels being installed on top of canals in India.
- I thought it was very interesting because it helps in many ways.
- First, it makes clean energy from the sun.
- Second, it stops too much water from evaporating, since the panels give shade to the canal.
- And also, it saves land because usually solar farms take up a lot of space, but here they are just using the canal area.
- But there is also one problem.
- Metal near water can rust more quickly.
- So they have to use stronger materials, and that makes the project more costly.
- Still, I feel the idea is very creative and useful, especially in a country like India where both land and water are important.
- At first, I was just casually watching, but later I realised how smart this idea is.
- It left a good impression on me, and I felt happy to see that people are working on such solutions in my country.

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Follow ups

Why do people like to use social media?
People like using social media primarily to remain in contact with their family and friends. Also, this helps them to get information about different news and happenings all around the world. Apart from this, social media is a good medium to spend leisure time.

What kind of things are popular on social media?
Several things are popular on social media. The most prominent one is, uploading and sharing photographs and videos. Furthermore, individuals update the current news and happenings that they find worthwhile to share. Moreover, numerous companies get the help of the social media to advertise and build product awareness.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of using social media?
The plus points of utilizing the social media are getting the details and information with much more convenience. Moreover, it helps to widen the friends circle and remain in touch with the near and dear ones. On the other hand, the main pitfall is getting fake information and having privacy at risk.

What do you think of making friends on social media?
Making friends online is not a worthwhile thing because most of the times our privacy is invaded, and it is extremely easy for someone to create a fake ID and catfish people. However, I use social media to maintain the friendships.

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# 6. Describe a time when you told your friend an important truth

You should say:

- Who your friend is
- What the truth was
- What was your friend's reaction
- And explain why you think it was important to tell your friend the truth

- I have often thought about whether honesty is always the best policy among friends.
- Some truths are just very uncomfortable to say, and sharing them might also spoil or ruin friendships.
- But at the same time, I believe that the more uncomfortable a truth is, the more important it is to say it.
- I'd like to talk about a time when I told my friend Yatin something that was difficult to bring up.
- Yatin is one of my closest friends, and I really enjoy spending time with him.
- We often hang out together – sometimes at each other's houses, sometimes outdoors.
- Over time, I noticed that he had a habit of talking quite rudely to his parents, especially his mother.
- At first, I didn't say anything because I thought it was not my place to comment on how he behaved at home.
- But as I saw it happening regularly, I started to feel that, as his close friend, I had a responsibility to be honest with him.
- So, one day I told him directly that he should speak more respectfully to his parents.
- At first, he got very defensive and argued that they also spoke harshly to him.
- He also started listing my shortcomings like how I'm not very good at sports.
- In short, he didn't take it well, and after that day, he avoided me for about a week.
- But then, a week later, he came to me and thanked me.
- He said he had thought about what I told him, and he realized I was right.
- He even apologized for getting defensive and for ignoring me.
- From then on, I noticed him making an effort to be kinder to his parents.
- This experience taught me that real friendship is not just about having fun together, but also about helping each other grow.
- Sometimes that means having the courage to say something difficult or tell an uncomfortable truth.
- And in the end, I think our friendship is stronger because of that conversation.
- He trusts me to guide him honestly, and I know he values my opinion.

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Do you think we should tell the truth at all times?
I don't think telling the truth at all times is always wise. I think if the truth has no positive impact and only ends up hurting someone unnecessarily, then it may be better to remain silent.

How do you know when others are telling lies?
Sometimes it's possible to sense when people are lying through their behavior, facial expressions, or body language like avoiding eye contact or appearing nervous. However, these signs are not always reliable, because someone could be uncomfortable or anxious for reasons unrelated to lying.

Sometimes people should tell lies. Do you agree?
Yes, I believe that if the truth serves no purpose and only hurts someone's feelings, then a small lie or withholding the truth may be better. For example, telling a person just before a party that their outfit doesn't look good would just make them uncomfortable and lower their confidence.

Do you think it's more important to win a game or follow the rules in sports?
I think the victory would feel hollow if people do not follow the rules. It would not feel that the victory was deserved. So, although the outcome is important, fair play and respecting the rules are even more important.

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# 7. Describe the time when you first talked in a foreign language

You should say:

- Where you were
- Who you were with
- What you talked about
- And explain how you felt about it

- I'd like to talk about the first time I spoke in Spanish
- This happened when I went on a family holiday with my parents to Mexico a few years ago.
- We were staying in a small apartment in a town near the beach.
- We are vegetarians, and we wanted to spend more time sightseeing instead of wasting time finding vegetarian options.
- So, we used to cook all the meals in our apartment and take them with us.
- But one day we decided to eat out, and so we went to a local restaurant.
- We were at a very small restaurant, and most of the staff there spoke only Spanish.
- My parents encouraged me to try ordering the food in Spanish since I had started learning basic Spanish in high school.
- I was with my family, and I remember being both excited and nervous.
- I had only learned simple phrases, and I wasn't confident about my pronunciation.
- When the waiter came to the table, I said "Hola, quiero una pizza de queso, por favor".
- It means "Hello, I would like a cheese pizza, please".
- The waiter smiled, repeated my order back in Spanish, and asked me a short question about the size of the pizza.
- I didn't fully understand, but I guessed he meant small or large, so I just said "grande" which means large.
- Everyone laughed kindly, and I felt relieved that he understood me and brought me exactly what I ordered
- The conversation was very short and probably lasted less than two minutes, but it gave me a lot of confidence.
- I realized that even with just a few words, I could communicate with people in another country
- That moment made me feel very proud and very motivated to keep learning Spanish
- It was the first time I had used Spanish in a real-life situation.
- Overall, it was a small but very meaningful experience, because it showed me that speaking a foreign language doesn't have to be perfect, and what matters is trying, and usually people appreciate the effort.

At what age should children start learning a foreign language?
I think children should start as early as possible, maybe in primary school. Young children can pick up new sounds and words more easily. They are not afraid to make mistakes, and starting early gives them more time to practice and become fluent as they grow older.

Which skill is more important, speaking or writing?
Speaking is more important because it is used in daily communication like greeting people, asking for directions, buying food etc. Writing is useful for academic and professional purposes, but many situations can be handled through speaking alone.

Does a person still need to learn other languages if he or she is good at English?
Yes, I believe it is still useful to learn other languages even if someone is fluent in English. English is widely spoken, but knowing other languages helps people understand and connect with different cultures. It can even be useful at work or during travel.

Do you think minority languages will disappear?
Unfortunately, I think some minority languages may disappear in the future because younger generations prefer global languages like English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, etc. However, they can be preserved if governments and communities try and support them.

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# 8. Describe a book you read that you found useful

You should say:

- What it is
- When you read it
- Why do you think it is useful
- And explain how you felt about it

- I haven't read many books apart from my textbooks, but one book that left a deep impression on me is 'The Wings of Fire' by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
- I read it a few months ago after my friend loaned it to me.
- My friend got this book as a prize when she participated in a declamation contest
- This book is an autobiography of Dr. Kalam, who later became the President of India
- It was co-authored by Mr. Arun Tiwari and first published in 1999.
- It became very popular after Dr. Kalam was sworn in as the President on 25th July 2002.
- I found this book very useful because it highlights how a boy born into a very poor family in Rameshwaram, in southern India, went on to become a renowned scientist and an influential figure in Indian politics.
- His journey shows the value of hard work, determination, and continuous learning.
- He was called the "Missile Man of India" due to his contribution to space research.
- This book goes beyond his scientific achievements and provides a glimpse into his philosophy of life.
- It includes many stories and experiences from his childhood, school, and college years.
- The success of Dr. Kalam depended on the fact that he was very willing to learn throughout his life and had an insatiable quest for knowledge.
- This book also stresses the importance of giving credit to mentors and never forgetting the support of people who helped you along the way.
- His life is a true example of how an ordinary person can overcome challenges and reach extraordinary heights with persistence.
- I have learnt so much from this book, and it has encouraged me to work harder towards my own goals.
- It gives me the belief that if I stay consistent and keep learning, I can also achieve something meaningful in life.
- I would like to read this book again, because it is a very motivating book.

What are the types of books that young people like to read?
Young people usually like storybooks and novels, especially crime and detective stories, which are exciting and keep the reader guessing. Apart from that, young people also like fantasy series, comics, graphic novels, etc.

What's the difference between the reading habits of old people and young people?
Older people often prefer newspapers, history books, or biographies, while young people like fast-paced stories and fiction. Younger people are also reading more eBooks, whereas older people prefer reading paper books.

What's the difference between paper books and e-books?
Paper books give a physical feeling, and many people like the smell and touch of real pages. On the other hand, E-books are cheaper, portable, and you can download hundreds of them on one device.

Some people say that it is easier for children who start reading from a young age to succeed. Do you agree?
Yes, children who start reading early usually develop better language skills, imagination, and concentration. Reading makes them more knowledgeable, which helps them perform well in school and later in life.

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# 9. Describe a time when someone apologized to you

You should say:

- When it was
- Who this person is
- Why he or she apologized to you
- And how you felt about it

- I will talk about a time when my younger brother apologized to me.
- This happened at our home a few months ago.
- I was using the family computer at home to work on an important school assignment.
- I had spent several hours collecting information and writing, and I saved everything on the desktop so that I could finish it later.
- While I was taking a break, my brother started playing some online games on the computer.
- He was clicking around quickly and accidentally deleted the file where my homework was saved.
- When I came back home and saw that the file had disappeared, I got really upset because I thought all my work was gone.
- After a few minutes, my brother noticed how worried I was.
- He came to my room sometime later, looking very guilty and nervous.
- He admitted that he had deleted the file by mistake, and it had happened because he was so excited while playing the game.
- He apologized to me and promised to be very careful in the future.
- He was genuinely concerned and offered to help me in any way he could.
- He suggested a few ways that we could try to recover it, and he asked if I had a backup by chance.
- I remembered that I did have a backup copy saved online, so I could retrieve it
- I was very angry at first, but after hearing his apology, I felt much calmer, and I was a little touched.
- I felt proud of him because he was honest and brave enough to admit his mistake instead of hiding it.
- In the end, I forgave him, and we laughed about the whole incident.
- This experience taught me that everyone makes mistakes, but a sincere apology can make things better and strengthen relationships.

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On what occasion do people usually apologize to others?
People apologize to others when they do something wrong knowingly or unknowingly, and when they realize their mistake. They also say sorry when they want to clear any misunderstanding with their friends or family members.

Do people in your country like to say "sorry"?
Yes, most people in my country say sorry for their mistakes but it depends on the situation and relationship. In formal settings like an office, school, people say sorry directly. With family members and close friends, people may not say the exact words, but instead show it through actions like doing something nice or helping out.

Do you think people should apologize for anything wrong they do?
I think people should apologize for anything wrong they do. Even if the mistake is small, saying sorry shows respect and responsibility. It can prevent misunderstandings and can even make relationships stronger.

Why do some people refuse to say "sorry" to others?
I think some people refuse to say sorry because of their huge ego and pride. They feel that acknowledging their mistake makes them weak. Some people might think that the issue is too small to say sorry for.

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# 10. Describe an occasion when you lost your way

You should say:

- Where you were
- What happened
- How you felt
- And explain how you found your way

- I am very good with directions and I don't normally lose my way.
- However, I have lost my way sometimes when I visit a new place.
- Recently, my friend got engaged and I went to their house to congratulate them.
- They moved to the suburbs recently as my friend's father retired.
- I had never been to their new house before.
- But I thought I will just feed their new house address in the navigation app and just follow it.
- That's the first mistake I made.
- I had used the app quite a few times and I had rarely faced an issue.
- However, it was a newly built suburb and the app hadn't been updated.
- The app took me on deserted mud road.
- I had a feeling that I might be going in the wrong direction but I blindly trusted the app.
- That was my second mistake.
- I kept on going on that road and eventually reached a dead end.
- Even at that time, I wasn't worried because I thought I would just call my friend and he would guide me.
- I shouldn't be too far from his house.
- However, when I checked there was no mobile phone connectivity on that road.
- I couldn't even call anyone.
- I decided to backtrack till I got connectivity but I think I took a wrong turn somewhere and I got even more lost.
- That's when I felt afraid for the first time.
- It was also turning dark.
- Finally, I saw a small roadside tea shop.
- I asked the shop owner if they knew the address.
- He didn't know the address but he knew my friend's father.
- He took me to their address and that's how I finally got out of this predicament.
- I still use the navigation maps these days but I am not overly reliant on them like before.

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Part 3 Follow Up Questions

1. How do people feel when they get lost?
I think nowadays people don't feel that stressed when they lose their way. Because they have mobile phones and navigation apps like google maps and apple maps to help them. Moreover, they can also call someone.

2. Are some people better at orienting themselves?
Yes definitely, some people are just good with directions. I think they are able to draw a mental map or 3 D images in their heads and just follow it without any difficulty.

3. Are young people more reliant on their phones than older people to find their way?
Yes, I think we are more dependent upon their phones. For example, some of my friends can't read paper maps. But I think we can be good at it if needed to, its just that technology has made the requirement of reading maps redundant.

4. Are young people gradually losing their ability to orient themselves?
I wouldn't say that. Orienting ourselves is an innate ability, we all have that. It might be getting rusty because we don't need to use it that much because of navigation apps but that doesn't mean we have lost the ability to do so.

5. With mobile phones and these electronic products with navigation, is it difficult for people to get lost?
There is no doubt that its hard to get lost because of maps, but people still do get lost. In fact, sometimes the apps are wrong and I get lost because they tell the wrong direction. In someways, our over dependence and trust on these apps is making it more likely for us to lose our way.

6. What kind of problems do old people have when they get lost?
I think old people are not so comfortable with technology and so they might not be able to use the latest navigation maps that well. In India though, it is not a big problem because most people are very helpful and guide others with direction when asked for help.

7. Some people like to walk around without navigation, is there any problem?
No, I don't think it is a big problem, but it may waste our time. We may also enter areas which are not safe, but for a large part I don't think its a problem.

8. How can people find their way when they are lost?
They can halt and ask someone, or they can take the help of GPS (Global positioning system). Such apps are there in all the mobile phones and even installed in cars. They can also call someone and ask the way.

9. Do you think it is important to do some preparation before you travel to new places?
Yes, it is definitely important. Without prior preparation, the whole vacation may turn out to be a fiasco. If one has booked hotels in advance, it can save time as well as money. By knowing about the weather of the place one can pack clothes accordingly.

10. Do you think it is important to be able to read a map?

Yes, I think so. In places where there is no internet connectivity, the GPS will not work. Sometimes the battery of the phone may run out. Knowing how to read a map can prove to be an asset in such circumstances.

11. Is a paper map still necessary?

Yes, definitely. A paper map can show much more details than a digital map can. Secondly, there are places in remote areas where GPS doesn't work.

13. Why do some people get lost more easily than others?

Some people are poor with directions, and so can get lost more easily.

14. How do people react when they get lost?

The reaction of people cannot be generalised. Some keep their cool and think of a way to get out of the scenario. Others may panic. Some may even start crying.

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# 11. Describe a time when you saw something in the sky (e.g. flying kites, birds, sunset, etc.)

You should say:

- What you saw
- Where/when you saw it/them
- How long you saw it/them
- And explain how you felt about the experience

- After my school exams last summer, I was getting bored sitting at home.
- One evening, my close friends Rohit and Aman called me and asked if I wanted to go on a short trip.
- I was excited but also nervous, because it was my first time travelling without family.
- My parents agreed, and we quickly booked a three-night trip to Manali.
- We travelled overnight by bus, and the journey itself was fun because we played music and shared snacks.
- As the bus moved higher into the mountains, the air became cooler and the sky looked so clear compared to our city.
- We reached late at night, so we just went straight to the hotel.
- But the next morning, when I stepped out of the balcony, I saw the sunrise over the mountains.
- Honestly, it was breathtaking. The sun looked like a ball of fire slowly rising, and the peaks were glowing golden.
- The moon was also faintly visible in the clear blue sky, and some birds were flying in groups.
- This was first time in my life that I was seeing sun and moon together during the day.
- I was really amazed how it could happen.
- We had tea at a small stall near the hotel, and sipping hot tea while watching that view felt heavenly.
- Of course, we clicked a lot of pictures to capture the beauty, though the camera couldn't do full justice.
- Later that day, we went hiking, tried river crossing, and even did paragliding, which was thrilling.
- Every morning and evening of the trip, I watched the sunrise and sunset without fail.
- The silence of the mountains during those golden hours gave me peace I had never felt before.
- I realised how different it is from the noisy and polluted city life.
- By the end of the trip, I felt refreshed, and I promised myself to take more nature trips in the future.
- Truly, that sky in Manali is something I will never forget.

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**1. Would people be willing to get up early to watch and enjoy the sunrise?**
Well, I think some people are willing to wake up early for a sunrise because it feels peaceful and refreshing. For example, when I visited Shimla, I woke up at 5 am to watch the sunrise from the hills and it was worth it. On the other hand, many people, especially youngsters, prefer sleeping late instead of waking up early.

**2. When would people watch the sky?**
Well, I believe people usually watch the sky in the evening when the sun sets or at night when stars are visible. Sometimes even during the day, like when clouds look beautiful before rain. Personally, I like to sit on my terrace at night and just look at the stars.

**3. Do many people pay attention to the shapes of stars?**
To be honest, not many people notice the shapes of stars, because life is busy and they don't spend much time looking up. But some people, especially children or those interested in astronomy, like to recognise shapes such as the Big Dipper or Orion. I remember once in school my teacher showed us star constellations during a night camp.

**4. What do people usually see in the sky in the daytime?**
Well, in the daytime people usually see the sun, clouds, and sometimes airplanes or birds. If the weather is clear, the sky looks bright blue. On hot summer afternoons, the strong sun is the main thing everyone notices.

**5. What are the differences between things people see in the sky in the daytime and at night?**
I think the day sky and night sky are completely different. During the day, the sun, clouds, and birds are visible. But at night, we see the moon, stars, and sometimes satellites. So in simple words, the day sky is bright and active, while the night sky is calm and shining.

**6. Why do some people like to watch stars at night?**
Well, I believe people enjoy watching stars because it feels relaxing and makes them think about the universe. For some, it is romantic or even spiritual. For example, my cousin loves stargazing because it helps him clear his mind after a long day.

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# 12. Describe a place you went to and an outdoor activity you did there

You should say:

- Where it was
- When you went there
- What outdoor activity you did there
- Why you went there and did the activity
- And explain how you felt about it

- During my summer vacations last year, I went to Rishikesh with a group of friends.
- We had planned this trip mainly to try river rafting, which is very popular there.
- We reached in the evening and stayed at a riverside camp surrounded by hills.
- The sound of the river flowing next to our tents was so soothing, it actually helped me sleep peacefully.
- The next morning, we woke up early and got ready for rafting.
- It was a 16 km stretch starting from Shivpuri and ending at Rishikesh.
- The guide first gave us some basic training on how to hold the paddle and follow his instructions.
- We wore life jackets and helmets, which made me feel both safe and nervous.
- As it was my first time, I was really excited but also a little scared.
- Once we started, the rafting was full of fun and adventure, especially when we hit the rapids.
- At some places where the water flow was calm, the guide allowed us to jump into the river.
- Floating on the cold water with just the life jacket keeping me afloat was an unforgettable feeling.
- The scenery around was also beautiful, with green mountains on both sides.
- After almost two hours, we finally reached Rishikesh, completely exhausted but very happy.
- We then had lunch at a nearby restaurant, and the food tasted even better after all the physical activity.
- This whole experience was something very new for me, and I felt proud that I actually did it.
- It also made me realise how important adventure is in life, because it gives you confidence and energy.
- Honestly, river rafting in Rishikesh was one of the best experiences of my life, and I would love to do it again.

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**1. What sports do young people like?**
I think young people usually like fast and energetic sports like football, basketball, or cricket. These games are social and give them a chance to play with friends. For example, in my area most kids gather in the evening to play cricket.

**2. What kind of people do extreme sports?**
Well, I believe people who enjoy challenges and have adventurous personalities go for extreme sports. They are usually not afraid of risks and like to test their limits. For example, my cousin once tried bungee jumping on his trip to Goa.

**3. Why are some people willing to try dangerous extreme sports?**
According to me, people try dangerous sports because they want thrill and excitement. They feel proud after completing something risky. On the other hand, some people avoid it completely because they value safety more than adventure.

**4. Should people take more into account the risks that extreme sports may bring?**
Yes, I think so. Extreme sports can cause serious injuries if precautions are ignored. Wearing proper gear and listening to instructors is very important. Still, some people believe the fun is worth the risk, but I personally feel safety should come first.

**5. Why do people keep inventing new and slightly dangerous sports?**
In my opinion, people invent new sports because they get bored of old ones and want something exciting. Another reason is competition, as people like to show they can try something unique. For example, sports like parkour or snowboarding became popular only in recent years.

**6. What risks are there in extreme sports, and who takes these consequences?**
Well, the main risks are injuries like broken bones or even accidents that can be fatal. The person doing the sport takes most of the consequences, but sometimes their family also suffers if something serious happens. That's why I feel these sports should only be done under expert supervision.

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## 13. Describe someone else's room you enjoy spending time in

You should say:

- When you visited there
- Whose room it is
- What it is like
- What you can do in it
- And explain why you enjoy spending time there

- Usually, I love spending time in my room because I feel the most comfortable there.
- However, if I had to pick a someone else 's room I enjoy spending time in, it would be my friend Tarun's room.
- Tarun is my childhood friend.
- We were considered inseparable in school.
- We used to do everything together.
- Even now, we meet each other at least two or three times in a week.
- I normally visit him during the weekend.
- Both of us have similar interests, so we do a lot of fun things together at his room.
- We watch Hollywood movies together.
- I think I have seen at least 1000 movies with him, if not more.
- We also watch movies at my house.
- However, he has a home theatre in his room and it creates the perfect ambience for movies.
- Moreover, he has a 60 inch TV screen, whereas I only have a 32 inch TV.
- He has a playstation and we both play games on it together.
- He always says it is more fun playing together.
- I think I love spending time at his house because I am very comfortable there.
- His parents know me very well.
- They are friends with my parents too.
- Tarun's mother is a wonderful cook and many times she brings us something delicious to eat.
- Besides that, I am more studious than my friend.
- So, his parents like it when I visit because my friend ends up studying because of me.
- So, it is like a second home for me. I feel very welcome there.

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Do you think old people will be able to keep up with the pace of technology in 50 years?
It might sound absurd but I think technology itself will enable people to keep up with the pace of technology. There will be certain machines and robots in the future, whose main function will be to educate the elderly about the working of technology so that it doesn't get too daunting for them.

Who likes to stay at home more, young people or old people?
I don't think it depends upon age. It depends upon people's spirit. Some people prefer spending time indoors, while others prefer spending time outdoors with the nature. Generally, in youth, people have the energy and passion to travel but lack the money, while they may have the money but not the energy to travel when they get old.

What are the most enjoyable parts of having a meal together with your family?
The most enjoyable parts of having a meal together is sharing the day's happenings with the other family members. We are social animals and we love sharing our joys and sorrows with our loved ones. Unfortunately, in today's busy schedule, meals are the only time, people get to spend with their families.

Why do people often take gifts with them when they visit others' homes?
I think the main reason is to show gratitude for being invited or welcomed in their home. It is a way to thank the host for the preparations they made. Sometimes, it is also a part of culture. Taking gifts is considered a part of good etiquettes.

Do you like to invite your friends to your home?
Yes, definitely. I love inviting friends to my home. However, I am not good at cooking so I normally order from outside. We also do potlucks sometimes, where everyone prepares and brings one dish, so it doesn't burden others.

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# 14. Describe a singer whose music/songs you like

You should say:
- Who he/she is
- What genre his/her music belongs to
- When/where you listen to his/her music/songs
- And explain why you like him/her and his/her music

- I want to talk about Diljit Dosanjh, my favourite singer.
- He is around 40 years old and is considered the most popular Punjabi singer in the world.
- His music mainly belongs to the Punjabi pop, though he also sings romantic numbers.
- He has millions of followers on Instagram, which shows how loved he is globally.
- Recently, he did a Pan-India tour called Illuminate, and I was lucky to attend his Chandigarh concert because my friends surprised me with tickets.
- The atmosphere was surreal — thousands of people singing along, and the energy was unbelievable.
- It was truly one of the best experiences of my life, and I will always remember that night.
- On a daily basis, I listen to his songs during gym workouts, as they keep me energetic.
- Sometimes, I also play his softer tracks while studying, because they help me focus.
- My favourites include “Do You Know” and “Patiala Peg,” but honestly, I enjoy almost all his music.
- What I like the most is his unique voice, which feels both powerful and soothing.
- I also admire his humility; despite being so famous, he comes across as down-to-earth and funny.
- His recent performance at Coachella made Punjabis proud all over the world.
- For me, his music is uplifting and always puts me in a positive mood.
- That’s why Diljit Dosanjh is not just my favourite singer, but also someone I deeply admire.

**1. Can anyone learn how to sing?**
Well, I think anyone can learn the basics of singing with practice and training. Some people are naturally gifted, but even without talent, voice lessons can improve a lot. For example, one of my school friends could not sing well earlier, but after coaching he became much better.

**2. What should the government do to help people with musical talent?**
According to me, the government should provide scholarships, music schools, and platforms for young artists. This way talented people can focus on their art instead of worrying about money. Organising cultural festivals can also give them exposure.

**3. What kind of music do people like at different ages?**
I believe children usually enjoy simple and fun songs, teenagers prefer energetic pop or rap, and older people go for calm or classical music. For example, my grandfather still listens to old Bollywood songs every evening, while my younger cousin only plays hip-hop.

**4. What kind of music is popular in India now and what will be in the future?**
Right now, Bollywood songs and Punjabi music are very popular in India. In the future, I think fusion music, where Indian and Western styles mix, will be more common. Already we see DJs and singers collaborating on such tracks.

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**5. Do Indian parents require their children to learn to play musical instruments?**
In my opinion, not all parents, but many encourage children to learn instruments like harmonium, tabla, or guitar. They believe it builds discipline and creativity. Still, some parents don't push it because they think academics are more important.

**6. Why do some people like to listen to live music while others prefer CDs?**
Some people enjoy live music because the energy of the crowd and the atmosphere makes it special. Others prefer CDs or online music since it is cheaper, easier, and more comfortable at home. Personally, I enjoy both depending on my mood.

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# 15. Describe a piece of technology you own that you feel is difficult to use

You should say:

- When you got it
- What you got it for
- How often you use it
- And explain how you feel about it

- We are surrounded by technology these days.
- Be it mobile phones, washing machines, dishwashers, electric cars, or computers, everything has made life easier.
- But today I would like to talk about a piece of technology that I find difficult to use — my microwave oven.
- Last year, during Diwali, we bought a new microwave for our home.
- It is a Samsung model, black in colour, with a medium capacity.
- The cost was around 15,000 rupees, and it came with about 20 buttons and multiple functions.
- It even has grill and convection oven features.
- On paper it looks simple, but in reality, I find cooking in it quite challenging.
- Honestly, I only use it for heating food.
- Whenever I try to cook something, I get confused about which button to press and what temperature or time to set.
- For example, last month on my mother's birthday, I tried baking a cake by following a YouTube recipe.
- The result was a disaster — the cake did not rise and stayed raw, even though I tried it twice.
- Before that, I had also attempted to make pasta and pizza, but those too were disappointing.
- I really don't understand how other people manage to cook perfectly in a microwave.
- Maybe I am not patient enough, or maybe I just don't get the settings right.
- At this point, I have given up on using it for cooking.
- For me, the microwave is just a tool to reheat food and nothing more.
- Even though it's a modern gadget, I feel a bit frustrated whenever I try to use it beyond the basic heating.
- So, this is one piece of technology I own but still struggle to use properly.

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**1. What technology do people currently use?**
Well, most people nowadays use smartphones, laptops, and smart TVs almost every day. Actually, these gadgets help with work, entertainment, and even online shopping. For example, I use my phone not just for calls but also for classes and paying bills.

**2. Why do big companies introduce new products frequently?**
I believe companies release new products to stay ahead in the competition. To be honest, if they stop upgrading, customers might lose interest and shift to other brands. At the same time, it's also a smart way to increase profit.

**3. Why are people so keen on buying iPhones even though they haven't changed much from one iPhone to the next?**
According to me, people go for iPhones mainly because of the brand image and social status. Even a small upgrade like a better camera or a new design is enough to attract them. On the other hand, some feel it's unnecessary since older models still work perfectly.

**4. Why do technology companies keep upgrading their products?**
Well, one reason is that upgrades fix problems and make devices more user-friendly. Also, competition pushes them to keep adding something new. For instance, most phone brands every year improve the battery or camera just to stay relevant.

**5. What changes has the development of technology brought about in our lives?**
To be honest, technology has changed almost everything, from the way we talk to how we travel. Life has become faster and much more convenient. Like earlier, buying train tickets meant waiting in long lines, but now it's just a matter of a few clicks.

**6. Does the development of technology affect the way we study? How?**
Yes, definitely. These days students can attend online classes, use e-libraries, and practice on apps anytime. Personally, I often prepare for IELTS through YouTube lessons, which was not even possible when my elder cousins were studying.

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# 16. Describe a time when the electricity suddenly went off

You should say:

- When/where it happened
- How long it lasted
- What you did during that time
- And explain how you felt about it

- Sudden power outages are quite common in India, and most people are used to them.
- Because of this, many homes keep inverters or generators as backup.
- These outages usually happen due to storms, heavy rainfall, or high electricity demand in summer.
- Sometimes they are also planned for maintenance.
- But today I want to talk about a time when there was a power cut of more than 24 hours in our area.
- It happened last year during the monsoon season.
- There was heavy rainfall in our city, and suddenly a big tree fell on the power lines near our house.
- As a result, the electricity supply of all the houses in our row was cut off.
- Luckily, nobody was hurt in the incident.
- We immediately informed the electricity department, but they said they could only come after the rain stopped.
- For the first few hours, we managed with our inverter, but later its battery also drained.
- After that, we had no light and no fan, which made things very uncomfortable.
- Since there was nothing to do at home, I went to play football with my neighbourhood friends.
- But when it got dark, we returned home, and the electricity was still not restored.
- The officials said it would only be repaired in the morning.
- That night was really miserable, as it was hot and humid.
- Finally, my family decided to take our mattresses to the rooftop and sleep there.
- It turned out to be my first experience sleeping under the stars, and honestly, it was beautiful.
- We woke up with the sunrise, and soon after, the electricity department came with an excavator to remove the tree.
- By morning, the supply was finally restored, and the whole experience felt unique and memorable.

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**1. Which is better, electric bicycles or ordinary bicycles?**
Well, I think both have their own benefits. Electric bicycles save energy and are good for longer rides, while ordinary ones are healthier because they give more exercise. For example, I prefer a normal cycle when I just want some fitness.

**2. Do you think electric bicycles will replace ordinary bicycles in the future?**
According to me, no, they won't fully replace them. Some people will always prefer simple bicycles because they are cheaper and easier to maintain. At the same time, in big cities, electric ones might become more common for daily travel.

**3. Which is better, electric cars or petrol cars?**
Honestly, electric cars are better for the environment since they don't produce smoke. But petrol cars are still more practical because charging stations are not available everywhere. For long trips, many people still trust petrol cars.

**4. How did people manage to live without electricity in the ancient world?**
I believe they lived a very simple life. People used candles or oil lamps for light and cooked food on firewood. My grandmother sometimes tells me that even in her childhood, they studied under lanterns as there was no electricity, so they were used to it.

**5. Is it difficult for the government to replace all the petrol cars with electric cars?**
Yes, it's very difficult. The main reason is cost, as not everyone can afford an electric car. Also, the government needs to build a huge charging network first, which takes a lot of time and money.

**6. Do people use more electricity now than before?**
Of course, people use much more electricity now. Almost every home has ACs, refrigerators, laptops, and so many gadgets running all the time. Earlier, people managed with fans and radios, but now the demand is much higher.

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# 17. Describe an exciting activity you have tried for the first time

You should say:

- What it is
- When/where you did it
- Why you thought it was exciting
- And explain how you felt about it

- We are always told that trying something new adds excitement to life, and I strongly agree with that.
- Today, I would like to talk about an exciting activity I tried for the very first time, which was river rafting.
- It happened last year during my summer vacations when I went to Rishikesh with a group of close friends.
- The main purpose of our trip was to try rafting, because Rishikesh is famous for it.
- We stayed in a riverside camp surrounded by hills, and the sound of the flowing river near our tents was magical.
- The next morning, we woke up early and got ready for rafting, which was a 16 km stretch starting from Shivpuri.
- Before starting, the instructor gave us a short training session on paddling and safety instructions.
- We wore helmets and life jackets, which made me feel safe, though I was still nervous as it was my first time.
- The moment we entered the river, my excitement grew stronger, especially when we faced big rapids.
- At some calmer points, the guide encouraged us to jump into the river, and floating in the cold water was an amazing feeling.
- I had never experienced anything like that before, and it felt both thrilling and refreshing at the same time.
- The scenery of green mountains on both sides made the adventure even more memorable.
- After nearly two hours of paddling and shouting with joy, we finally reached Rishikesh, completely tired but satisfied.
- I still remember how delicious our lunch tasted afterwards, maybe because we were so hungry.
- This whole experience gave me confidence that I could handle adventurous activities.
- It also taught me that sometimes we need to step out of our comfort zone to truly enjoy life.
- Honestly, river rafting in Rishikesh was one of the most exciting things I have ever done for the first time.
- And if I get another chance, I would love to repeat it.

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**1. Why are some people unwilling to try new things?**
Well, I think many people avoid new things because they feel safe in their routine. Change makes them uncomfortable, and they worry about failure. For example, one of my uncles never tries new food because he feels he might not like the taste.

**2. Do you think fear stops people from trying new things?**
Yes, definitely. Fear of the unknown or making mistakes often holds people back. At the same time, some people push through their fear and end up enjoying the new experience, like my cousin who was scared of swimming but now loves it.

**3. Why are some people keen on doing dangerous activities?**
According to me, they like the thrill and excitement. Activities like skydiving or rafting give them an adrenaline rush that normal life doesn't. On the other hand, some people avoid such things because they don't want to take any risk.

**4. Do you think that children adapt to new things more easily than adults?**
In my opinion, yes, children are quicker to adapt. They are curious, less afraid of failure, and more open to learning. Adults, however, often overthink and hesitate before trying. For instance, kids can learn a new app in minutes, while elders struggle.

**5. What can people learn from doing dangerous activities?**
I believe they learn courage, patience, and problem-solving. Dangerous sports or tasks teach people how to stay calm under pressure. Personally, when I did river rafting for the first time, I learned to trust the process and face my fear of water.

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# 18. Describe an important decision made with the help of other people

You should say:

- What the decision was
- Why you made the decision
- Who helped you make the decision
- And how you felt about it

- An important decision I made with the help of others was joining the school debate club.
- At first, I was not sure if I should join because I get very nervous when I am speaking in front of people
- I thought I would make mistakes and others would laugh at me, so I hesitated.
- My best friend Ruby encouraged me to join the debate team.
- Ruby had known me since childhood, and we had been in the same school since kindergarten.
- Ruby had been part of the debate team for a while and loved it.
- She told me that debate is not just about winning but learning to share your ideas clearly.
- She reminded me that I like discussing topics in class, so debate would actually suit me.
- I also asked my English teacher for advice.
- She explained that debate would improve my public speaking skills and help me in future interviews or presentations.
- After listening to their advice, I finally decided to join the club.
- At the beginning, it was very difficult.
- I felt nervous before every debate competition, and sometimes I forgot my lines.
- But slowly, I started to improve.
- My friends and teachers supported me, and I even managed to speak confidently in one competition.
- I felt very proud of myself for making this decision.
- It was a turning point for me as it made me more confident and helped me face my fear of public speaking.
- I was very thankful to Ruby and my teacher for guiding me.
- If it weren't for them, I would have missed out on a great experience.
- Without their support, I would not have the courage to step out of my comfort zone and make this decision.
- I think sometimes all we need is a little push to discover what we're capable of.

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What kind of decisions do you think are meaningful?
I believe meaningful decisions are those that have a substantial impact on our lives in the long run. For example, choosing a career path, deciding where to settle, or selecting a life partner are all decisions that can shape our future significantly.

What important decisions should be made by teenagers themselves?
I think one of the most important decisions teenagers should make for themselves is their career choice, since it directly influences their future. Apart from that, they should also have the freedom to decide how to spend their leisure time, as it helps them develop independence and a sense of responsibility.

Why are some people unwilling to make quick decisions?
There are two main reasons for this. For some people, it stems from their upbringing. Since their parents made most of their choices during childhood, they struggle to make independent decisions and often end up second-guessing themselves. Secondly, some individuals want to make the best possible choice, so they spend a lot of time weighing options in order to avoid regret later.

Do people like to ask for advice more for their personal life or their work?
I think it depends on the person, but generally, people tend to seek advice more for their personal life, especially about relationships or family matters, because emotions are involved, and it's hard to stay objective.

Why do some people like to ask others for advice?
It's partly because they are not confident in their decision, and they are second guessing themselves. Moreover, some people lack the requisite knowledge or experience to make the decision themselves.

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# 19. Describe a great dinner you and your friends or family members enjoyed

You should say:

- What you had
- Who you had the dinner with
- What you talked about during dinner
- And explain why you enjoyed it

- One great dinner I really enjoyed was during Diwali last year.
- It was at my aunt's house in Ludhiana.
- It was very special because we were all celebrating Diwali together after a long time.
- All my close family members, my parents, my grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins were there.
- Even my cousins who had settled abroad were visiting that year on Diwali.
- It was a big gathering and felt almost like a party.
- One of my cousins had a newborn baby, and we were so excited to see her for the first time.
- My aunts and mother spent the whole afternoon cooking, and the table was full of food.
- There were so many traditional dishes like paneer curry, puris, samosas, lentils, etc
- We had a great variety of sweets such as jalebis, ladoos, and gulab jamun.
- The food was not only flavourful but looked just as good as it tasted.
- The ambiance was very joyful, festive, and warm.
- The whole house was decorated with diyas, candles, and rangoli.
- While eating, we talked about childhood memories, family traditions, and even shared some funny stories.
- My grandparents told us stories from their younger days.
- We talked to the new parents about the joys and challenges of being first-time parents.
- I enjoyed this dinner because it was not only about delicious food, but also about being together as a family.
- We were sharing happiness and making memories
- Everyone was cheerful, and I felt very connected to my roots and traditions.
- I think meals like this are important because they give us time to slow down and appreciate each other's company.
- I will always remember it as one of the happiest family evenings of my life.

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Do people prefer to eat out at restaurants or eat at home during festivals?
Well, I mostly like to eat out at restaurants as it gives my mother a break from cooking. However, my mother does prepare some special traditional desserts like kheer and halwa on festivals, and I love eating those.

What food do you eat on special occasions, like during festivals?
Like I said before, I love eating traditional desserts like kheer, halwa and jalebi on festivals. Apart from that, we normally go to traditional Indian restaurants for meals. Sometimes we go to south Indian and sometimes north Indian restaurants. Also, I love eating Indian street food like chats and pani-puri on festivals.

Why do people like to have meals together during important festivals?
Sharing a meal creates a sense of unity and belonging. Having meals together allows families and communities to strengthen their bonds, enjoy traditional delicacies, and celebrate the occasion in a warm and joyful atmosphere.

Is it a hassle to prepare a meal at home?
I don't usually cook, but I'd say preparing a small meal isn't too troublesome. However, when it's for a large group with a complicated menu, it can be quite demanding because it requires careful preparation and often more than one round of cooking.

What do people often talk about during meals?
During meals, people usually talk about everyday matters, like how their day went, future plans, or even family updates. Sometimes they also discuss current events or light topics, just to keep the atmosphere pleasant and engaging.

People are spending less and less time having meals with their families these days. Is this good or bad?
I would say it's a negative trend because it's weakening the bond between family members. When people spend less time eating together, they also communicate less, which in turn can create misunderstandings and even widen the generation gap.

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# 20. Describe a friend of yours who is good at music/singing

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- When/where you listen to his/her music/singing
- What kind of music/songs he/she is good at
- And explain how you feel when listening to his music/singing

- I would like to talk about my friend Tanishka, whom I met during my IELTS preparation classes.
- We became good friends because we used to sit together and discuss speaking topics.
- One day, our teacher asked everyone in the class to share their hidden talents.
- Some people said they were good at drawing, some said cooking, but Tanishka said she was a singer.
- The teacher immediately asked her to sing something for the class.
- That was the first time I heard her sing, and honestly, I was amazed.
- She sang an old Punjabi romantic song without any music or instruments.
- Her voice was so melodious and clear that everyone in the class was silent.
- After class, I asked her when she started learning music.
- She told me that she had been fond of singing since school days.
- Her parents supported her a lot and used to take her for music classes.
- She even had to travel 2–3 hours every day for her training.
- Tanishka has taken part in many competitions and has won several awards.
- She also told me she was selected for Indian Idol last year and reached the final 16.
- She was the youngest participant in that season, which is a huge achievement.
- Usually, she sings Hindi songs, but she is also good at Punjabi and English songs.
- In her school, she was very popular and was even called the nightingale of the school.
- Whenever I hear her sing, I feel mesmerized and forget about everything else.
- I really admire her dedication, her talent, and the way she makes music feel so alive.

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1. What kind of music is popular in your country?
Well, in my country Bollywood music is the most popular. People enjoy it because it's used in movies and everyone can relate to the lyrics. For example, during weddings, almost all the songs played are from Bollywood.

2. What kind of music do young people like?
I think young people mostly like fast and energetic songs like pop, rap or EDM. They listen to it because it matches their lifestyle and keeps them active. For instance, my friends often play rap songs while driving.

3. What are the differences between young people's and old people's preferences in music?
According to me, young people usually go for modern beats and western styles, while older people prefer classical or old melodies. My grandfather still listens to old Punjabi folk songs, while my younger cousins listen to English pop.

4. What are the benefits of children learning a musical instrument?
Oh, there are many benefits. It helps children improve concentration and creativity. For example, my cousin started learning guitar and it not only made him more confident but also gave him a new friend circle.

5. Do you know what kind of music children like today?
Hmm, from what I see, children enjoy cartoon songs or fun dance numbers. They like songs with easy words and simple beats. My little niece, for instance, always plays the same animated movie songs again and again.

6. Do you think the government should invest more money in concerts?
In my opinion, yes, because concerts promote culture and bring people together. They also give local artists a chance to perform. But some may say the money should go to education or health first, which I also understand.

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# 21. Describe an outdoor sport you would like to do

You should say:
- What it is
- When/where you would like to do it
- With whom you would like to do it
- And explain why you would like to do it

- One outdoor sport I would love to try in the future is lawn tennis.
- I've never actually played it, but I've watched many tennis matches on TV and YouTube.
- I already know most of the rules, like how the scoring works — love, 15, 30, 40, and so on.
- I find the game really interesting and fast-paced.
- I've seen legendary players like Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, and Novak Djokovic.
- Their matches in the Grand Slam tournaments are always thrilling.
- My favourite tournament to watch is French — I love the clay court and the tradition behind it.
- I also enjoy watching the Australian Open and US Open.
- One reason I want to try lawn tennis is because it looks very classy and energetic at the same time.
- I think it's also a great way to stay fit, build stamina, and improve reflexes.
- There's a tennis court about 2 kilometers from my house, and I've often passed by it on my morning walks.
- I hope to join there soon, maybe for weekend practice.
- I would love to play with one of my sporty friends who already knows how to play.
- I'm sure I'll struggle a bit in the beginning, but I'm really excited to try it.
- In my childhood, I mostly played cricket with friends and at school, but tennis is something I've always admired from a distance.
- It's treated more like an elite sport in India, but it's slowly becoming more popular among youth.
- I once joked with my friend that if I play well, I'll go play in French open one day.
- Overall, tennis is a sport I haven't played yet, but I really look forward to learning and enjoying it

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https://g.co/kgs/GBYy9Mi - Phagwara

https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ - Mohali

https://g.co/kgs/9XnhRqa - Jalandhar

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1. What are the differences between indoor sports and outdoor sports?
Indoor sports are played inside a building, like badminton or table tennis, while outdoor sports like cricket or football are played outside. Outdoor games need more space and depend on weather. I feel outdoor sports give more fresh air and sunshine. But indoor games are good during bad weather.

2. Which outdoor sports are popular in India?
I think sports like cricket, football, and running are quite popular in India. Many people also enjoy Kabaddi in parks. The younger generation plays cricket, and elders prefer something slow and relaxing. Sports events like marathons are also common.

3. Which sports are popular among elderly people?
Elderly people usually like slow and low-impact sports like badminton, yoga, or slow running. These help with flexibility and keep the body active without much pressure. In my opinion, running in parks is the most common. It also allows them to meet friends.

4. Which outdoor sports are popular with children?
Children love to play games like cricket, football, and cycling. These are fun and help them stay fit. I remember when I was young, I played cricket every evening with my friends. It also helps them learn teamwork.

5. How does weather affect outdoor sports?
Weather plays a big role in outdoor sports. If it's raining or too hot, people can't play outside. Sometimes, games get canceled due to bad weather. That's why indoor options are always helpful.

6. Which sports can children do on rainy days?
On rainy days, children can play indoor games like chess, table tennis, or board games. Some schools also have indoor badminton courts. Personally, I used to enjoy playing carrom and ludo when it rained.

https://g.co/kgs/GBYy9Mi - Phagwara

https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ - Mohali

https://g.co/kgs/9XnhRqa - Jalandhar

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# 22. Describe a film that made you laugh

You should say:

- What it is
- When you watched it
- Who you watched it with
- And explain why it made you laugh

- One film that made me laugh a lot is the Punjabi movie "Carry On Jatta."
- I first watched it during a movie night at my friend's house, just after our final exams got over.
- We all wanted to relax and have fun, so we planned a night out with snacks, cold drinks, and of course, a comedy movie.
- One of my friends suggested Carry On Jatta and I'm so glad we went with that choice.
- The movie is about a man who falls in love and tries to hide his marriage from his crazy lawyer father.
- The entire movie is full of confusion, lies, and hilarious situations.
- The direction, script, and comic timing of the actors are just perfect.
- Gippy Grewal, Binnu Dhillon, and Gurpreet Ghuggi did an amazing job in their roles.
- Some dialogues were so funny that we had to pause the movie because we couldn't stop laughing.
- My favourite part was the last scene where the entire star cast comes together and all the confusion is revealed — it's pure chaos and comedy.
- I have watched this movie at least 20 times now.
- Honestly, I remember many of the dialogues word-for-word — that's how many times I've seen it!
- It's considered one of the funniest movies in Punjabi cinema history.
- The film also had two sequels, but honestly, they were not as good as the first one.
- Even now, whenever I'm in a bad mood, I just play Carry On Jatta and it cheers me up.
- Watching it with friends made the experience even better — we kept laughing and making jokes all night.
- It's one of those movies that never gets old no matter how many times you watch it.
- Overall, Carry On Jatta gave me a memory full of fun and laughter that I'll never forget.

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1. Do people like comedy?
Yes, most people enjoy comedy because it makes them feel happy and relaxed. After a long day, laughing helps reduce stress. I believe comedy shows and movies are popular worldwide. Some even use humor to deal with serious topics.

2. Why do people of all ages like cartoons?
Cartoons are simple and fun to watch. Children like them for colors and stories, and adults like the memories they bring. Some cartoons even have smart jokes for adults. So, everyone finds something to enjoy.

3. Why do some people like to make others laugh?
I think such people enjoy spreading happiness. When others laugh, it creates a good feeling for them too. Also, being funny can make someone popular and liked. But some people use humor in the wrong way, which is not good.

4. Should teachers tell jokes in class?
Yes, sometimes jokes help students stay focused. A little humor makes the learning environment friendly. But too many jokes can disturb the class. So, balance is important.

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# 23. Describe a place in your country or part of your country that you would like to recommend to visitors/travelers

You should say:

- What it is
- Where it is
- What people can do there
- And explain why you would like to recommend it to visitors/travellers

- One place I would highly recommend to visitors is Amritsar, a holy city located in Punjab, India.
- It is most famous for the Golden Temple, also known as Harmandir Sahib.
- I still remember the first time I visited Amritsar — I was 14 years old, and it left a deep impression on me.
- Even though there are thousands of people inside the temple complex at all times, the place feels so peaceful and calm.
- I often sit by the sarovar (holy pond) and just meditate or reflect — the energy there is truly special.
- At night, the golden reflection of the temple in the water looks absolutely mesmerising — like something out of a dream.
- One of the most inspiring things about this place is the Langar, or community kitchen.
- Every single day, lakhs of people eat together, regardless of caste, religion, or background — it gives a strong message that everyone is equal.
- Apart from spiritual experiences, Amritsar is also the food capital of India.
- Whether you're vegetarian or non-vegetarian, there's something for every kind of foodie here.
- From butter naan, which is a soft flatbread, to Amritsari fish to chole kulche (spicy chickpeas, served with soft flatbread) — you name it, and it's mouthwatering!
- There are also other historical places like Jallianwala Bagh, which reminds us of India's painful past.
- Another unique experience is watching the beating retreat ceremony at Wagah Border — the energy, the crowd, the patriotic feeling, everything is unforgettable.
- The best time to visit Amritsar is between October and March, when the weather is pleasant.
- I would say spending 2 to 3 days is perfect to enjoy the city fully.
- I often recommend this city to my friends and even international tourists who ask me about Indian culture.
- It's a perfect blend of faith, food, history, and patriotism — all in one place.
- Amritsar is not just a destination; it's an emotion, and I truly believe everyone should visit it at least once in their life.

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1. Is it important to take photos while traveling?
Yes, photos help keep memories alive. I always take pictures when I travel. They also help me share experiences with family and friends. But some people feel taking too many photos can spoil the moment.

2. Can you trust other people's travel journals on the Internet?
Sometimes they are helpful, but not always. Some reviews are fake or too personal. I prefer to check multiple sources before planning. Once I booked a hotel based on reviews, and it was very different.

3. What factors affect how people feel about traveling?
Things like budget, time, and company matter a lot. If the weather is good and people enjoy food and sightseeing, they feel happy. But if there's too much crowd or bad service, the experience becomes poor.

4. Will you go to a foreign country to travel because of the distinct landscape?
Yes, I love to see new natural places. Mountains, beaches, and forests are very exciting to me. I hope to visit Switzerland one day just to see the snow and lakes. The beauty of a place attracts many tourists.

5. How can tourists have a good travel experience?
They should plan properly and keep important things like ID, tickets, and money safe. Also, they should respect local culture and try local food. A positive attitude also helps in enjoying the trip.

6. What kinds of comments do travelers typically leave online after a trip?
Mostly people write about hotel experience, food, and places they visited. They also give tips for future visitors. Sometimes, if they had a bad experience, they warn others. I always check such reviews before booking.

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# 24. Describe a sports event you would like to watch

You should say:

- What it is
- Who you want to watch with
- Why you want to watch it
- And explain how you feel about it

- One sports event I would love to watch live is the Olympic Games in the USA in 2028.
- I recently watched the Paris Olympics 2024 on television, and it was such a proud moment for me.
- I felt really happy when Neeraj Chopra won a medal in javelin throw again.
- I was also proud of our hockey team and Manu Bhaker in shooting — they made the country proud.
- The Olympics is the biggest sports event on the planet, with athletes from almost every country competing.
- It's more than just a sports competition — it's a celebration of talent, unity, and hard work.
- I would love to go there with my best friend, who is also a huge sports fan like me.
- We've always dreamed of attending a live Olympic event and cheering for India from the stands.
- The opening ceremony is something I don't want to miss — it's full of music, dance, lights, and amazing performances.
- I read that every Olympics creates a sports village where all the athletes live together, and it's like a mini world of its own.
- The 2028 Olympics will be held in Los Angeles, USA, which is also a place I want to visit for a long time.
- Watching the Olympics live in the USA would be like two dreams coming true at once.
- I believe it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and that's why it's on my bucket list.
- The first modern Olympics were held in 1896, and since then it has become the most respected sports event globally.
- I love how the Olympics promote peace, equality, and sportsmanship among nations.
- Watching the world's best athletes compete live would be an experience I will never forget.
- I hope I get a chance to watch the 2028 Olympics in person and be part of this global celebration.
- Just thinking about it gives me goosebumps — it would be a dream come true.

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1. What kinds of sports events are broadcast on TV or other media in your country?
In my country, cricket is the most popular on TV. Apart from that, people also watch football, kabaddi, and hockey. During big events like the Olympics or World Cup, even non-sports fans watch. Sports channels show highlights all the time.

2. Do people in your country enjoy watching football games?
Yes, especially young people. Though cricket is more famous, football is growing fast. Big matches like FIFA finals attract a lot of viewers. I also enjoy watching Messi and Ronaldo play.

3. Does encouragement and applause from the audience have an impact on athletes?
Definitely. It boosts their energy and confidence. When the crowd cheers, athletes feel more motivated. But too much noise can also cause pressure sometimes.


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# 25. Describe a person's house/apartment that you think is very good

You should say:

- Who this person is
- What the house/apartment is like
- How often you visit there
- And explain why you think it's very good

- I think that building a dream house is an ambition of almost every person in the world, and today I would like to talk about the house of one of my uncle's friend.
- The house is located in one of the posh localities of Chandigarh.
- In fact, it is just one km away from the famous Sukhna lake which is a big tourist attraction in our city and most of the city residents love to go there for a morning walk.
- My uncle's friend who has recently returned from Canada, bought this house last year.
- He had worked in Canada for almost 30 years before deciding to settle back in India.
- It took him almost one year to get the house renovated according to his liking.
- Also, I believe that he has spent a fortune on purchasing and rebuilding this property.
- It is a two-storey corner house with 3 bedrooms and a living room on each floor, and from the outside, it looks like a 20th century luxury English Villa.
- There is ample parking space for 4 cars and a huge lawn in the front.
- Apart from it, the house is equipped with all the modern amenities that one could dream of.
- There is an indoor gym, a mini home theater, and a jacuzzi on the rooftop.
- All the rooms have huge glass windows which allow a lot of natural light to come into the house and there is good ventilation as well.
- My uncle's friend is a technocrat, so, he has installed a lot of smart electronic devices in his home and he is able to control most of them through his mobile phone.
- For example, he can turn on the lights, open the curtains and control the conditioning, all with the click of a button.
- Moreover, my uncle's friend is also fond of gardening so he has planted many flowers and exotic plants in his garden. He has also kept a lot of indoor plants in the house.
- I absolutely love each and every corner of the house, there is nothing to dislike about it because so much attention to detail has been given to all the aspects such as interior design, décor, and space utilization.

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1 What are the differences between buildings in the city and in the countryside?
The primary difference is that buildings in cities have limited outdoor spaces and congested rooms whereas the countryside buildings have more spacious rooms and large outdoor areas. Moreover the high rise apartments are found in cities only, while the rural areas have maximum 2-3 storey buildings

2 Do you prefer to live in the city or in the countryside?
I prefer to live in the city because it offers better amenities and also more opportunities and experiences. City life is more fast, entertaining and with so many possibilities and things to experience. Comparitively, the life in rural areas is dull and boring where individuals are restricted to doing certain activities only.

3 What safety risks are there in residential buildings in cities?
The main risk is of fire, especially in high rise buildings. Fire incident on one floor could spell disaster for people living on the higher floors and could lead to a great loss of life.

4 Is it expensive to decorate a house or an apartment in the place where you live?
Yes it has become very expensive to decorate one's house or apartment these days. The cost of furniture and decorative items has skyrocketed. Also, the indoor plants which play an important role in decoration have beome expensive these days.

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# 26. Describe a time when you forgot/missed an appointment

You should say:

- What the appointment was for
- Who you made it with
- Why you forgot/missed it
- And explain how you felt about the experience

- Well, I usually do remember things as I have got a good memory but sometimes, I tend to forget even important things if my life is already disturbed.
- I remember an incident when I forgot my appointment with the dentist.
- It was during the time of placements in college, and we all were very nervous and preparing for it.
- There were placement classes going on and many things were on my high priority list.
- It was during this time, I forgot to visit my dentist.
- I had braces on my teeth and the dentist used to change the bands on them every month.
- But during that time, I was really stressed because of the placements and the dentist's appointment totally skipped through my mind.
- Later, I got a call from my dentist reminding me that I had missed my appointment.
- I felt very bad about missing that appointment.
- I apologized to him for not being able to reach on that day and asked him for another appointment for the next day.
- Thankfully his schedule for the next day was free and he rescheduled the appointment.
- I also put a reminder on my phone so that I do not forget the appointment again.
- The next day the dentist told me that if I had delayed the appointment further, it would have affected my treatment.
- I realized that this is what pressure handling is all about
- You need to do things and yet make sure that you are still balanced and not missing out on other important things.

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1. Is punctuality important to people?
Yes, being on time shows respect and discipline. In schools and offices, it's a must. I try to be punctual always, but sometimes traffic causes delays. Some people don't take it seriously, which creates problems.

2. What do you think is a good way to record things? Why?
I think using a phone app or writing in a notebook helps. It reminds us about tasks. I use my phone's calendar to track appointments. This helps me stay organised.

3. Which is more important, a work-related appointment or an appointment with a friend? Why?
Work meetings are usually more serious and time-bound. But meeting a friend is important too for mental health. I think it depends on the situation. Both are important in life.

4. If someone doesn't really like whom they are going to meet, they may deliberately miss their appointment. Is that true? Why?
Yes, it happens. If people feel uncomfortable, they try to avoid such meetings. I have done it once when I didn't want to meet a distant cousin. It's not a good habit, though.

5. Do you think people should remember family history?
Yes, family history connects us to our roots. It also tells us about culture and values. My grandfather used to share stories, and I found them interesting. It's good to pass them to the next generation.

6. How do people who are busy remember things they need to do?
They use mobile apps, alarms, or sticky notes. I also keep a to-do list on my phone. This saves time and avoids forgetting. Some people still prefer writing in diaries.

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# 27. Describe a person who you think wears unusual clothes

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How you knew this person
- What his/her clothes are like
- And explain why you think his/her clothes are unusual

- I would like to talk about my neighbour, who is a fashion designer and definitely stands out because of his clothes.
- He is in his early thirties and has a very vibrant personality.
- He completed his graduation in fashion designing from the National Institute of Fashion Design, one of the best in the country.
- I've known him for around 5 years, ever since he moved into the house next to ours.
- He always wears clothes that are very different and eye-catching.
- Most of the time, he's dressed in bright colours like orange, purple, neon green — colours that normal people hesitate to wear.
- He mixes traditional and modern styles in such a unique way that you can't ignore him.
- Honestly, if you're in a crowd, he's the easiest person to spot.
- I have never seen him wearing simple jeans and a t-shirt like most people do.
- His outfits are always designer wear, and he even designs clothes for celebrities and films.
- He is very passionate about his work and takes fashion very seriously.
- He has travelled to Paris, which is considered the fashion capital of the world, for fashion events.
- He also attends fashion shows regularly and gets a lot of appreciation for his creativity.
- One time, he gifted me a yellow coloured suit that was too bold for my taste.
- I still haven't worn it in public because I feel people might start calling me a banana!
- He also wears a lot of accessories, like hats, scarves, jewellery – things that we usually don't wear every day.
- Sometimes his clothes look a bit weird to me, but they are definitely fashionable and trendy.
- Even though his style is not for everyone, I respect his confidence and creativity.
- I think his fashion sense is unusual, but it also makes him unique and memorable

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1. What are the differences between clothes worn by old people and those by young people?
Older people prefer simple and traditional clothes. Youngsters like trendy and colourful outfits. For example, my grandmother wears suits, while my sister wears jeans and tops. Comfort is the key for both.

2. What kind of clothes do people wear in the workplace?
It depends on the job. In offices, people wear formal clothes like shirts and trousers. But in creative fields, people wear casual or stylish outfits. Uniforms are also common in some places.

3. Do you think it is a good idea to buy clothes online?
Yes and no. It's easy and saves time, but sometimes size or quality is not right. I once ordered a jacket online, and it was too tight. Trying in-store is safer.

4. Do you think young people wear unusual clothes more than other age groups?
Yes, young people love to experiment with fashion. They follow trends and social media influencers. Sometimes they wear clothes that look strange to elders. But that's how they express themselves.

5. Do you think that the style of the clothing is more important than its comfort?
I think comfort is more important. If something looks stylish but is uncomfortable, it's hard to wear all day. For example, tight shoes can cause pain. But some people prefer looking good over feeling good.

6. What factors affect people's decisions when buying clothes?
Price, comfort, style, and brand all matter. Weather also plays a role. During winters, people buy warm clothes. Sales and offers also affect buying decisions.

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# 28. Describe your favorite place in your house where you can relax

You should say:

- Where it is
- What it is like
- What you enjoy doing there
- And explain why you feel relaxed at this place

- It is undeniable that life is becoming more and more stressful day by day.
- So, I think relaxation is really important in our life.
- Different people do different thing to feel relaxed.
- I personally like to do yoga every morning to relax myself.
- I do this in the small balcony adjoined to my room.
- I do this for many reasons.
- Firstly, there are many trees in the vicinity.
- Also, I do it in the morning, so I can hear the birds chirping.
- As such I feel like I am spending time with nature.
- It has a very calming effect.
- Secondly, yoga itself is the best form of relaxation.
- It is a mind body exercise which involves physical poses, controlled breathing and meditation.
- The combination of all three has a very soothing effect on our mind.
- Its as if we feel refreshed and renewed.
- Controlling breathing and meditation helps to silence the mind.
- It is a beautiful feeling thinking about nothing.
- Finally, I have painted the balcony and decorated it with my own hands.
- Whenever I spend time there I feel like I can see the efforts of my labour.
- In turn, it makes me feel like I can achieve anything I put my heart to.
- Sometimes, I just there with a hot cup of tea and read the newspaper.
- I don't know why but I feel I can concentrate a lot better when I am in the balcony.
- For all these reasons, I find my rooms balcony as the best place to relax in my house.

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1. Why is it difficult for some people to relax?
Because they are always thinking about work or problems. Their mind doesn't stop. I think meditation can help. But not everyone has time or patience for it.

2. What are the benefits of doing exercise?
Exercise keeps the body fit and mind fresh. It also helps in reducing stress. I feel happy after a walk. Even 30 minutes a day can make a big difference.

3. Do people in your country exercise after work?
Some do, but not everyone. Many are tired after office and skip exercise. I try to go for a walk in the evening. Gyms are also popular now.

4. What is the place where people spend most of their time at home?
Mostly in the living room or bedroom. These are places to relax and watch TV. Some people also spend time in the kitchen if they love cooking.

5. Do you think there should be classes for training young people and children how to relax?
Yes, today's kids have a lot of pressure. Teaching them yoga or meditation can help. Even small breathing exercises can improve focus and reduce stress.

6. Which is more important, mental relaxation or physical relaxation?
Both are important, but I think mental relaxation matters more. If your mind is peaceful, your body also feels better. A tired body can rest, but a tired mind needs more care.

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# 29. Describe a popular place for sports (e.g. a stadium) that you've been to

You should say:

- Where it is
- When you went there
- What you did there
- And explain how you felt about this place

- I belong to Chandigarh and there are many places in my city where one can go to play sports or do some outdoor physical activity.
- Some of them include international cricket stadiums, hockey stadiums and government run sports complexes, where one can play a variety of sports like lawn tennis, badminton, squash, swimming, etc.
- Today I would like to talk about the Lake Sports Complex which is located near Sukhna lake, and I went to play Lawn tennis over there.
- This Complex was earlier known as Lake Club and was set up in 1961 making it one of the oldest sporting clubs in the city.
- It is said to be spread over 10 acres of land and is one of the most popular Sports Centre of our city
- It is the single largest center that houses the facilities of gym, squash, tennis, table tennis, billiards, archery, swimming, squash and a hi-tech gym having imported machines and access for using other club facilities
- I got to know about the sports club from one of my school friends who is a member at the club.
- I love playing badminton and I am one of the biggest fans of Indian badminton player, P V Sindhu.
- One day, PV Sindhu had come to Chandigarh, and she was playing a practice game with a local badminton player at the complex.
- I thought I might not get the opportunity to meet her.
- So, I requested my friend to take me, so I can watch her match.
- My friend could go inside as he was a member.
- It was an amazing match.
- Though it was friendly, both players gave it their all.
- Of course, PV Sindhu won in the end.
- I got her autograph after the match.
- Watching her and getting her autograph was a like a dream come true.
- After she left, my friend and I also played a match.
- The complex has amazing facilities.
- The best part was the changing rooms and shower.
- There was a sauna and steam room next to showers.
- We sat in the sauna for 15 mins, and it felt so refreshing and relaxing.
- It was an amazing experience.
- It was a bittersweet feeling, I was happy that I got to meet my idol, but I was also sad that the day was over.

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1. Do young people like to play sports?
Yes, many young people like playing sports as sports are fun and exciting and they are also a good way to spend quality time with friends. However, it is not universal. There are many youngsters who don't like playing sports.

2. What are the benefits of sports for children?
First and foremost, sports are a great form of physical activity and unlike going to the gym, playing sports is fun. Secondly, winning in sports boosts confidence and motivation. Finally, sports helps in making friends and develop bonds with teammates.

3. Is it necessary to build public sports spaces?
Yes, I think it is all the more important in today's time. As population has increased, grounds and empty spaces in cities have vanished and because of increasing traffic, it is also unsafe for children to play on streets. So, it is very important for governments to build public sports spaces.

4. What do you think of companies donating sports venues for poor children?
I think it is a very good idea. It is a win-win for both companies and children from poor background. For children of course it would provide them with the sports facilities they lack, while for companies, it would be a great opportunity to improve their brand image. Moreover, donation also lowers tax burden on the companies considerably.

5. Is technology helpful in playing sports?
Yes, I believe technology is certainly helpful in every field including sports. We have already seen the use of technology in tracking statistics in professional sports. It is also useful for players to improve their physical form for playing.

6. Do you think local sports teams can help increase community connections?
Yes, sports are a great unifier. They bring people from all backgrounds together regardless of their religion, their background or their ethnicity. Recent research has also shown how sports have helped in tackling problems like racism in many countries.

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# 30. Describe a time when you saw a lot of plastic waste (e.g. in a park, on the beach, etc.)

You should say:

- Where and where you saw the plastic waste
- Why there were a lot of plastic waste
- What you did after you saw them
- And explain what your thoughts were about this

- Recently, I visited Leh, a hill station in Ladakh.
- It became a really popular tourist destination after the movie 3 idiots was released because some of the movie scenes were shot there.
- During these summer vacations, my parents and I went there.
- While travelling in Leh we saw huge mountains of plastic waste near a popular lake.
- At first, I thought the problem is the lack of dustbins.
- However, it was just the tip of the problem.
- Someone told us that each day more than 30,000 plastic bottles are dumped in Leh.
- And there has been a sudden rise due to the increase in tourism.
- There are no plastic recycling plants nearby and so there is no place to dump all the plastic.
- The only solution is for the government to transport it back to big cities, with recycling facilities, or the government to build a recycling plant there.
- However, both options are quite costly.
- The government has started asking tourists to take the plastic bottles back with them instead of throwing them there.
- I think the visit to Leh opened my eyes to the dark side of tourism.
- Sometimes, these small places do not have the capacity to accommodate so many tourists.
- I never thought about it from this perspective before.
- Although I know, personally I don't think I can make a big difference, I have stopped drinking from mineral water bottles if cleaner alternatives are available.

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1. Do you think we should use plastic products?

We should but we can't. I know plastic is not good for the environment, but there are not many good alternatives to plastic. So, I believe we can't stop using plastic completely. Only when we develop a good environment alternative to plastic, we can using it.

2. How can we reduce our use of plastic?

Firstly, we can completely stop using single use plastic like plastic bags, plastic cutlery and so on. People can be encouraged to carry their own cloth bags when they go shopping. Some countries like India have already made laws for this. Apart from this, I think governments can encourage recycling of plastic products like bottles, so that they are not dumped indiscriminately.

3. What kinds of plastic waste are often seen in your country?

The main plastic waste is of course plastic bags and bottles. There are certain cities like Delhi, which have these plastic waste mountains. However, in recent years, the government has taken steps to reduce this – like ban on use of single use plastic.

4. Why do people like to use plastic products?

The main reason is that they are cheaper For example, plastic bottles are a lot cheaper than glass or steel bottles. Secondly, plastic is more durable, it doesn't break easily. So, parents don't have to worry about children dropping plastic plates or bottles.

5. What can the government do to reduce plastic pollution?

Like I said before government can make laws on ban of single use plastics and strictly enforce laws. Moreover, government can encourage recycling of plastic waste.

6. Do you think we can do without plastic altogether in the future?

Maybe, if scientists are able to develop an alternative to plastic that is eco-friendly but at the same time fulfils all the functions of plastic. I see it happening but not anytime soon.

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# 31. Describe a city you have been to and would like to visit again

You should say:

- When you visited
- What you did there
- What is was like
- And explain why you would like to visit it again

- I am still young and I haven't visited a lot of places.
- However, last year I went to Shimla with my friend, Rohit.
- I had an amazing experience in Shimla
- Shimla is the capital of Himachal Pradesh and it is located in the foothills of Himalayas.
- My friend's uncle has a holiday house in Shimla and he offered to let us stay there for a few days.
- We both had never visited Shimla and we wanted a break from the intense summer heat so we jumped at the opportunity.
- We spent a total of three days there.
- Shimla is a wonderful place.
- The best thing is of course the weather.
- Even in peak summer, the temperature there never crossed 25 degrees Celsius.
- It was so relaxing.
- In my hometown, it is so hot that one cannot even go out before 6 PM.
- There we spent the whole day outdoors.
- Shimla has a lot of tourist attractions.
- The main is the Mall Road.
- It is pedestrian only road and vehicles are not allowed on this road.
- It has a number of showrooms, stores, cafes and restaurant.
- One can spend a whole week there without feeling bored.
- Also, the food is amazing as well.
- My favourite shop was a café.
- It's called honey hut and they serve coffees with honey instead of sugar.
- We spent two days on this road exploring the different shops and enjoying the delicious food.
- There is also the famous Jakhu temple.
- It located on the top of one of the hills there.
- My friend's mother was very adamant that we visit the temple once at least.
- I think that's the whole reason she allowed us to go.
- She wanted us to go there.
- It is believed that a visit to this temple brings a lot of good luck.
- So, one day we went there.
- The view of the city from the temple is breathtaking.
- We had booked return train tickets for the 4$^{th}$ day because we thought we might get bored.
- However, it was exactly the opposite on the 4$^{th}$ day.
- Instead of feeling bored, we felt like we missed out on so much because we came back too soon.
- I really want to go there again.
- Its summer again and I hope my friend's uncle extends us the invitation again.

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1. What are the differences between the city and the countryside?

Both cities and countryside areas have their own advantages and disadvantages. Villages are less crowded, less polluted and have less crime, but cities offer better facilities and better job and education opportunities.

2. Some people say large cities are more suitable for old people. What do you think?

In some ways, yes. There are many advantages of big cities for old person's perspective. To begin with, big cities have better public transportation facilities reducing the need for car ownership. Apart from this, they have good healthcare facilities and easy access to public facilities like libraries and senior centres to keep elderly engaged. However, this is no true for every large cities and drawbacks like high costs, crime and social isolation in cities can make cities unsuitable as well.

3. Do you think it is possible that all of the population move to cities?

No, I don't think it is possible and I don't think it is a good idea either. It is n not possible as there are many people who hate the fast paced life of cities and love spending time in proximity to nature. Many people are actually shifting back to rural areas for these reasons. Moreover, rural to urban migration is leading to a lot of problems like congestion and high crime rates and this can worsen these problems even further, so I don't see it as a sensible idea.

4. Do you think people in the countryside are friendlier than people in the city?

Yes, I think people in the countryside have more free time as they don't need to spend lots of time in travelling. Moreover, there is less stress because of the slower pace of life in general. These factors make rural people more friendly.

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# 32. Describe an argument two of yours friends had

You should say:

- When it happened
- What it was about
- How it was solved
- Explain how you felt about it

- Normally me and most of friends are on the same page when it comes to career goals.
- But one day, two of my friends, Ravi and Amit got into a heated discussion on whether it is better to stay in India or go abroad after completing education.
- The argument started casually while we were all sitting in the campus café, discussing our future plans.
- Ravi had just got the Canadian visa to pursue his master's degree there and he was really excited about it.
- He believed that going abroad would give him better employment opportunities, more exposure and a better quality of life.
- On the other hand, Amit was strongly against the idea of leaving India.
- He believed that because of people like Ravi leaving India, it was leading to brain drain and slowing down India's development.
- He believed people should contribute to one's own country.
- What began as a normal conversation quickly turned into an argument.
- Ravi called Amit short-sighted and Amit called Ravi selfish and money-minded.
- Soon, their tones became tense, and the rest of us felt quite awkward.
- Later that day, a mutual friend helped calm things down by reminding both of them that their goals and priorities were simply different.
- They realised that it's not about being right or wrong, but just having a different perspective.
- Thankfully, it didn't dent their friendship, and they still support each other's decisions.
- In fact, Amit came to drop off Ravi at the airport when he went to Canada.

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1. Do you think arguments are important?

Yes, I genuinely believe arguments are not just about winning or fighting, they are really important for a person's overall growth. To begin with, arguments help resolve conflicts as they help clarify misunderstandings. Also, arguments help us to improve our communication skills as they require us to express ourselves clearly and persuasively. Finally, they help us to develop logical reasoning and thinking as they help us to critically analyse evidence and facts.

2. What do family members usually have arguments about?

There are many things that have arguments about. I think main ones are about responsibilities, someone feeling overburdened or someone not doing their half. It can also be about finances, like spending on non-essential items. Also, there are many arguments about tone- people don't necessarily with what was said, but the way in it was said. All these can lead to arguments.

3. Is it easier for you to have arguments with your family or with your friends?

I believe it is easier to have arguments with people with care about more. I have the most arguments with my parents and my sister because I care about them the most. We all have high expectations from each other and when they are not met, it leads to arguments.

4. Do you think people should change the way they think when they having arguments?

No, I don't think they should change the way they think, but they should listen to others calmly and think about their perspective before responding. Arguments should settle conflicts but if we stop listening to others, they can also exacerbate conflicts rather than resolving them.

5. When two people have an argument, do you think they should find a third party to ask for advice?

It depends on the third party or person. If it is a person, they both trust and respect, asking a third party is definitely a good idea. Ultimately, I think it is better to involve others only if we have absolute trust in that person to be impartial.

6. What qualities make a good lawyer?

I think the most important quality is good communication skills. To represent a client and get him or her justice, the lawyer must be able to present his case with utmost clarity. Apart from communication skills, I think a lawyer must be able to critically and logically analyse the situation, so they can defend their position and question the other side's arguments. Finally, I think they should have honesty and integrity, so they don't buckle down in tough situations.

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# 33. Describe a person from a different cultural background with whom you enjoy spending time

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- Where he/she is from
- Where/how you knew him/her
- And explain how you feel about him/her

- I'd like to talk about my friend Tarun, who comes from Kerala, a state in South India. Although we are both Indian, our cultural backgrounds are quite different.
- I'm from North India, and the customs, language, food, and even festivals vary significantly between our regions.
- I met Tarun during my undergraduate studies in Delhi.
- We were assigned to the same project group in our first semester, and that's how we became friends.
- At first, I was quite curious about his background, especially because he spoke Malayalam a language completely unknown to me.
- He also followed traditions that were completely new to me.
- What I really enjoy about spending time with Tarun is that he's very warm and open minded.
- He often shares stories about life in Kerala—how they celebrate Onam with beautiful flower arrangements and boat races, and how coconut is a key ingredient in almost every dish there. I've even had the chance to try some delicious South Indian meals like Uthappam with him. In return, I've introduced him to North Indian festivals like Holi and Diwali and we often exchange jokes about the differences in our lifestyles.
- Despite our cultural differences, we share similar values when it comes to friendship, respect, and curiosity about the world.
- Spending time with Tarun has really opened my eyes to the rich diversity within Indian.
- It has helped me appreciate our multicultural society.
- I feel grateful to have a friend like him our conversations are always meaningful, and I genuinely enjoy learning from his experiences.

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1. Is it easy to meet people from different cultural background in your country?
It depends on the city people are living in. The big cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai and Kolkata are home to a number of foreigners. So, if a person resides there, it is easy, otherwise, in small cities, towns and villages, it is not. Moreover, it is also easy to meet foreigners in tourist hubs like Goa and Kashmir.

2. What do people from different cultural background usually talk about with each other?
I think people normally start with background and origins like where the other person is from, they talk about each other's culture – similarities and differences. Another topic of conversation is food. Tourists normally ask recommendations for good restaurants and popular and unique local dishes. Gradually as trust develop, they talk about family and other things.

3. Is it good to live in a multicultural society?
Yes, living in a multicultural society is certainly beneficial but it does come with certain challenges as well. It broadens people's horizons and makes them more broad minded and accepting of others. At the same time, there are problems like discrimination and racism that come along with it and steps need to be taken to actively deal with them.

4. What are the advantages of being friends with people from different cultural background?
It broadens people's horizons and makes them more broad minded and accepting of others. It also gives an opportunity to learn about new languages, holidays, customs, food and music. It is like learning another culture without needing to travel.

5. Why do people choose to travel or live abroad?
There are many reasons. Apart from learning about another culture, people do it for better employment and education opportunities. Besides that, people go for a better quality of life. The quality of life in developed countries like the US, UK and America is certainly better.

6. What are the benefits of living in another country?
Like I said before, it makes people more broad minded and accepting of others. It is also one of the best way to learn and polish one's language skills. Finally, it may lead to a better quality of life in certain cases. For example, if the person moves to a developed country from a developing country.

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# 34. Describe a website you often visit

You should say:

- What it is about
- How you found out about it
- How often you visit it
- And explain why you often visit it

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

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1. What are the most popular and least popular apps in India?

The most popular apps are social media apps like WhatsApp and Instagram, food delivery apps like Zomato and Swiggy and payment apps like Paytm and Google Pay. It is difficult to talk about least popular apps but I think specific software apps are less popular as they a have limited audience. Also, Chinese apps like TikTok are banned because of security concerns, so they have lost popularity in recent years.

2. What's the differences between the internet and television?

The main difference is how they distribute content and how users interact with it. Television is a one way medium – it offers prescheduled content, whereas the internet offers interaction with the users. People chose the content they want to watch on the internet.

3. Why do some people like to read news on the internet instead of getting it from TV?

I think it is because they are interested in a certain specific news rather than news about everything. Moreover, there is an inherent bias in television news, some channels definitely favour certain political views. Many people want to form their opinion independently and the internet offers them that.

4. Are libraries still necessary? Why?

Yes, because libraries are not only about books, but more importantly offer a peaceful and distraction free environment, where people can focus on their studies and work. As the noise and disturbance around us has increased, the importance of libraries has also increased.

5. What kinds of people would still go to the library to read and study?

I think people who need a more formal environment to read and study would still prefer to go the libraries. Moreover, I think people who don't have a peaceful environment at home, would still go to the libraries. For example, homes with naughty children.

6. What are the differences between old people and young people when they use the internet?

Primarily, the elderly use the internet mainly for practical and communication purposes, while youngsters use it more for social interaction and entertainment. However, as the elderly get more comfortable with technology, the difference is disappearing.

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# 35. Describe a sports competition you watched

You should say:

- What it was
- When/where you watched it
- Who you watched it with
- And explain whether you enjoyed it

- I don't normally watch sports competitions apart from cricket.
- However, when I was in 10th standard, my school's football reached the final of the Punjab State level football competition final.
- The match was also going to be held in a stadium near our school.
- So, my classmates and I decided to go watch the match to support our school's team.
- The match was really exciting.
- The match started with the opposition team scoring the first goal in the very 1st minute.
- However, our school's team didn't go defensive and we scored a goal in the 10 minute.
- After that, both teams got certain chances but no team was able to convert them into a goal.
- Just before half time, our team scored another goal.
- We went into half time really happy and excited.
- We had some cold drinks and snacks during the half time.
- Every was cheering loudly and supporting the team by saying east or west convent school is the best.
- In the second half, our team played a bit defensively and the opposition team was extra aggressive as they were behind.
- However, our defence was really strong and we didn't let them score.
- At final whistle, the score was 2-1 in our favour.
- Overall, it was a my first football match.
- I had never seen a football match on TV also.
- And, it was an amazing experience , maybe partly because we won but also because there were so many ups and downs.
- It was a really exciting and nail biting match.

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1. What kind of competitions do people in your country like to watch?

First is of course sports competitions especially cricket competitions like IPL are very popular. Secondly, reality and talent competitions like dance, singing, cooking and comedy shows also enjoy a huge viewership. Finally, quiz competitions like Kaun Banega Crorepati are also very popular.

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# 36. Describe your first day at school that you remember

**You should say:**

- Where the school was
- How did you go there
- What happened that day
- And how you felt on that day

- I still remember my first day of school very vividly.
- I went to St. Joseph's Convent School in Phagwara.
- It is a well-known school in the city and not very far from my home.
- I think my parents chose that school because it was the only ICSE board school in Phagwara at that time.
- On the first day, my parents took me to school in our car.
- I was carrying a small school bag and wearing my new school uniform.
- I also had a lunchbox with my favorite food.
- I was feeling very nervous in the car and didn't want my parents to leave me at school.
- When we reached, I saw many other children dressed like me and holding their parents' hands.
- Some of them looked very excited, but some were crying.
- We were told to wait outside in the hall.
- Finally, my class teacher and another teacher came outside and asked the parents to leave.
- I got really scared and started crying.
- My teacher told us that she had a lot of fun activities planned for the first day.
- She said we would see our parents again at the end of the school day and that we should not worry.
- That was the hardest part of the day, but finally, all the parents left.
- She asked us children to come into the classroom
- In the class, she read a book to us.
- Then we did some coloring activities and even played some games.
- We sang some songs about numbers and the alphabet.
- She made learning very fun.
- I also made a new friend that day named Priya.
- We talked a lot during the lunch break.
- By the end of the day, I felt much better, and I was excited to return to school the next day.

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Follow-ups
How do parents prepare their kids to go to school on the first day?
I think firstly, they should ensure that their children have a proper morning routine so that they get up on time. Secondly, they should stock up on all the school supplies like stationery and notebooks. Finally, I think they should talk to their children and tell them what should they expect, what they should do if they face any problems. It's important that the child doesn't see the school as a burden.

How do children socialize with each other?
I think children socialize with each other when they spend time with each other at school, studying, or when they do other extra-curricular activities like painting. At younger ages, it can be non-verbal, and as they become older, they start communicating verbally.

Is socialization important for children?
I think the importance of socialization cannot be overstated. Socialization makes them confident and teaches them to deal with new social situations. Also, socialization is the key to communication skills as well. Above all, socialization is the key to making friends.

What are the reasons for a job change?
There are many reasons for changing jobs. Firstly, it can be done to break the monotony of life, or in other words, to find something new to do. Another major reason is money. Some people also do it for the work environment, as they find their work environment stressful.

Are big companies better than small companies? Why?
Big companies can be better in some ways as they often offer higher salaries, better job security, and have better facilities. However, small companies can be more flexible and give employees a chance to learn and grow. It really depends on what a person is looking for in a job.

What are the advantages and disadvantages coming along with changing jobs?
Advantages of changing jobs include better salary, learning new skills, and getting more experience. Disadvantages include starting from scratch in a new place and needing time to adjust to a new team or environment.

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# 37. Describe a website that sells second-hand items

**You should say:**

- What it is
- How you found out about it
- What people can buy from it
- And explain whether you like it.

- One website I know that sells used items is Quikr.
- It is an Indian website where people can buy and sell a wide variety of second-hand items.
- I found out about Quikr from my cousin Nishant.
- He was looking for a second-hand bike, and he told me he got a good deal on Quikr.
- I wanted to learn guitar and didn't want to buy a new guitar right away.
- So, I started looking at Quikr for a used guitar.
- I ended up getting a guitar that was almost new for half the original price.
- On Quikr, people can buy and sell many second-hand items like phones, electronics, furniture, books, clothes, bikes, cars, and various household items.
- Quikr's website also has a section called QuikrBazaar for online shopping, where you can find both new and used electronics, furniture, and home and lifestyle products.
- You can buy and sell from 1200+ Cities across India.
- I like Quikr because it is easy to use.
- You can filter by city and category and sort by price.
- The pictures and descriptions help you decide if something is worth buying.
- You can even contact the seller directly on the website.
- It saves a lot of money, especially for students like me who just finished school and don't want to spend too much.
- It also reduces waste and helps people reuse things that are still in good condition.
- Instead of throwing things away, people can sell them to someone who needs them.
- I've had a good experience with it, and I would definitely use it in the future.

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**Follow-ups**

**1. Some people think it's a waste to buy too many clothes for children. What do you think?**

I agree that it can be a waste to buy too many clothes for children. Children grow very quickly, so they often outgrow their clothes in just a few months. It's better to buy a few good-quality clothes and add more only when needed.

**2. How do people usually handle the clothes they don't want?**

People usually donate their unwanted clothes to charity or give them to their siblings or cousins. Some also choose to sell their clothes online through various apps or websites. This helps reduce waste and gives clothes a second life.

**3. Why do people buy second-hand clothes?**

People usually buy second-hand clothes because they are cheaper and more budget-friendly. Some people buy them because they are vintage and cannot be found in stores. Some people also buy them because they're eco-friendly and help reduce waste.

**4. What problems will occur if people don't recycle?**

If people don't recycle, a lot of useful materials like paper, metal, and plastic will go to waste. This waste will pile up in landfills and pollute the environment. Over time, this can increase climate change and make our planet dirtier and less healthy for future generations.

**5. Should the government encourage people to recycle items?**

Yes, I think the government should definitely encourage people to recycle.
Recycling is very important today, especially with serious issues like global warming and climate change. It helps reduce waste, saves energy, and lowers pollution. By promoting recycling, the government can help people reduce their carbon footprint and protect the environment for future generations.

**6. How do people in your country recycle various items they don't want?**

In my country, people reuse plastic bottles, jars, and old clothes at home.
Some donate books, clothes, and toys to others in need. People also sell old newspapers, magazines, cardboard, scrap metal, tires, etc., to scrap collectors (kabadiwalas) who collect and recycle them.

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# 38. Describe a program you like to watch

**You should say:**

- What it is
- What is it about
- Who you watch it with
- And explain why you like to watch it

- One program I really enjoy watching is India's Best Dancer.
- It is a dance reality show that comes on SONY TV.
- The show is about talented dancers from all over India who come and perform in front of the judges and audiences.
- They do many dance styles like hip-hop, contemporary, classical, and Bollywood.
- There are extensive auditions in the beginning episodes, and only a few get to the top 12.
- These dancers then perform weekly, and based on the scores from the judges and votes from the public, one dancer gets eliminated every week.
- These dancers are guided by expert choreographers, and they help them improve every week.
- I usually watch this show with my family.
- It is telecast on the weekends, and we all sit together and enjoy the performances.
- We have our favorites and root for them to get full points.
- Sometimes, my brother tries to copy the dance moves.
- Also, there are usually two hosts who crack jokes in between performances and make the show even more entertaining.
- The judges are also super talented and sometimes come on the stage to show some dance moves.
- They encourage the performers and give good advice to get better.
- I like this show because it is not only entertaining but also very inspiring.
- These dancers are so hardworking and put in so many hours to get the moves right.
- They step out of their comfort zones and do other forms of dance that they have never done before.
- They sometimes get injured too, but that doesn't stop them.
- It makes me proud to see how much talent we have in our country.
- The background music, lights, and costumes also make the show fun to watch.

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**Follow-ups**

**1. What programs do people like to watch in your country?**

India is a diverse country, and it is very hard to generalize what people like to watch. People like to watch news, soaps, dramas, comedy shows, reality shows, and sports. It really depends on the person. I personally like to watch news, sports shows, and reality shows.

**2. Do people in your country like to watch foreign TV programs?**

I think the younger generation in my country enjoys watching foreign TV shows, especially because online streaming platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime have made them easily available. These shows offer different cultures, stories, and styles that many young people find interesting and entertaining.

**3. What's the benefit of letting kids watch animal videos rather than visiting a zoo?**

The main benefit of letting kids watch animal videos instead of visiting a zoo is that videos often include audio explanations about the animals, their habitats, behaviors, and diets. In a zoo, the children can see the animals, but they may not learn much about them unless someone explains to them. Videos are very educational and informative.

**4. Do teachers play videos in class in your country?**

Yes, many teachers play videos in class, especially in private and modern government schools. Videos are used to explain difficult topics in a simple way. They also help students stay engaged and focused. Videos also makes learning more interesting and fun.

**5. Do you think watching talk shows is a waste of time?**

Yes, talk shows can be a waste of time if they are about gossip and drama. But others can be inspiring and educational, especially those that talk about success stories, current issues, and real-life problems. It really depends on the type of show.

**6. Do you think we can acquire knowledge from watching TV programs?**

Yes, documentaries, news channels and educational shows can help us learn about nature, science, history, and current events. Some entertainment shows can teach us life lessons, and some reality shows can be inspiring. Some shows, especially if we watch them in English, can improve our language and communication skills.

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# 39. Describe a story or novel you have read that you found interesting

**You should say:**

- When you read it
- What the story or novel was about
- Who wrote it
- And explain why it was interesting

- I've read many books over the years, but the very first one I ever read is still one of my favorites.
- It's Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, written by J.K. Rowling.
- I read it when I was 10 years old.
- It was actually a birthday gift from my mom.
- At the time, I was a little upset with her because I had really wanted a new video game that had just been released.
- My mom promised me that she'd get me the game too if I gave the book a chance first.
- So, rather reluctantly, I started reading it.
- To my surprise, I read just 10 pages, and I was hooked.
- I started reading it at 9 PM that night and couldn't stop.
- I finally finished it at 7 AM in the morning.
- Luckily, it was summer vacation, or my parents would've taken the book away and made me sleep.
- The story, as many people know, follows a young boy named Harry who discovers on his 11th birthday that he is a wizard.
- He goes to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and starts a magical journey filled with friendship, danger, and the fight between good and evil.
- What makes the book interesting isn't just the magic or the fantasy.
- It is also a powerful coming-of-age story.
- Harry isn't a perfect hero; he makes mistakes, gets hurt, and people around him also face real losses.
- The story is not predictable, the characters are very well-written, and the magical system is so creative.
- Even now, years later, I still pick up the book every once in a while and read a few chapters.
- Strangely, I always notice something new each time, like a small detail or clever line I hadn't paid attention to before.
- This book is the reason I fell in love with reading.
- It will always hold a special place in my heart.

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**Follow-ups**

1. **Do you prefer to read eBooks or printed books?**

I prefer printed books over e-books because I find it difficult to read on a small mobile device or a tablet. Moreover, I think reading eBooks on brightly lit screens is harmful to the eyes.

2. **What kinds of novels are suitable for a film adaptation?**

I think all kinds of novels, be it suspense, drama, or thriller, are suitable for film adaptation. Anything that can be written as a story could be visualized as well.

3. **How does technology help people tell stories?**

I think there are two ways in which technology helps in telling stories. Firstly, with the help of technology, people can animate their stories and help the audience to visualize the characters. Secondly, technology helps to reach a wider audience.

4. **Why are mystery novels so popular nowadays?**

Mystery novels are popular simply because of the curiosity factor. People are always interested in things involving suspense and in stories where the outcome is not certain. Such novels keep people guessing till the end, and thus they like it more as compared to any other novel in which they would know the ending beforehand.

5. **Is there any difference between the popular novels now and those in the past?**

I think in the past, novels were often more classic, formal, and focused on social or moral themes. Today, many popular novels are fast-paced, with simple language and a focus on entertainment, mystery, and fantasy. Modern novels reflect current issues and trends so today's readers can relate to them.

6. **Why do some people prefer reading novels to playing computer games in this digital world?**

Some people prefer reading novels because it helps them relax and unwind after a long, stressful day. Since many already spend hours in front of screens for work or studies, reading offers a refreshing break. Reading is a quiet and peaceful activity that allows them to escape into another world.

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# 40. Describe a person you have met who you want to work/study with

**You should say:**

- Who this person is
- How you met this person
- How long have you known him/her
- And explain why you want to work/study with him/her

- One person I would like to work with is my school senior, Charu Sharma.
- She was in the grade above me at St. Joseph's Convent School.
- I met her for the first time during a science club meeting when I was in 9th grade, and she was in 10th grade.
- We were both selected for a group project about global warming and how it is affecting our country.
- That was the first time I closely worked with her.
- At first, I was nervous because she was more experienced and older than me.
- But she was so kind and supportive that I quickly became comfortable around her.
- Since then, we've stayed in touch and become good friends.
- She even helped me with my college application.
- So I have known her for almost six years now.
- She has a very positive attitude and is very organized.
- During our project, she divided the work fairly and made sure everyone understood their parts.
- She was very helpful if someone had a problem.
- She would explain things very patiently, and once stayed after school just to help me finish some slides.
- She also respected our opinions and let everyone in the team speak and present their ideas.
- I want to work with her because I know I'll grow as a person.
- I can learn to become more organized and manage my time better.
- She brings out the best in the people around her.
- I think we would make a great team.
- So, if I ever get the chance in the future, I would like to work with Charu again

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**Follow-ups**

**1. Why should children be kind to their classmates?**
I think children should be kind to their classmates because it helps them build trust and strong friendships. It makes everyone feel included, and it is important for learning and growing together.

**2.Can children choose their deskmates?**
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 who to sit with.

**3. What matters most about a colleague's personality?**
What matters most about a colleague's personality is that they are helpful, cooperative, and respectful. A team can perform smoothly if all the team members get along and communicate well.

**4. Are good colleagues important at work?**
Yes, good colleagues are very important at work. They can make the workplace more comfortable and productive. Working with helpful and friendly people reduces stress and improves teamwork.

**5. What kind of people are popular at work?**
I think people who stay calm and deal with issues without getting themselves or stressing others are popular. For example, people who are able to employ humor during high-pressure situations to lighten the mood.

**6. Are knowledgeable people popular at work?**
Yes, knowledgeable people are popular at work, especially if they are helpful and humble. People don't hesitate to go to them for advice. They can solve problems quickly and can improve a team's performance.

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# 41. Describe a problem you had while shopping online or in a store

**You should say:**

- When it happened
- What you bought
- What problem you had
- And explain how you felt about the experience

- I normally don't buy clothes or shoes online because of size issues.
- Different companies have different sizes, and sometimes the large size of one company is a small size for another company.
- However, recently my friend ordered Nike shoes from Amazon, and they were nearly half the price of the Nike retail store.
- So, I also decided to buy shoes online.
- Two months ago, I placed an order for Adidas shoes from Flipkart, another famous retail store.
- The same shoes were available on Amazon as well, but were about Rs 200 costlier, so I decided to go for Flipkart.
- I was so excited about the shoes.
- In fact, I was boasting about the great deal I found on the Internet to my friends.
- However, when I opened the box, I was quite disappointed
- My shoes were duplicates.
- The brand name written on the shoes was not Adidas but Adidaas, with a double a.
- I know a big brand could never make such a big mistake.
- So, I called the customer care number of Flipkart and told them about the problem.
- They told me to take a photograph and send it
- Immediately, they offered me two choices.
- Either they could refund the money, or I could buy something else for the same price.
- At the same time, they removed the seller from their platform
- They told me to courier the shoes back to the seller.
- When I emailed them the courier slip, they refunded me the whole amount, along with the courier charges I incurred.
- I was quite happy with their handling of my complaint.
- However, I also felt it was a waste of time.
- The whole process took about two weeks.
- I could have directly gone to a store and picked up the hoses, and the whole thing would have taken me about an hour or two.

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1. **What kind of customer service do you think is good?**

I think that creating a good customer experience depends on multiple factors. The companies should ensure that the staff providing the service are prompt, attentive, and most importantly, are very patient and polite with the client.

2. **What are the differences between shopping online and in-store?**

There are numerous differences between online shopping versus shopping from brick-and-mortar stores. First of all, online shopping is more convenient as it saves a lot of time and energy. Also, it can be done 24X7, whereas, the stores are generally open for 10-12 hours only. The only benefit of retail stores is that an individual can make a better judgment of the look and feel of the product, which is not possible online.

3. **What problems do customers often have while shopping?**

Generally, the customers are not able to easily find products/goods that match their needs or taste. For example, sometimes if a person likes a particular piece of clothing, he/she might not be able to find the right size for it. Other than that, sometimes they might have to deal with rude and impolite staff.

4. **What do you think customers should do when there are problems with products bought online?**

The customers should immediately lodge a complaint with the website from which they have bought the product. Also, they should go through the refund and return policy for the product and then take the necessary action.

5. **Can customer complaints help improve product quality?**

Yes, customer complaints can help improve product quality. They give companies feedback about what is wrong or not working properly. Companies can then fix these problems and make better products in the future.

6. **What do you think of people complaining when they buy poor-quality goods at a low price?**

I think people shouldn't expect high quality if they know they are paying a very low price. However, if the product breaks or doesn't work at all, people have the right to complain.

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# 42. Describe a difficult thing you did and succeeded in

**You should say:**

- What it was
- How you overcame the difficulties
- Whether you got help
- And explain how you felt after you succeeded

- Well, there are many things I've done in life that felt difficult at first but became easier with time and practice.
- For example, I found cooking to be very difficult at first, but now I can cook anything easily by just following the recipe.
- However, one challenging thing I would like to talk about today is when I assembled my own Personal Computer from scratch.
- This happened about three years ago, right after my exams were over.
- I had asked my parents for a new desktop computer.
- Some of my friends had already bought branded computers from companies like Dell and HP, which came pre-installed with all the software.
- However, being a gamer, I was more interested in getting a gaming computer with a more powerful configuration.
- Unfortunately, branded gaming computers were way too expensive and out of my budget.
- So, I discussed it with one of my friends who's good with tech.
- He suggested that I buy the computer parts separately and assemble them on my own, as it would cost much less than a branded PC.
- Since I did not have much knowledge about computer hardware at that time, it seemed very difficult to me to do this task on my own.
- But I was determined and decided to go ahead.
- I started reading a book on computer hardware and also started watching computer assembly videos on YouTube.
- Through the videos, I learnt a lot about the different computer parts and their functioning.
- Finally, after I gained enough confidence, I ordered all the components online – like the motherboard, processor, RAM, graphics card, etc., because it was much cheaper than buying from local shops.
- The most difficult part was definitely installing the processor and the cooling fans onto the motherboard.
- It required a very steady hand and careful handling.
- If this process is not done carefully, it could lead to a short circuit, and the processor could get damaged.
- I took my time and followed the instructions exactly.
- It took me an entire day to put everything together, and to my surprise, it actually worked.
- I didn't take any help directly, but I got a lot of guidance from online tutorials and forums.
- I was really proud of myself because I had done something I never thought I could do before.
- This experience taught me that no task is too difficult if you're willing to learn and be patient.
- It gave me a great sense of accomplishment.

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**Follow-ups**

1. **Should people set goals for themselves?**

Yes, people should set goals for themselves. Goals give purpose to their life and help them stay motivated. Goals make it easier to track their progress and give them a sense of accomplishment when they are reached.

2. **How would you define success?**

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

3. **How can we judge whether young people are successful nowadays?**

We can judge whether young people are successful by looking at a few things. One is that they are achieving their goals in work, studies, or personal life. Another is if they are happy, confident, and learning new skills. I think success today is not just about getting good marks in exams or earning a lot of money, it is also about being responsible, respectful, kind, and growing as a person.

4. **Are successful people often lonely?**

Yes, it can often be hard for successful people to find people who understand them. They may have busy schedules and have less time to spend with family and friends. However, not all successful people are lonely, it depends on how they balance their work and relationships.

5. **What kinds of success can students achieve at school?**

Students can achieve success in academics by getting good grades and winning competitions like the science fair and math Olympiad. They can also shine in sports, music, or art. Some may show leadership skills in various clubs and group projects.

6. **Should students be proud of their success?**

Yes, students should be proud of their success and celebrate their achievements. It shows that their hard work and effort paid off. It builds their confidence and motivates them to do even better in the future.

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# 43. Describe a time when you needed to search for information

**You should say:**

- What information you needed to search for
- When you searched for it
- Where you searched for it
- And explain why you needed to search for it

- Internet has made our lives really easy, especially when it comes to searching for information.
- We can find out about anything with a click of a button.
- In the 10th standard, my history teacher gave me a project to write about the life of a freedom fighter.
- One of the instructions for the project was that I was forbidden to use the internet.
- I had no clue what I could do to search for it.
- It made me realise how dependent I had become on the internet.
- It was like I couldn't survive without it.
- Then, I asked my parents for advice.
- They told me that I could visit the local library.
- There, I might find some past newspapers and articles, which could help me.
- The library told me that they were also going digital, and most of the articles and past newspapers had been uploaded to their website.
- Finally, I thought about the museum dedicated to Bhagat Singh, which is about half an hour's drive from my hometown.
- In the museum, I came to know a lot about his life.
- For example, 'he had a slogan Inquilab Zindabad' which means long live revolution.
- I had always thought the revolution meant freedom for India.
- However, it actually meant freedom from the tyranny of the rich and powerful.
- Bhagat Singh's ideas were too advanced for his age.
- I also learnt that although he was hanged for violence, he had stopped believing in violence long before he was even caught.
- Besides learning about Bhagat Singh's life, I gained an appreciation for the internet, and at the same time, I learned how we are becoming overdependent on it.

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**How can people search for information now?**
I believe that smartphones are the best option for looking up information anywhere and at any time. They just have to type a few words into google search engine and within milliseconds they can get hundreds of documents and videos about the information they are looking for.

**What information can people get from television?**
Although television is mainly considered an entertainment unit or sometimes also called an idiot box, I believe that if people watch the right channels, they can learn a lot about the world and increase their general knowledge by watching television.

**Do you think libraries are still important in the digital age?**
Yes, I feel that libraries still have an important role to play in our society. Apart from access to thousands of great books at the same time, libraries also provide a studious and focused environment for reading, which is hard to replicate elsewhere.

**Does the development of the Internet have any impact on some disadvantaged people?**
Yes, the internet has helped disadvantaged people by giving them free access to education, job opportunities, and ways to start small businesses. People can now learn new skills and can earn money online. For example, a taxi driver can find more customers using apps like Uber instead of waiting at one spot.

**How do people identify reliable information on the Internet?**
People can identify reliable information on the internet by checking trusted websites, like news channels, government websites, or educational websites.
They can look at the author's name and see if the source is well-known and an expert in the topic.

**Is it good if people could have more access to information in the future?**
Yes, it is good if people have more access to information in the future. It can help them learn new things, be more innovative, and solve problems faster. It can spread awareness and knowledge to more people.

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# 44. Describe a time when someone gave you something that you really wanted

You should say
- What it was
- When you received it
- Who gave it to you
- And explain how you felt when the person gave it to you

- I'd like to talk about a very special gift that I received — something I had been dreaming about for quite some time.
- This happened just after my 12th board exams were over.
- I was exploring my higher education options online and reading about the requirements for university programs.
- Many of the courses I was interested in suggested having a powerful laptop, like a MacBook or a high-end Windows computer with a good graphic card.
- I really wanted to get the latest MacBook, but I didn't bring it up with my parents.
- The reason was that I knew they were already going to spend a lot on my college fees and other expenses.
- So, I kept quiet and didn't expect anything.
- Then, on the day my 12th results were announced, I got the biggest surprise.
- My parents gifted me the latest MacBook Air with the new M4 chip, a 17-inch screen, 16 GB RAM, and 256 GB storage.
- It was exactly what I had been wishing for.
- Before that, I had a really old desktop computer — it was around 7 years old and very slow.
- I was honestly shocked and happy at the same time.
- I asked them how they knew I wanted this laptop.
- They told me they had heard me talking about it with my friend when he had visited our house.
- After hearing that, they secretly planned to gift it to me on my birthday.
- They even took help from that same friend — he went with them to the store to buy the exact model.
- That made it even more special because it showed how much effort they had put into it.
- I was really touched and felt grateful.
- That day, I got exactly what I had wished for without even asking.
- It made me feel that when you really want something and you work hard, somehow the universe helps you get it.
- I'll never forget that day — not just because of the gift, but because of the love and thought behind it.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Should employees have their own goals?
Yes, I believe employees should set their own goals. It helps them stay motivated and take ownership of their work. When people know what they want to achieve, they usually perform better. At the same time, these goals should match the company's overall direction.

2. How should bosses reward employees?
I think bosses should reward employees based on their performance. It can be through bonuses, promotions, or even a simple thank-you in front of the team. Sometimes, just being appreciated is more meaningful than money. But of course, fair financial rewards also matter.

3. What kinds of gifts do young people like to receive as rewards?
Most young people enjoy tech gadgets like headphones or smartwatches, or even gift cards so they can choose for themselves. Some also like experiences, like movie tickets or a trip. It really depends on the person, but useful and trendy gifts are quite popular.

4. How should children spend their allowance money?
In my opinion, children should learn to spend their allowance wisely. They can save a part of it, buy things they really need or want, and maybe even donate a little. Learning money habits early in life helps them in the future. But it's also okay if they treat themselves once in a while.

5. Why do people like shopping more now than in the past?
Shopping has become easier and more fun these days, especially with online stores. There are so many options, and people can buy things with just a click. Also, many shop for fun or to feel better, not just for need. In the past, it was more about buying only what was necessary.

6. Do you think shopping is good for a country's economy?
Yes, definitely. When people shop, businesses grow and more jobs are created. It helps money move through the system. But if people shop too much, especially on credit, it can cause problems too. So, shopping is good, but it needs to be balanced.

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# 45. Describe a famous person you would like to meet

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- How you knew him/her
- How/where you would like to meet him/her
- And explain why you would like to meet him/ her

- One famous person I would love to meet is Diljit Dosanjh.
- He's not only the most popular Punjabi singer, but also a successful Bollywood actor.
- I've known about him since I was a child — I grew up listening to his songs.
- In fact, I still remember doing a dance performance on one of his songs at my school's annual function.
- His music has been a part of many happy memories in my life.
- What I admire the most is his journey from being a small-town singer to becoming an international star.
- He worked really hard to reach where he is today.
- Recently, he completed a world tour, and I was lucky to attend one of his concerts in Chandigarh.
- I bought a fan pit ticket, which meant I was right in front of the stage.
- Seeing him perform live, that too from so close, felt like a dream come true.
- The energy, the vibe, the crowd — it was something I'll never forget.
- He's also the first Punjabi singer to perform at Coachella, one of the biggest music festivals in the world.
- That made me even more proud to be a fan of his.
- Apart from being talented, he is also very spiritual.
- I read that he recites Sikh religious text throughout the day and stays grounded in his faith.
- I would really love to spend a day with him.
- I want to ask him how he stays so disciplined and how he keeps working hard even after achieving so much.
- It would be inspiring to know his thoughts on success and how he deals with fame.
- I feel he has not only made a name for himself, but he has also put Punjabi music on the global map.
- Meeting him would be one of the best moments of my life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of being a famous child?
I think the biggest advantage is that the child gets a lot of attention and opportunities at a young age. But the downside is, they lose their normal childhood. They are always under pressure and sometimes miss out on school or playtime with friends.

2. What can today's children do to become famous?
Nowadays, kids can become famous through social media, talent shows, or even YouTube. If they have a special skill like dancing, singing, or acting, they can post videos and get noticed. But not everyone wants that kind of life.

3. What can children do with their fame?
If they use their fame in a good way, they can inspire others and even support social causes. Some young stars help in raising money for charities or speak up about important issues. But it's also easy to get lost in attention and forget to stay grounded.

4. Do people become famous because of their talent?
Yes, many people do become famous because they are really talented. But in today's world, sometimes people also get fame just by doing something viral or controversial. I feel real talent lasts longer, while instant fame fades quickly.

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# 46. Describe an intelligent person you know

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How you knew this person
- What this person does
- And explain why you think this person is intelligent

- I would like to talk about my cousin who is one of the most intelligent people I have ever known.
- He is my maternal uncle's son and we have grown up together, so I know him really well.
- Right now, he lives in the USA, in Silicon Valley, and works at Google as a Vice President.
- Everyone in our family is really proud of him and looks up to him.
- He did his schooling from a convent school in Chandigarh and was always the top student in his class.
- I remember my aunt telling us that he never took tuitions, but still scored full marks in subjects like Maths and Science.
- After school, he cracked the toughest engineering entrance exam in India and got an All India Rank of 10.
- He then went on to study Computer Science at IIT Mumbai, which is the top engineering college in India.
- Later, he did his master's degree from Stanford University in the USA, which is another world-famous institute.
- He's very hardworking and focused. I've never seen him wasting time or getting distracted.
- Before joining Google, he worked at Apple and Amazon, and received many awards and recognitions for his work.
- Even in school days, he used to make innovative science projects and won many quiz competitions.
- I remember once, during his last visit to India, we were having tea at home, and he explained how Artificial Intelligence is going to change the future.
- He used very simple language to explain difficult things like machine learning and neural networks, and I was amazed.
- He told me he was leading a team at Google working on AI tools that can help doctors diagnose diseases more accurately.
- That day, I realized how intelligent he is — not just because of his job, but because he can break down tough topics into simple ideas.
- What I admire the most is that despite all his success, he is very humble and down-to-earth.
- He always motivates me to work hard and keep learning new things.
- I really look up to him and hope to achieve even a small part of what he has achieved.
- For me, intelligence is not just about books, it's also about applying knowledge to help others — and that's exactly what he does.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Why are some children more intelligent than others?
I think it depends on many things like genetics, environment, and the kind of learning they are exposed to. Some children grow up in homes where they are encouraged to read and ask questions, which helps a lot. Also, using books like the Makkar IELTS ideas book can develop strong thinking and speaking skills early on.

(Explore more at www.makkarielts.com and follow @makkarielts on Instagram for daily tips.)

2. Who do you think plays a more important role in a child's development, teachers or parents?
I believe both are important, but parents have a stronger influence in the early years.
They shape habits, values, and behaviour at home, which stays with the child for life.
However, good teachers also inspire children and guide their academic growth.
(Resources like GT reading, essay books, and letter writing practice available at www.makkarielts.com and instagram.com/makkarielts)

3. Do you think smart people tend to be selfish?
Not always. Some smart people use their knowledge to help others and solve problems.
But yes, there are a few who become proud or think they are better than everyone else.
It depends more on a person's nature than just their intelligence.
(Check out the Makkar IELTS reading books and essay collection at www.makkarielts.com or follow @makkarielts for updates.)

4. Are smart people happier than others?
I'm not sure. Being smart doesn't always mean being happy.
Some intelligent people overthink or feel lonely if they don't find like-minded people.
In fact, people with simple lives and less stress might be happier.
(Practice more answers using the Makkar IELTS graph book and ideas book at www.makkarielts.com or instagram.com/makkarielts)

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# 47. Describe an article on health you read in a magazine or on the Internet

You should say:

- What it was
- Where you read it
- Why you read it
- And how you felt about it

- I'm very health conscious and I make sure to exercise every day, even if I'm busy.
- I also watch a lot of videos related to diet, fitness, and healthy living.
- So I naturally enjoy reading articles on health-related topics, especially from trusted sources.
- A few months back, just after my exams had ended, I went on a short vacation to Shimla.
- While I was travelling by bus, I was browsing news on the BBC app to pass the time.
- In the health section, I came across a really interesting article titled "What is the safe limit of alcohol consumption?"
- The article was written by Dr. Abby Philips, a well-known liver specialist who's also very active on social media.
- It immediately caught my attention because many people around me consume alcohol, thinking it's harmless if done occasionally.
- The article had two pages, and it also included images of a healthy liver and a fatty liver damaged due to alcohol.
- One shocking statement made by the doctor was that no amount of alcohol is safe for the human body.
- He explained that even weekend drinking or social drinking can cause serious and irreversible damage to the liver.
- I was surprised to learn that alcohol can leave traces in human hair for up to three months.
- The main idea was that alcohol leads to fat build-up in the liver which becomes permanent over time.
- If someone keeps drinking regularly, it can lead to liver failure, sometimes even at a young age.
- The article also mentioned that the only solution in the worst cases is a liver transplant, which is expensive and not easily available.
- I felt really shocked but also informed after reading this article.
- I immediately shared it with some of my friends and relatives who drink on weekends.
- After seeing the liver images and reading the facts, many of them promised they would stop drinking.
- I really appreciated the way Dr. Abby explained everything in simple words backed with science.
- Overall, the article left a deep impact on me and reminded me why staying away from alcohol is so important for long-term health.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you think people are healthier now than in the past?
I don't think so. Many people today have busy lifestyles and eat a lot of processed food, which affects their health.
Even though modern medicine has improved, problems like stress and obesity are more common now.
In the past, life was slower and food was more natural.
(For more speaking ideas, visit: www.makkarielts.com or follow @makkarielts on Instagram)

2. How can you tell whether a website is reliable or not?
I usually check if the website is from a trusted source, like a government or well-known news site.
If the information is written by experts or has proper references, then I trust it more.
Also, I avoid websites that have too many ads or spelling mistakes.
(Practice with more tips at: www.makkarielts.com and instagram.com/makkarielts)

3. What activities can schools organize for children to keep fit?
Schools can arrange regular sports events, yoga classes, or dance sessions.
Even morning walks or fun games during breaks can help children stay active.
Physical activity not only improves fitness but also helps with focus and mood.
(More ideas available at www.makkarielts.com and @makkarielts on Instagram)

4. What can governments do to improve people's health?
Governments can run awareness campaigns about healthy eating and exercise.
They should also build more public parks, walking tracks, and fitness centres.
In my opinion, they can even ban junk food ads near schools.
But some people believe it's the person's responsibility, not the government's.
(Explore more speaking questions at www.makkarielts.com or instagram.com/makkarielts)

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# 48. Describe a beautiful sky you enjoyed seeing

You should say:

- Where you saw it
- Who you saw it with
- What you saw
- And how you felt about it

- A few months ago, after my final exams, I went to Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh with my friends.
- It was springtime, and I was really looking forward to relaxing after a hectic exam schedule.
- We reached the lake around 6 in the evening, planning to catch the sunset.
- The environment there was so peaceful and refreshing.
- Sukhna Lake is a beautiful man-made lake with a walking path, clean water, and lots of greenery all around.
- There were ducks swimming, people boating, and children playing — a really happy vibe.
- The cool breeze was blowing gently, and across the lake, we could see the hills of Himachal Pradesh and a forest line, which made the scene even more beautiful.
- Around 7 pm, the sun started to set, and that's when the magic began.
- There were a few clouds in the sky, and the light from the setting sun gave the sky this stunning pink and orange hue.
- I usually don't pay much attention to the sky, but that day I just couldn't stop looking at it.
- It looked like a painting come to life.
- Everyone around us was pointing to the sky, taking pictures, and sharing them on Instagram — even I posted one on instagram.com/makkarielts.
- The calmness of the lake and the beauty of the sky made me feel completely relaxed and in the moment.
- I was just sitting there, smiling, feeling blessed and blissful.
- It reminded me how simple moments in nature can be so powerful.
- Makkar IELTS website makkarielts.com.
- After that day, I've started spending more time outdoors, especially during the evenings.
- It was honestly one of the most peaceful and beautiful skies I've ever seen.
- That sunset made me realise how nature can heal and uplift your mood.
- I'll never forget that view — it's etched in my memory forever.


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1. What kind of people are interested in stars?
People who are curious about space, like scientists or dreamers, often enjoy looking at stars. Some find peace in stargazing, while others do it as a hobby. I've also met people who just enjoy learning about the universe.

2. Is high technology helpful for star watching?
Yes, technology has made star watching much easier and more detailed. We can now use apps or telescopes to find constellations. It's more exciting than just looking with the naked eye.

3. Should kids know more about stars and planets?
Definitely. Learning about stars and planets can boost their interest in science. It also helps them understand how big and amazing our universe is.

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# 49. Describe a time when you made a plan to do an activity with a lot of people

You should say:

- What it was
- When and where you made it
- What the activity was
- And explain how you felt about the plan

- A few months ago, after my final exams ended, I was feeling really bored at home.
- I had been studying non-stop, so I was craving some fresh air and fun.
- One afternoon, I randomly called my best friend and said, "Let's go out somewhere!"
- He instantly said yes, and then we decided to ask our classmates too.
- Everyone loved the idea, and within an hour, we had created a WhatsApp group and made a plan for a one-day picnic to Kasauli.
- Kasauli is a small and beautiful hill station about 2 hours from Chandigarh.
- We decided to travel by bus, and a total of 15 of us confirmed the plan.
- We all divided responsibilities — some brought snacks, some brought lunch, and others packed games and a speaker.
- One of our friends even carried his guitar!
- We left around 10 in the morning and reached Kasauli by 12 noon.
- First, we explored the Mall Road, which is full of small shops and cafés.
- The weather was amazing — much cooler than Chandigarh — and it felt so nice to escape the heat.
- Around 2 PM, we started feeling hungry, so we headed to Gilbert Trail, our picnic spot.
- It was full of lush greenery, birds chirping, and stunning views of the Himalayas.
- We spread out some bedsheets and enjoyed a homemade lunch — everything tasted extra good in that fresh mountain air.
- After eating, we played games like dumb charades and antakshari.
- Then our friend played the guitar, and we all sang along — it was such a filmy moment.
- We took lots of pictures and some people even posted them on Instagram — you can see some at instagram.com/makkarielts.
- It was truly a memorable day, and we all still talk about it in class.
- I even mentioned this fun day in one of my blogs on makkarielts.com.
- I felt super happy that we planned something so quickly and made such amazing memories together.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What kind of plans do young people often make?
Young people usually plan for their studies, jobs, or travel. Some also plan daily routines to manage time better. I often plan my study schedule to prepare for IELTS.

2. Why can't people always follow their plans?
Sometimes life is unpredictable—things change or problems come up. That's why even well-made plans can fail. But I believe planning is still useful, even if we don't follow everything exactly.

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# 50. Describe a photo you took that you are proud of

You should say:

- When you took it
- Where you took it
- What is in this photo
- And explain why you are proud of it

- This photo that I'm proud of was taken during a short trip to Kasauli, a beautiful hill station near Chandigarh.
- It was in the month of April, and our final exams had just ended.
- The weather in the city had started becoming hot, and I was getting bored sitting at home.
- One of my close friends called and suggested we go for a day trip to the hills.
- I immediately agreed, and the next morning we left early from Chandigarh.
- My friend is actually learning professional photography and is really passionate about wildlife photography too.
- I was always curious about photography, so I asked him to teach me the basics during the trip.
- After reaching Kasauli, we had breakfast at Mall Road and then went to a nearby viewpoint.
- There, he took out his DSLR camera and started explaining shutter speed, ISO settings, and focal length.
- He clicked a few landscape shots and showed me how to hold the camera and adjust the settings.
- Then I took some pictures of the hills and trees in landscape mode — they came out nice.
- I also experimented with portrait mode and blur effect, which was fun.
- While looking around, I noticed an eagle sitting on top of a tall tree.
- I quickly used the zoom lens and took a close-up shot of the eagle.
- When I saw the photo, I was honestly shocked and amazed.
- The eagle's shining feathers, sharp eyes, and the blurred background of blue sky and lake looked incredible.
- It looked like something out of National Geographic — I couldn't believe I clicked it!
- I immediately transferred the photo to my phone and shared it on social media.
- I got tons of likes and compliments, and people even asked if I had taken it myself.
- I later got this photo printed and framed, and now it hangs on the wall of my bedroom.
- Every time I look at it, I feel motivated and proud, because it reminds me that I can learn anything if I try.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Why do some people like to record important things with photos?
Photos help us remember special moments clearly. One picture can bring back a lot of emotions. That's why many people take photos at weddings, birthdays, and trips.

2. What can people learn from historical photographs?
They show us how people lived in the past—their clothes, houses, or lifestyle. It's like getting a visual lesson about history. These pictures help us connect with old times.

3. Is taking photos the best way to remember something?
It depends. Photos are great, but sometimes just being present in the moment creates stronger memories. Not everything has to be captured by a camera.

4. Which is better, taking photos or keeping a diary?
I think both are good. Photos show how things looked, but a diary shows how we felt. I prefer a mix of both, especially when I travel or have a special day.

5. When do people take photos?
People mostly take photos during happy moments—like birthdays, holidays, or when they meet friends. Some also click random things they find beautiful.

6. Why do some people like to keep old photos?
Old photos remind us of people and times we might forget. They have emotions attached. I often smile when I see my childhood pictures.

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# 51. Describe an object that you think is beautiful

You should say:

- What it is
- Where you saw it
- What it looks like
- And explain why you think it is beautiful

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- A few weeks ago, my exams had just finished, and I was feeling bored at home.
- One of my friends called and asked if I wanted to go watch a movie.
- We went to the nearby VR Punjab mall in Mohali.
- After the movie, we decided to walk around and do some window shopping.
- We entered a popular store called Home Centre.
- It had so many home décor items like flower vases, paintings, plants, lamps, and other household things.
- As I was walking through the décor section, something caught my eye.
- It was a beautiful wooden floor lamp from a brand called Homemake.
- The lamp had a classic, antique look with a tall, carved wooden stand in a matt finish.
- It stood around 5 feet tall and had a linen drum lampshade in soft beige.
- The design looked inspired by French– elegant and traditional.
- It had an E-27 bulb holder and the warm light it gave off created a soft, cosy glow.
- Honestly, it looked like something straight out of a designer magazine.
- I thought it would be perfect for the corner of my bedroom and would make my room look more stylish.
- The price tag said ₹3000, but I was lucky to get a discount too.
- I immediately bought it and brought it home.
- My parents saw it and appreciated my choice – they also said it looked very classy.
- The reason I found it so beautiful is its simplicity mixed with elegance.
- It's not flashy or bright, but the soft wooden colour and glow of the lamp give such a calming feeling.
- I feel proud every time someone comes to my room and compliments it.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you think there are more beautiful things now than in the past? Why?
In some ways, yes. We have modern buildings, new designs, and digital art. But natural beauty like mountains and rivers hasn't changed. So it depends on what kind of beauty we're talking about.

2. What beautiful scenery spots are there in your country?
India has many—like Kashmir, Himachal, Kerala, and the desert areas of Rajasthan. Each place offers something different, from snowy hills to sunny beaches.

3. Why do you think people create beautiful things?
People like to express their feelings through beauty. It makes the world more colorful and meaningful. Sometimes, it's just for peace or happiness.

4. Where do you think people usually come into contact with beautiful things?
Mostly in nature, art galleries, or even social media now. A walk in the park or visiting a temple can also feel beautiful. Beauty is everywhere if we notice.

5. Do people in your country prefer listening to music to appreciating paintings and literature?
Yes, I think music is more popular these days. It's easy to access and enjoy. But there are still people who love reading and looking at art.

6. Why do many people go to scenic spots in person instead of just reading about them in books?
Seeing a place in real life gives a different feeling. Books show the details, but standing there gives the experience. It's like the difference between hearing about food and tasting it.

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# 52. Describe something you had to share with others

You should say

- What it was
- Who you shared it with
- Why you had to share with others
- And explain how you felt about it

- After finishing my 12th board exams, I had a lot of free time and was feeling a bit lost.
- One of my close friends suggested that I should start preparing for the IELTS exam.
- I thought it was a good idea since I wanted to go abroad for higher studies.
- While many of my classmates joined IELTS coaching classes, I decided to prepare on my own from home.
- I began researching online about how to prepare for the IELTS exam.
- Almost every website and YouTube video recommended using Makkar IELTS books.
- I also asked a few seniors who had taken the exam last year and they gave the same advice.
- So, I purchased the Makkar IELTS Reading, Writing, and Speaking books from makkarielts.com.
- The books were really helpful — well-structured, full of practice questions, and easy to understand.
- A few days later, I met up with some friends who were attending coaching classes.
- While discussing preparation strategies, I told them about the Makkar IELTS books I was using.
- They were curious and said they had heard these books were quite famous and helpful.
- They asked me if I could share the books with them for a few days, as their exam was coming up soon.
- At first, I was a bit hesitant because I was also preparing and didn't want to lose study time.
- But then I realised their exam was sooner than mine, and sharing would really help them.
- I gave them the books, and they were extremely thankful.
- After their exam, they returned the books and even shared tips they had learned in coaching.
- They told me how useful the books were, especially for Speaking practice from instagram.com/makkarielts.
- I felt really happy and proud that I helped someone during an important time.
- That moment taught me the real meaning of "sharing is caring."
- Now, I never hesitate to share helpful things with others — especially when it comes to studies.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you think kids like to share? Why?
Yes, some kids do enjoy sharing, especially when they are taught from a young age. It helps them feel connected to others. But some children are a bit possessive, especially with their favourite toys. I think it depends on the child's nature and upbringing.
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2. How can parents teach their children to share?
Parents can teach sharing by setting an example. If children see their parents being generous or sharing things with others, they will likely copy that behaviour. Also, praising them when they share can really help.

3. What do you think is the benefit of sharing for children?
Sharing helps children build friendships and learn teamwork. It also teaches them empathy and kindness, which are important in life. I think kids who learn to share grow into better people.

4. Is there anything that parents persuade children to share with others?
Yes, parents often ask their kids to share toys, snacks, or even books. Sometimes the child agrees, but sometimes they need a little push, especially if it's something they really love.

5. How can governments encourage shared transport?
Governments can improve public transport and make it cheaper. They can also promote carpooling by giving tax benefits or special lanes. If it's comfortable and affordable, people will choose it.

6. Why is it important to share food with others during celebration?
Sharing food brings people together and makes the celebration more joyful. It shows love and care. In my culture, festivals are incomplete without offering food to guests and neighbours.

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# 53. Describe an advertisement which introduced a product you have seen

You should say

- When and where you saw the advertisement
- What was the product
- How you like the advertisement
- And explain how you felt about it

- To be honest, I'm not a big fan of advertisements.
- I feel they mostly distract you from what you are actually enjoying, like a cricket match or a movie.
- I remember one such moment clearly — I was watching an IPL match with my friends.
- It was around five years ago, a match between Punjab Kings and Chennai Super Kings.
- During a break, a new advertisement popped up — it was for Cadbury Dairy Milk Silk chocolate.
- The ad had a jingle that went "Kiss me, close your eyes, miss me" — really catchy and sweet.
- The ad was short, around 30 to 40 seconds, but it left a strong impact.
- It showed a young couple sharing a Silk chocolate bar in a fun, romantic way.
- The chemistry between the actors was very cute and humorous at the same time.
- The way they looked at each other and tried to steal the chocolate was really funny.
- Even though I had just finished my dinner, I suddenly got a craving for something sweet.
- And honestly, Cadbury Silk is my favourite chocolate, especially the caramel and original silk versions.
- The jingle got stuck in my head — I kept humming "kiss me…" the whole night.
- My friends kept teasing me for loving such a soft, romantic ad.
- But I really enjoy it for its simplicity and the emotions it conveys in just a few seconds.
- It's one of the rare ads I don't mind watching again and again.
- Even today, whenever this ad plays, I stop and watch it with a smile.
- I think it does a great job of promoting the product in a light-hearted, feel-good manner.
- It made me love the chocolate even more and I ended up buying one the very next day.
- It's funny how an ad I didn't expect to like actually became one of my favourites.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Where do you often see advertisements?
I mostly see ads on YouTube and Instagram these days. Sometimes they also pop up while I'm playing games or watching something online.
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2. What are the benefits of advertising?
Advertising helps people know about new products or offers. It saves time because we don't have to search much — we just see what's available. Also, for businesses, it increases sales.

3. Are advertisements good or bad for children?
It depends. Some ads are useful and teach good habits, but many ads make children want things they don't need. For example, too many junk food ads can affect their eating habits.

4. How does advertising affect people?
Advertising influences the way people think and shop. Sometimes, it pushes people to buy unnecessary things. But at the same time, it can help in making better choices when done right.

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# 54. Describe a friend from your childhood

You should say

- Who she/he is
- When and how you met each other
- What you often did together
- And explain what made you like him/her

- I'd like to talk about Rohit, who has been my childhood friend and someone I really admire.
- We first met on the very first day of school, back in Class 5.
- I still remember how nervous I was, sitting alone in the classroom, and he came and asked if I wanted to play during lunch break.
- That small moment was the start of a lifelong friendship.
- We quickly discovered that we had a lot in common — we both loved playing cricket and football, and we were always in the same team during sports periods.
- Apart from sports, one thing that made Rohit really stand out was that he was always the topper of our class.
- No matter how difficult the subject was, he used to understand it quickly and even helped me when I struggled, especially in Maths.
- His parents were in government jobs, so they used to keep shifting, but he stayed in our city for many years.
- Unfortunately, about two years ago, his family moved to a different city due to his father's transfer.
- Still, we have stayed in touch through phone calls and social media, and we've even visited each other's homes during holidays.
- What I loved most about him was his friendly nature and amazing sense of humour.
- We used to do funny pranks in class, like hiding each other's lunch boxes and pretending to be teachers.
- Even though he was very intelligent, he never showed off. That's what made everyone like him more.
- Recently, he gave an entrance exam for a top college, and as usual, he's expected to be among the toppers.
- I feel really lucky to have had such a friend in my childhood.
- Rohit taught me the value of friendship, fun, and also how to balance studies and enjoyment.
- Even today, whenever I talk to him, it feels like no time has passed.
- Our bond is strong and full of good memories, and I hope we stay best friends forever.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you still keep in touch with your friends from childhood? Why or why not?
Yes, I'm still in touch with a few close friends from childhood. We grew up together, so the bond is strong. Even if we don't meet often, we talk on WhatsApp or social media. Childhood friends are like family to me.

2. How important is childhood friendship to children?
I think it's very important because it helps children learn to share, trust, and understand emotions. These early friendships build their social skills and confidence. Also, such friendships often stay in our memories forever.

3. What do you think of communicating via social media?
It's useful because it keeps people connected, especially if they live far apart. But sometimes, it feels less personal than talking face-to-face. Still, it's helpful, especially for quick messages or updates.

4. Do you think online communication through social media will replace face-to-face communication?
No, I don't think so. Online chatting is convenient, but face-to-face talks build stronger connections. Emotions and expressions can't be fully understood through a screen. We need both in life.

5. What's the difference between having younger friends and older friends?
Younger friends bring energy and fun, while older ones give advice and maturity. I enjoy both kinds. They offer different perspectives, which helps me grow as a person.

6. Has technology changed people's friendships? How?
Yes, technology has made it easier to stay in touch, but sometimes people forget to meet in real life. Some friendships now feel more virtual than real. Still, I use platforms like facebook and instagram to connect with people who share the same goals as me.

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# 55. Describe an impressive English lesson you had and enjoyed

You should say

- What it was about
- When you had it
- What the teacher did
- And why you enjoyed the lesson

- One of the most impressive and enjoyable English lessons I ever had was on the first day of Class 6.
- That day, we were introduced to our new English teacher — her name was Kiranpreet Ma'am.
- She looked very friendly and energetic, and we were all curious about how she would teach.
- She told us that we were going to learn English tenses, and most of us thought it would be boring like usual grammar rules.
- But instead of just writing the rules on the board, she turned the whole lesson into a fun game.
- She made the class act like a human timeline — some students became Past, some were Present, and others were Future.
- Then she added Continuous tenses too, and gave us different sentences to act or speak in the correct tense.
- For example, I was part of the Present group and had to say something like "I am reading a book."
- She would walk across the timeline, explain the rules, and correct us in a fun and kind way.
- Anyone who gave the right answer or showed good participation got small prizes — a candy, a sticker, or even a pen.
- My friend Ayesha gave a brilliant answer for past perfect continuous and got a pen as a prize.
- Another friend, Rohan, made everyone laugh by acting like someone from the future building a robot.
- The whole class was active, smiling, and learning — it didn't feel like studying at all.
- I realised that day how interactive learning can make difficult topics so easy to understand.
- Usually, in other lessons, we just listen and make notes, but here we were thinking, moving, and speaking.
- I've never forgotten that lesson — not just because it was fun, but because it actually helped me understand tenses clearly.
- Even today, when I prepare for IELTS from resources like makkarielts.com or follow pages like instagram.com/makkarielts, I remember how important fun and clarity in learning are.
- I wish more teachers used such creative methods.
- That English class taught me a lot, and more importantly, it made me fall in love with learning English.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Why do people learn foreign languages?
People learn new languages for many reasons — jobs, travel, or studies. Some want to move abroad, while others do it out of interest. English, for example, is a global language, so it helps in many fields.

2. What makes a good foreign language teacher?
A good language teacher should be patient and able to explain things clearly. They should use fun ways to teach like stories or games. I follow makkarielts.com and their tips help a lot too.

3. Do you think grammar is important when learning foreign languages?
Yes, grammar is the base of any language. Without it, we might say the wrong thing. But I feel in the beginning, speaking with confidence matters more than perfect grammar.

4. Is it interesting to be a foreign language teacher? Why?
Yes, I think it's interesting because you meet people from different cultures and help them achieve their goals. Watching students improve feels very rewarding.

5. What is the impact of information technology on learning foreign languages?
Technology has made learning faster and more fun. We can watch videos, use apps, or join online classes anytime. I also use resources like makkarielts.com and instagram.com/makkarielts for practice.

6. What effect will it have on the students if the teacher is impatient with them?
If a teacher is impatient, students might feel nervous or lose interest. They may stop asking questions or even stop learning. A calm and kind teacher makes a big difference.

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# 56. Describe a person who inspired you to do something interesting.

You should say:
- Who he/she is
- How do you know him/her
- What interesting thing you did
- How he/she inspired you to do it

- A person who inspired me to do something interesting is my cousin's wife, Priya.
- My cousin got married a few years ago, and he and Priya moved to Ludhiana, about 40 minutes from my hometown.
- Priya is a computer engineer by profession and works at a software company.
- Once, while I was visiting them, she mentioned that she had started to learn Indian classical dance.
- I knew she was a good dancer as I had seen her dance at her wedding and other family functions before.
- But Indian classical dance is complex and takes a lot of training.
- She said she was driving home one day from work and saw the advertisement for a new classical dance academy close to her office.
- She knew it was her chance to learn something new.
- It was also convenient as it was on her route, so she wouldn't waste time commuting.
- She said she had been attending Bharatnatyam classes for almost six months.
- She was one of the top students in her batch, and the academy even hired her to start teaching children on weekends
- She was so passionate about it and talked about opening her own dancing studio one day.
- I was truly inspired to see that she managed to keep up with it, along with a full-time job.
- I shared with her my interest in music and how I have always wanted to learn to play guitar.
- Growing up, I was busy with studies and never got the time.
- And now that I am older, I feel it was too late to learn.
- She told me that age is just a number and learning anything new needs consistent practice. If she can learn a new skill at her age, so can I.
- I was so inspired after meeting her. I got myself a guitar and bought a couple of guitar books.
- I looked up YouTube videos to learn the basics.
- There were so many resources online for learning guitar, and even teachers who taught through zoom.
- After a few months of learning the basics, I found a guitar teacher near my home who could teach me in person.
- He helped me work with more complex music, and I was able to refine my skills.
- I was amazed by my progress and eventually started playing for family and friends.
- Now, it's a hobby that I really enjoy. It not only relaxes me but is a good escape from the stress of everyday life
- I will be thankful to Priya for inspiring me to pursue my passion.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What qualities make someone a role model?
A role model is someone who shows kindness, honesty, and works hard. They treat everyone with respect and stay positive even during hard times. They lead by example and encourage others to follow their dreams.

Why should children learn from role models?
Children should learn from role models because they help children understand the difference between right and wrong. They inspire them to work hard and believe in themselves. They give children someone to look up to and learn from.

Who can influence children more, teachers or parents?
Both teachers and parents can influence children, but parents usually have a stronger impact because they spend more time with them and are with them from a very young age.
Teachers also have a big role as a kind teacher can boost children's confidence, motivate them, and help them discover their strengths.

What kind of international news inspires people?
International news that inspires people often includes stories of kindness, courage, and progress. Some examples are people helping others during disasters, students from poor backgrounds achieving success, scientists finding cures for diseases, athletes breaking world records, and global movements for human rights etc.

Besides parents and teachers, who else can motivate children?
Besides parents and teachers, children can be motivated by friends, siblings, relatives, and famous people like actors, athletes, and politicians.

Can online teaching motivate students to learn? How?
Yes, online teaching can motivate students to learn if it is engaging and well-designed. It also allows students to learn at their own pace. Interactive tools, instant feedback, and the freedom to study anytime can make learning more exciting and flexible for many students.

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# 57. Describe a skill that you can teach other people

- What is it
- When you learned it
- How can you teach others
- How do you feel about this skill

- A few years ago, my mother learned 3D origami from the internet.
- She made these beautiful flower vases and swans with paper pieces.
- They really looked beautiful, and we decorated our house with them.
- Every time someone visited us, they used to ask us about how we made them.
- During the Covid lockdown, I was stuck at home.
- So, I asked my mother to teach me 3D origami.
- I had a lot of free time and so I practiced it.
- 3D origami is not tough, but there is a learning curve.
- It takes some time to learn how to fold pieces and give them a 3D look.
- Basically, we fold papers, making small pockets in them, and the other pieces fit in these pockets.
- I can teach this skill to others now.
- So, first, I would teach anyone how the paper pieces need to be cut and how they need to be folded.
- I would tell them to be patient and just keep experimenting.
- Then, nearly any shape can be given to the pieces.
- Learning how to give shape to the pieces is a lot about practice and experience.
- I found this part very difficult in the beginning, but now it seems very easy.
- There are also some YouTube videos that have some ideas about different shapes we can make.
- That's how I made my first few designs, but now I have started experimenting as well.
- I am really proud of this skill.
- I don't think I am an expert, and I am good enough to get compliments when someone sees the 3D shapes I made.
- Recently, I made an airplane, and it was one of the most complex designs I have made till now.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Should teachers be funny when they teach?

Yes, I think teachers should use humor while teaching. It lightens the class atmosphere and improves the relationship between students and teachers. In other words, students feel comfortable discussing their doubts and problems with the teachers. However, teachers must learn when to be strict, otherwise, it can impact the discipline in the classroom.

2. What qualities should teachers have?

Firstly, I think the most important skill that teachers should have is good communication skills. They need to understand how to teach in simple words. Secondly, they should be good observers. They need to be able to pick up the fears and anxieties students have. Only then can they build their confidence. Finally, teaching is about patience. Teachers need to be ready to explain the concepts again and again if their students are facing any difficulty.

3. Which do you think are more important, practical skills or academic skills?

Practical skills and academic skills have their own importance. I think it depends on the person's profession. If a person wants to be a teacher, a lawyer, or a researcher, they need to be an expert in academics. However, in other fields like business, trades, or creative work, practical skills are more important.

4. Which age group is the best at learning new things?

I am a strong believer in the fact that there is no age for learning. We can learn anything at any age. I believe that we should keep learning new skills, as it keeps the mind sharp and active.

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# 58. Describe a time you saw children behave badly in public

You should say
- Where it was
- What the children were doing
- How others reacted to it
- And explain how you felt about it

- I go for a walk every day at a park near my home.
- Usually, I also see a few children playing at the park during that time.
- And they are always accompanied by an adult.
- Last week, when I went to the park, I saw that the children instead of playing were uprooting the flowers and plants.
- I tried to see if there was an adult nearby who knew the children.
- There were a few others who were here for a walk like me, but I didn't think anyone knew the children.
- Some of them had also stopped and were thinking about what to do.
- However, an old uncle couldn't watch this any longer.
- He went up to the kids and told them to stop doing that immediately.
- However, instead of scolding, he started telling them that plants are living beings like us and uprooting them is like killing them.
- He then tried to make the best of the situation and asked the children to help him replant the trees.
- Seeing this, some of the other people and I also joined in and helped him.
- At first, I was very angry, but I also knew that the children didn't understand the consequences of their actions.
- After listening to the uncle, they stopped and actually helped in replanting the plants.
- Still, some of the plants had broken roots and we knew nothing could be done to save them.
- But we didn't say anything to the children because we didn't want to make them feel even more guilty.
- When a person came to pick them up, we explained the situation.
- He apologized on behalf of the children and told us that he was sorry for leaving them unattended.
- I learned one thing from that old man - rather than scolding children for their mistakes, it is our responsibility as a society to guide them and enable them to become better human beings.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What bad behavior do children usually have?

Normally, the bad behavior I associate with children is being noisy, breaking things, disrespecting elders, scribbling on walls, etc. I have to admit, I was guilty of doing all of these when I was younger.

2. How should parents stop their children from behaving badly in public?

Parents should calmly talk to their children and explain why the behavior is not okay. They can gently remove the child from the situation, set clear rules, and use positive discipline like rewards for good behavior. Staying patient and consistent helps children learn better behavior over time.

3. Are parents these days stricter than those in the past?

Parents today are often less strict than in the past. Many now focus more on understanding their children and talking things through, instead of using strict rules or punishments.

4. Whose influence on children is more? Friends or parents?

I think in the early years, the parent's influence is second to none as children spend the majority of their time with the parents. But as children grow older, they spend considerably more time with their friends, and I think during these years it is their friends that influence their behavior and thinking the most.

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# 59. Describe a person who persuaded you to do something

You should say:

- When it happened
- What he/she persuaded you to do
- Why he/she persuaded you to do it
- Whether you did it at last

- I remember when I was in 10th grade, my best friend Kritika persuaded me to join the debate team.
- I was very good at academics in school, but one thing that always scared me was public speaking.
- Kritika had known me since childhood, and we had been in the same school since kindergarten.
- Kritika had been part of the debate team for a while and loved it.
- Sometimes she would discuss her debate topics with me, and I would always have a strong opinion for or against them.
- One day, when we were discussing one of the topics, she said, “You know, you’d be really great at debate.
- At first, I laughed and told her I wasn’t confident enough to speak in front of others.
- But she didn’t give up. She kept telling me how debate had helped her become more confident.
- She also said it would improve my public speaking skills and help in future interviews or presentations.
- She offered to help me prepare for the tryouts.
- Her support meant a lot to me and made me feel less nervous.
- She told me it was ok to make mistakes, and I should not think too much and just go for it.
- After a few days of thinking, I finally decided to give it a try.
- I went for the debate team tryouts and, surprisingly, I got selected.
- At first, I was nervous, but slowly I got better at it.
- I started enjoying debate and looking forward to the competitions.
- Looking back, I am really thankful to Kritika for pushing me to try something new.
- She believed in me when I didn’t believe in myself.
- If it weren’t for her, I would have missed out on a great experience.
- I think sometimes all we need is a little push to discover what we’re capable of.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What impact does advertising have on children and their parents?
Advertising can make children want things they see on TV or online. This often puts pressure on parents to buy those products, even if they don't need them.

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# 60. Describe a person who likes to grow plants

- Who the person is
- What he/she grows
- Where he/she grows them
- Why does he/she enjoy growing plants

- Gardening is a very popular hobby in India.
- I know quite a few people who are passionate about it.
- But today, I would like to talk about someone very close to me - my grandfather
- I have learned a lot about plants and gardening from him.
- He has inspired my interest in this area.
- My grandfather began gardening seriously after he retired.
- He used to work as a lecturer in the agricultural department at Punjab University, so he had pretty good knowledge of plants, soil, fertilizers, and sustainable farming practices.
- However, due to his busy schedule before retirement, he didn't get much time to pursue this hobby.
- After retiring he turned the large backyard of his house into a green paradise.
- He initially started by planting flowers like roses, jasmine, and marigold.
- The entire backyard smelled wonderful, especially in the mornings.
- Gradually he moved on to planting fruit trees such as mango, papaya, and bananas.
- Now, he has a fully functional kitchen garden where he grows seasonal vegetables like tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, okra, spinach, etc.
- One of the main reasons he enjoys gardening is because he strongly believes in eating healthy and staying close to nature.
- He often says that these days, too many chemicals and pesticides are used in farming, which can harm our health.
- While organic vegetables are available in the markets now, they are often costly.
- So, he prefers to grow his own food at home using organic methods.
- He makes compost from kitchen waste and avoids all artificial fertilizers
- I remember during the COVID lockdown, I had a lot of free time, so I spent many afternoons helping him in the garden.
- That's when I realized how passionate and knowledgeable he is about plants.
- He would talk about plant diseases, soil conditions, and even how the sun's position affects plant growth.
- I often think he could write a book on gardening - that's how much he knows

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Are there many people growing their own vegetables now?

Yes, many people are growing their own vegetables these days, especially after the pandemic. They want fresh and chemical-free food at home.

2. Do you think it's good to let kids learn how to plant?

Yes, it's a great hobby and it teaches them patience and responsibility. It also helps them connect with nature and fosters a love for gardening.

3. What do you think of the job of a farmer?

Farmers grow the food we eat, and farming is a very important and hardworking job. If farmers will not grow any crops, then we will not have any food on our table and there will be hunger and starvation everywhere. I feel disappointed that farmers don't get enough support or respect.

4. What are the differences between traditional and modern agriculture?

Traditional agriculture used a lot of chemicals to increase the yield and prevent the crops from diseases, but modern agriculture is shifting towards organic and more environment friendly approach.

5. What happened to the farmers' income during the pandemic?

Many farmers faced losses during the pandemic due to market closures and transport issues. Some couldn't sell their crops on time, which lowered their income.

6. How do people grow plants in cities?

In cities, people grow plants in pots on balconies, if they live in apartments. Some grow them on rooftops or in small gardens in front of their homes.

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# 61. Describe a time when you received money as a gift.

You should say:

- When it happened?
- Who gave you the money
- Why he/she gave you the money
- And explain how he used the money

- It always feels nice to give and receive gifts.
- However, I normally, don't like to receive money as a gift because my mother takes it from me, and I never get to see that money again.
- Today, I am going to talk about a time, when I actually got to spend the money I got as a gift.
- In Indian culture, when we visit an elder relative's house for the first time, they give us money as a present.
- It's a tradition.
- Recently, I visited my father's cousin for the first time.
- He used to live in the US, but he shifted back to India after his retirement last month.
- He was very excited to see me, and we had a wonderful time at this house.
- When we were leaving, he handed me a small envelope with money.
- I expected it to be a small amount, but it was actually 100 dollars.
- So, I was completely shocked.
- At the same time, I was sad too because I knew I would never get to spend it
- My mother told me to return it, but my uncle refused to take it back.
- I knew my mother was going to take it from me so before she could, I handed it to my grandma for safekeeping.
- This is how I outwitted my mother, if I had given it to my mother, she would have told me that she spent it buying food for me and paying my electricity bills.
- Then after a few days, my phone broke, and I had to buy a new one.
- So, I used the money to buy myself a new Samsung phone.
- The first thing I did was to take a photograph of the phone and send it to my uncle along with a thank you note.

OR

- Money as a gift is extremely popular in my country.
- In fact, it can be called a tradition as well.
- People usually gift money to each other during weddings, birthdays, etc.
- Today, I would like to talk about one such occasion (out of so many others), when I received money from someone instead of an actual gift item.
- The occasion was my 18th birthday.
- And as per Indian laws I became an adult on this day
- My parents gifted me a motorbike on my birthday as I was now eligible to drive a motor vehicle
- When my friends came to know about this, all of them wanted a party from me.
- Unfortunately, I did not have much savings at that time, to give a party to my friends.
- But luckily my grandparents were visiting us during that time.
- They had come to spend their winters with us.

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- I love my grandparents a lot, they are humble and polite.
- They always teach me a lot of good moral values and they love me a lot as well.
- Since my grandparents are too old, they could not go to the market to buy a gift for me.
- Moreover, they were not sure about what gift they should buy for me, which would make me happy.
- So, they decided it was best to give me money as a gift so that I could use it to buy anything I like.
- Initially I refused to accept the money but then my parents said I should not say no to the elders as it would be a disrespect to them.
- I then thanked my grandparents, and they gave me their blessings as well.
- I also told them that I had everything that I needed but my friends were asking for a party so I would use that money for the purpose of celebrating my birthday.
- My grandparents were happy that I was using the money to have a good time and share happiness with my friends.
- They wished me good luck for the party.
- I had a great outdoor party with my friends.
- So, this was one of the occasions when I received money as a gift, and I used it for celebrating with my friends.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Why do people rarely use cash now?
People rarely use cash now because it is more convenient to use debit/credit cards, mobile wallets, and online banking. Electronic payments are more secure, and it is easy to replace a credit card if it gets lost.

When do children begin to comprehend the value of money?
I don't think there is a particular age as it varies depending upon their upbringing. Typically, children begin to understand the value of money between ages 5-7. By this age, they realize that money is needed to buy things and must be earned or saved.

Should parents reward children with money?
I think it's ok to reward children with money to teach them the value of working hard. They can be rewarded for completing house chores or achieving certain goals.

Is it good and necessary to teach children to save money?
Yes, it is very important to teach children to save money so that in their adult life they understand the value/importance of money, not waste it, and are better at managing their finances in the future.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of credit cards?
Credit cards are more convenient for online and in-person transactions. Many cards offer incentives like cashback or travel miles. However, they can lead to overspending, accumulating debt, and incurring fees for late payments.

Do you think it's a good thing that more people are using digital payments?
Yes, I think it's a good thing as they are more convenient and secure than carrying physical cash everywhere. It also allows people to budget and keep track of their spending.

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# 62. Describe an unusual but interesting building you would like to visit.

You should say:

- Where is it
- What it looks like
- Why do you think it is unusual and interesting
- And explain why you would like to visit it

- One unusual but fascinating building I would love to visit is the Lotus Temple.
- It is a Bahá'í House of Worship in Kalkaji in New Delhi.
- It is notable for its unique flower-like architecture which resembles a blooming lotus.
- It is made up of 27 white marble petals arranged in clusters to form the shape of a lotus flower.
- It has 9 doors opening onto a central hall with a height of about 34 meters.
- The temple is surrounded by nine ponds, which not only enhance its beauty but also help cool the building naturally.
- It doesn't have any sharp angles or lines, which gives it a very organic and peaceful feel.
- The lotus temple has been featured in many newspapers and magazines and has won many architectural awards.
- I think it's unusual because it is very different from most religious buildings around the world.
- Instead of domes, towers, or traditional shapes, it's built to look like a giant lotus flower.
- What makes it even more unusual is its purpose and philosophy.
- Although it's a place of worship, it doesn't belong to just one region. It is open to people of all religious backgrounds and faiths.
- There are no religious ceremonies performed inside, and visitors are encouraged to sit in silence and meditate or reflect.
- It promotes unity, peace, and spiritual growth, which I find deeply meaningful.
- I would love to visit it not only because of its stunning architecture and unconventional design but also because of the values it represents.
- The combination of architectural beauty and spiritual openness makes it a very special destination in my opinion.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Why do some people choose to build houses by themselves?
Some people choose to build houses by themselves because they want to design everything the way they like and use the best materials. It can also be cheaper than buying a ready-made house, and they feel proud of building it on their own.

What factors do you consider when choosing a house or an apartment?
When choosing a house or an apartment I consider the location first, like if it's close to work because I don't like long commutes. I also look at the price, size, and if it's in a safe neighborhood.

Do you think a city's buildings affect its vibe or atmosphere?
Yes, I think buildings really affect a city's vibe. For example, tall skyscrapers can make a city feel modern, fast-paced, and full of business activity. On the other hand, old buildings and colorful streets can make a city feel historic, charming and artistic.

Do you think old buildings should be preserved?
Yes, I think old buildings should be preserved because they are part of a city's culture and history. They tell stories about the past and how people lived before. Keeping them help maintain the culture and charm of a place.

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# 63. Describe a person who shows his/her feelings very openly.

You should say:

- Who he/she is
- How do you know him/her
- Why do you think he/she is such a person
- And explain how you feel about him/her

- I would like to talk about my 10-year-old nephew, Tanay, who is someone who always shows his feelings very openly.
- I have known Tanay since he was born, and I've watched him grow into a very emotional and expressive child.
- He is the type of person who doesn't hide what he feels whether he is happy, sad, or even angry.
- I think he is like that because of how my sister and brother-in-law have raised him.
- They have always encouraged him to be honest about his feelings.
- They have taught him from a young age that it's ok to share your emotions.
- This kind of upbringing has made it easier for him to express himself without fear of judgment.
- For example, when he is excited about something like a new toy or hearing about a family vacation, his whole face lights up, and he can't stop talking about it.
- On the other hand, if he is upset about losing a game, a bad grade, or something serious like being bullied at school, he comes home and talks about it.
- I have picked him up from school sometimes and he tells me in detail all about his day, his friends, his teachers, etc.
- I really admire that he is not afraid to share his emotions.
- He is very genuine, and it is very easy to connect with him.
- His openness helps him build strong relationships, not only with family but also with friends. He is very popular and has so many friends.
- For me personally, I find it very refreshing to be around him. I remember, one day I cooked something for him, and he told me the food was ok and not as good as his mom's.
- I appreciated that he didn't lie to me and was so honest.
- He has taught me to be more open with my own emotions.
- Sometimes, as adults, we try to hide what we feel but Tanay's nature reminds me that it's ok to be vulnerable and share what's on our minds.
- I feel proud that he is so emotionally intelligent at such a young age and I think this quality will help him throughout his life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Do you think it's good for people to show their feelings openly?
I think it's good for people to show their feelings openly because it helps them feel understood and supported. It can also improve their relationships and reduce stress. However, it is also important to be mindful of the situation and the people around them.

Who tends to show their feelings more openly, adults or children?
Children tend to show their feelings more openly than adults. They express emotions like happiness, sadness, or anger right away because they haven't learned to hide them yet. Adults usually mask their feelings and control their emotions in front of others.

Regarding showing emotions, are there any differences between men and women?
I think women tend to express their emotions more openly, especially feelings like sadness, empathy, and joy. I think it's because of social expectations - men are often told to toughen up and keep emotions in while women are encouraged to talk about feelings.

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# 64. Describe a time you made a decision to wait for something

You should say

- When it happened
- What you waited for
- Why you made the decision
- And explain how you felt while waiting

- One time I made a decision to wait for something was when I wanted to buy a new mobile phone.
- This happened about a year ago.
- My old phone had become quite slow, and I really wanted to get a better one with a good camera and more storage.
- I had even shortlisted the phone I wanted — it was a bit expensive but had great features.
- However, instead of buying it right away, I decided to wait for the Diwali festival sale, which I knew would be coming in a few weeks.
- During these sales, many online shopping apps offer heavy discounts, and I thought I might save some money if I waited.
- It was not an easy decision because my current phone was giving me trouble, and I was tempted to just go ahead and buy the new one.
- But I stayed patient, kept checking the offers daily, and finally, during the sale, the price dropped by almost 20%.
- I was really happy that I had waited.
- While I was waiting, I sometimes felt a little frustrated because my phone would hang or take too long to open apps.
- But I reminded myself that it was just a matter of time, and I would soon get a better phone at a lower price.
- In the end, I felt proud of my decision because I saved money and bought the phone I really wanted.
- This experience taught me that sometimes it's better to wait than to rush into things, especially when it comes to spending money.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What do people in your country often do while waiting?

I think today people everywhere spend time on the phone. They might call or chat with another person, watch a video, play a game or listen to music.

2. Why do some people like a slow-paced life?

I think a slow-paced life reduces stress and gives a person time to spend with loved ones. It also leads to better physical and mental health as people can sleep properly. Otherwise, most people are sleep deprived today because of the fast pace of life.

3. Is being patient good for people? Why?

Yes, I think it's very important. Lack of patience can create a lot of problems like stress. It can also spoil relationships.

4. Are people less patient now than people in the past? Why?

Yeah, as technology has spread, more and more people are now dependent upon it. As a result, they are also less patient as they want things done quickly. One reason for the growth of online shopping as people can't wait.

5. Why do people lack patience?

Like I said, the first reason is of course technology, which offers quick results. Pressure and stress also lead to impatience as people can get frustrated with delays. Finally, I think unrealistic expectations also lead to impatience. When reality doesn't match people's expectation, they become impatient.

6. How can people become more patient?

I think one of the best ways is have realistic expectations. For example, if a process a certain time from 1 week to 2 weeks, we should expect the maximum rather than the minimum. Another way is to do meditation. Impatience is lack of ability to control our mind. The best way to become patient is to calm our mind, which can be done by mediation and other mental exercises.

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# 65. Describe a shop/store you often visit

You should say

- What the shop's name is
- Where it is
- How often you visit it
- And explain why you like to visit it

- One shop that I often visit these days is MR.DIY.
- It has recently opened in my hometown, and I was really excited when I saw it for the first time because I had heard about it from my friends and seen it in bigger cities.
- It is located in a shopping area near the main market, so it's easy to reach.
- I usually go there once every one or two weeks, sometimes with my parents and sometimes with friends.
- We often visit it on weekends when we go out for other shopping.
- I really like visiting MR.DIY because it has a huge variety of useful items at very reasonable prices.
- They sell everything—like stationery, home décor, kitchen items, tools, toys, beauty products, and even small electronics.
- I always find something interesting, even when I don't plan to buy anything.
- The best part is that the store is neat, well-organized, and the items are displayed properly, so it's easy to look around.
- The staff is also polite and the billing is quick, so we don't have to wait in long lines.
- What I like most is that I can buy useful things for my room or for school at low prices.
- Once I bought a set of organizers and some cute pens that I couldn't find anywhere else.
- I also enjoy looking at their home decoration section because it gives me new ideas to decorate my room.
- Sometimes they have seasonal items like Diwali lights or gift wrapping materials, which I find very helpful.
- Overall, MR.DIY has become one of my favourite stores.
- It's fun to visit, and I always enjoy exploring what's new there.
- It has made shopping in my hometown more exciting and convenient.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do people in your country go to the shopping mall frequently?

Yes, a lot of people go to shopping malls frequently. However, street markets are also very popular.

2. How have people's shopping habits changed in recent decades?

As disposable incomes have increased, people's spending habits have changed from essential items to luxuries. Moreover, more and more people are shopping online instead of going to street markets and shopping malls.

3. Do you think shops and shopping malls will disappear in the future?

I don't think they will disappear completely. For me shopping is not just about buying something, it is also about spending quality with friends and family and online shopping cannot fulfill this purpose. Moreover, many people prefer to buy items like shoes and clothes only after trying them out, so there will always be a space for physical stores.

4. What are the differences between shopping in street markets and big shopping malls?

The biggest difference is in the variety of products. Street markets sell handmade, local, or unique items, while shopping malls sell branded and mass-produced items. Moreover, there is a lot of bargaining in street markets, while prices in shopping malls are generally fixed.

5. What are the differences between shopping habits of different age groups?

Younger people tend to spend more on clothes, fashion and latest electronic gadgets, whereas older people care much more practical and essential items. Secondly, I think older people prefer shopping in person, while youngsters prefer shopping online.

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# 66. Describe a goal you set that you tried your best to achieve

You should say

- What it was
- When you set it
- What you did to achieve it
- And explain how you felt about it

- One goal I set for myself was to improve my spoken English so that I could confidently participate in group discussions and interviews.
- I set this goal about two years ago when I realized that although I had a decent understanding of grammar and vocabulary, I struggled to speak fluently in real-life situations.
- This weakness made me feel nervous and underconfident, especially in professional settings.
- To achieve this goal, I created a structured routine.
- I started by watching English news channels and talk shows daily to become more familiar with natural speech.
- I also joined an online speaking club where I could practice with other learners.
- Apart from that, I recorded myself speaking on random topics and listened back to identify areas of improvement.
- Reading aloud, and maintaining a diary of new words also helped a lot.
- I tried to stay consistent, even on days when I felt tired or discouraged.
- After a few months, I noticed a big improvement in my fluency and confidence.
- I was finally able to express my thoughts clearly and participate actively in discussions.
- I felt very proud of myself because this goal required a lot of patience and daily effort.
- It taught me that with the right approach and determination, I could overcome any weakness.
- Most importantly, it gave me the courage to set even higher goals for myself.

Another version

- One goal that I set for myself was to do well in my 12th class board exams.
- I set this goal at the beginning of the school year because I knew that these marks would be very important for my future.
- Good marks could help me get into a good college and also make my family proud.
- At first, I was not very confident because some of the subjects were difficult for me, especially Maths and Chemistry.
- But I was determined to try my best.
- So I made a proper study timetable and tried to follow it every day.
- I gave more time to the difficult subjects and revised the easy ones regularly.
- I also stopped wasting time on social media and playing games on my phone.
- I also took help from my teachers whenever I had doubts and sometimes studied in a group with my friends.
- That helped me stay motivated.
- There were times when I felt very tired or stressed, but I reminded myself of my goal.
- My parents also encouraged me a lot and made sure I had a peaceful environment to study in.

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- Finally, when the results came out, I was very happy.
- I got good marks, better than I expected, and my hard work paid off.
- I felt proud of myself because I had really tried my best.
- This experience taught me that setting a clear goal and working towards it with full focus can really give good results.
- It gave me more confidence to work hard in the future as well.

**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do people in your country set goals?

Yes, people do set goals. Goals give people a sense of direction and purpose. It also acts as a source of motivation. Imagining the goal in our mind, can help people work harder and achieve it.

2. Do people usually set long-term goals or short-term ones?

I think both. Long term goals like buying a house, becoming a manager or earning a degree give an overall sense of direction. Short term goals like finishing a presentation, completing an assignment are like small steps towards the main long-term goal. People make both.

3. Why is setting goals important in the workplace?

Firstly, I think goals give clarity about responsibilities and priorities to employees. It also acts as a source of motivation and finally, it helps to track progress and help finish projects on time.

4. What is the difference between goals set by old people and young people?

I think the main difference is the focus. Goals of old people focus on stability and health like spending time with family members, saving for retirement and say on, whereas young people's goals are more about growth and exploration like earning a degree, travelling to a foreign country. Moreover, young people are more ambitious in their girls, whereas old people are much more realistic.

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# 67. Describe an impressive talk/conversation you had that you remember well

You should say

- Who you talked to
- When and where you had the talk
- What you talked about
- And explain why you think it was impressive

- One conversation that I remember very well and found truly impressive was with my neighbour and close friend, who had gone abroad to study.
- This happened around a year ago when he returned to India during his semester break.
- We met at his house one evening, and we ended up talking for a long time.
- He had gone to Canada for his higher studies, and I was very curious to know about his experience.
- He shared so many interesting things about student life there — the education system, part-time jobs, how people live independently, and how important time management is abroad.
- He also spoke about the challenges like homesickness and extreme weather, but more importantly, how he became more confident and responsible after moving there.
- What really impressed me was the way he had adapted to a completely new lifestyle and culture.
- He told me how going abroad had changed his mind set and given him a lot of exposure.
- He was speaking with so much clarity and maturity that I could feel how much he had grown as a person.
- After that conversation, I felt very inspired and motivated.
- I had always thought about studying abroad, but after hearing his real-life experience,
- I made up my mind to seriously prepare for the IELTS exam.
- His words gave me the push I needed to take that first step toward my goal.
- I think this conversation was impressive because it didn't just give me information—it gave me direction.
- It made me believe that if he could do it, so could I, and that one talk changed the way I looked at my future.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What topics do young people like to talk about?

Young people like to talk about various things, but the most common topics are fashion, sports and gadgets. And I think most girls and boys also talk about each other.

2. Is it important to have good communication skills at work?

Yes, I think good communication skills are important everywhere not only at work but also in personal life as well. At work, it is important for teamwork, if people need to work together, they must be able to communicate effectively. Moreover, good communication skills help to resolve conflicts. Finally, if people can express confidently, they have better chances of promotions and getting leadership positions.

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# 68. Describe a place you visited and enjoyed in the countryside

You should say

- Where it was in the countryside
- What did you do there
- And explain how you felt about the visit

- I was born in a city, and I have spent most of my time living in the city only.
- However, during summer vacations, once I visited my paternal grandparents, who at that time, lived in a small village in Punjab, Farala.
- There was a famous pond in the village, and I had a lot of fun there.
- My parents had enrolled me in a summer camp at the village, where they taught Punjabi martial arts like Gatka.
- I had a lot of fun learning Gatka, but it was also very tiring.
- They made us to do martial arts poses during the hot summer days.
- We were completely drained and sweaty by the evening.
- At that time, I and most of the other kids enrolled at the camp would go to the pond.
- The water would have cooled down enough by that time.
- It used to be so relaxing and refreshing.
- The pond was not very deep, so there was no risk of drowning.
- We used to swim and do summersaults in the pond.
- Time would just fly by, and I enjoyed it so much that I never came out of the pond on my own.
- My grandparents had to drag me out of the pond.
- I remember praying to God to make days longer so I could enjoy more time at the pond.
- I really enjoyed the whole experience.
- Unfortunately, I couldn't enjoy the experience again as my grandparents moved to the city to live with us the following year.
- They were getting old, and my parents were really worried about their health.
- But I still miss the experience a lot.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Where do people like to visit in the countryside?
People normally visit old buildings and streets, agricultural fields and religious places. For example, there are many famous Gurudwaras in Punjabi villages and people come from far-away places to visit them.

What are consequences of the decrease of population in the countryside?
There are many consequences of decrease of population in the countryside. Firstly, many old people in village are facing problems like loneliness and depression. Secondly, there is a huge shortage of agricultural labor in villages, and this has an adverse effect on the agricultural sector.

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# 69. Describe a photo that you enjoy looking at

You should say:
- Who took it
- When and where was it taken
- What was the photo about

- One of my favourite photos was taken by my best friend when I was in 12th class.
- It was clicked during our farewell party at school, about one year ago.
- The event was held in the school auditorium, and we were all dressed in formal clothes.
- I was wearing a saree for the first time, so I felt a bit nervous but also very excited.
- In the photo, I'm standing with a big smile, holding a bouquet of flowers.
- My classmates are in the background, and there are colourful decorations on the wall.
- The lighting is perfect, and everything looks bright and cheerful.
- I enjoy looking at this photo because it reminds me of the last day of school — a mix of happiness and sadness.
- It was a special moment because we were all saying goodbye to each other but also dreaming about our future.
- This picture shows my true emotions — excitement for a new journey and love for my school friends.
- I have kept it as my phone wallpaper, and every time I see it, I feel nostalgic.
- So, this is one photo of mine that I really enjoy looking at.

Another version

- One of my favourite photos of myself was taken by my sister.
- This photo was taken about two years ago during a family trip to Shimla.
- We were staying at a beautiful hotel on the hills.
- One morning, I was standing on the balcony with a cup of tea in my hand.
- The sun was rising, and the view was amazing.
- My sister suddenly said, "Don't move!" and clicked a picture of me.
- In the photo, I am smiling and looking at the mountains.
- I am wearing a red shawl, and there is soft sunlight on my face.
- The background shows green trees, blue sky, and some clouds. It looks peaceful and natural.
- I enjoy looking at this photo because it reminds me of a happy and relaxing time.
- The weather was perfect, and we were all together.
- That moment was calm and special for me.
- Also, I like the way I look in the photo.
- It's not posed or artificial. It's a real moment, full of peace and joy.
- I have framed this photo and kept it in my room.
- Every time I see it, I feel happy and thankful.
- So, this is a photo that I really enjoy looking at.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1.) Why do many people like to share photos on social media platforms?
I think the major reason is to show friends and family members what is happening in their lives and keep them up to date, even if they are far away. Secondly, it is also a means to boost one's self esteem as there is a system to gain likes, comments and shares. It gives people validation about their looks. On the other hand, people also feel pressurized to do it as they want to show that they are also interesting. They don't want to feel left behind.

2.) On what occasions do most people like to take photographs?
Most people like to take photos to capture special, meaningful and unique moments. For example, birthday parties and weddings. They also take photos during vacation and travel to capture those memories. With the selfie culture, most people often don't even need an occasion, and everyday life is an occasion.

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# 70. Describe a place where you saw animals

You should say

- When you went there
- Who you went with
- What animals you saw there
- And explain how you felt about the place

- Last year, my parents, my sister's family and I went to on a vacation to Darjeeling in West Bengal.
- There, we had the opportunity to visit the Darjeeling Zoo.
- It was a bright and cool day.
- My sister's children were very excited because they love animals.
- The Darjeeling Zoo is also called the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park.
- It is a very famous zoo, and it is on a hill.
- The air was fresh, and the view of the mountains was beautiful.
- We saw many animals that live in cold places, like snow leopards, red pandas, and Himalayan bears.
- The first animal we saw was the red panda.
- It was so cute! It was sitting on a tree and eating.
- The kids were very happy to see it.
- Then we saw the snow leopard.
- It looked strong and beautiful.
- It was resting in the shade.
- We also saw a black bear lying in the sun.
- It looked very lazy but peaceful.
- We walked around the zoo slowly, looking at the animals.
- The zoo was clean and green, and the animals looked healthy.
- The children asked many questions, and we all enjoyed learning new things.
- At lunchtime, we sat on a bench and ate the food we brought.
- We had sandwiches, fruit, and juice. After eating, we visited a small shop near the zoo.
- In the evening, we left the zoo and returned to our hotel. Everyone was tired but happy. It was a lovely trip.

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1. Why do stories and movies for children always feature animals?

Stories and movies for children often feature animals because animals are fun, interesting, and easy for children to understand. Also, animals can teach moral lessons in a simple and gentle way. For example, a lion can teach courage, a rabbit can show cleverness, and a turtle can teach patience.

2. How did animals help people in the past?

In the past, animals helped people in many important ways. Before machines, people used animals for work, travel, and food. For example, horses, donkeys, and camels were used to carry people and heavy goods from one place to another. Dogs were used for security. Many animals like chicken, cows, pigs and goat were used for food. In fact, they are still used for food now.

3. Do you think people are more interested in animals now than they were in the past?

Yes, I think people are more interested in animals now than they were in the past, but in a different way. In the past, people mostly cared about animals because they were useful for farming, travel, or food. Today, people care about animals not just for their use, but also because they want to protect them and learn about them.

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# 71. Describe an unforgettable experience that you had

You should say:

- When and where it happened
- What happened
- Who you were with
- And explain why it is unforgettable

- One unforgettable experience I had was when I went on a school trip to Shimla two years ago.
- It happened during our final year of school. I was around 16 years old at that time.
- The school arranged a three-day trip to Shimla for all students in our class.
- It was my first time going to the hills, so I was very excited.
- I went with my classmates and a few teachers. We travelled by bus, and the journey itself was full of fun.
- We sang songs, played games, and clicked many photos on the way.
- When we reached Shimla, the weather was very cold and fresh.
- I still remember the feeling of cool wind on my face.
- We stayed in a small but beautiful hotel surrounded by pine trees.
- On the second day, it snowed, and that was the most amazing part.
- It was my first time seeing snow in real life. I couldn't stop smiling.
- My friends and I made snowballs, had a snow fight, and built a snowman.
- We also went to Mall Road and bought some woollen caps and souvenirs.
- In the evening, we sat near a bonfire, danced, and enjoyed hot soup.
- It felt like a dream.
- I think this trip is unforgettable because everything was new for me — snow, hills, and even staying away from home.
- Also, I made great memories with my friends.
- We laughed a lot and enjoyed each moment.
- I felt very happy and free during those days.
- Even today, when I look at the pictures from that trip, I feel very emotional.
- That experience will always be special to me.
- It was the perfect ending to my school life and a memory I will never forget.

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Is the organisation of big events very important in your country?
Yes, it's quite important. People expect things to be well-planned during weddings, festivals, and public functions. If something goes wrong, people often talk about it. For example, I attended a wedding last month where food was delayed, and many guests were upset.

What do people usually do during big events?
People dress up nicely, enjoy music and dance, take pictures, and eat special food. These events are a way to meet family and friends. In India, weddings and festivals are full of lights and traditional songs.

Do most people prefer to take part in big events or in small activities?
It depends on the person. Some people enjoy large crowds and loud music, while others prefer quiet get-togethers. Personally, I like small gatherings as they feel more comfortable and relaxed.

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# 72. Describe something you bought that you really wanted to return

You should say:

- What it is
- When and where you bought it
- Why you wanted to return it
- And explain whether you returned it in the end

- Last year, I bought a smartwatch that I really wanted to return.
- I saw it online on a shopping website during a big sale.
- It looked very stylish and had many features like step counting, heart rate monitor, and message alerts.
- I had been saving money for a long time, so I was very excited to buy it.
- I ordered it from an app and got it after five days.
- When I opened the box, I was a little disappointed.
- The watch did not look as good as it did in the pictures.
- The screen was smaller, and the strap felt very cheap.
- I still tried to use it for a few days.
- But it had many problems. The battery died very fast.
- The heart rate sensor was not working properly.
- Sometimes, the watch did not connect to my phone.
- I felt very bad because I had spent around ₹2500 on it.
- It was a lot of money for me as a student.
- I felt like I had made a wrong decision.
- I told my parents about it, and they also said I should try to return it.
- I checked the app, and luckily, there was a 7-day return option.
- I quickly packed it again and requested a return.
- A delivery person came after two days and took the watch back.
- I got my money refunded in my account after one week.
- I was very happy and also learned a lesson.
- Now, I always read reviews before buying anything online.
- This experience was not good, but I'm glad I could return the product.
- It taught me to be more careful while shopping.

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What do you think of advertisements?
Advertisements are helpful when we want to know about new products. But sometimes, they are too many and can feel annoying. For example, on YouTube, ads interrupt videos too often.

Do you think physical stores will disappear in the future?
I don't think they will disappear completely. Online shopping is growing, but many people still like to see and touch things before buying. Also, small shops in local areas are still very popular.

# 73. Describe a kind of foreign food you like and you have had

You should say:

- What it is
- When and where you had it
- Why you like it
- And explain how you feel about it

- One foreign food that I really like is pizza.
- Pizza is an Italian dish, but it is now famous all over the world, including in India.
- The first time I had pizza was about four years ago.
- I went to a Domino's outlet in my hometown with my cousins.
- I saw many types of pizza on the menu like cheese burst, veggie delight, and paneer pizza.
- I ordered a medium-sized cheese burst pizza with extra toppings.
- When I took the first bite, it tasted amazing.
- The melted cheese, soft bread base, and spicy toppings made it very tasty.
- Since then, I have had pizza many times.
- I usually eat it on special days like birthdays or when I go out with friends.
- Sometimes, I also order it at home during weekends.
- I like both vegetarian and non-vegetarian pizzas.
- One reason I love pizza is that it is easy to eat and very filling.
- Also, I can choose my own toppings like olives, mushrooms, paneer, or even chicken.
- It is hot, cheesy, and has a lovely smell.
- The best part is the cheese — it stretches when we pull a slice!
- Pizza is different from Indian food, but still it suits our taste.
- Now many Indian restaurants also serve desi-style pizzas with spicy flavours.
- I think it is a good mix of foreign and Indian tastes.
- I feel happy and satisfied whenever I eat pizza.
- It is not something I eat every day, but I enjoy it once in a while.
- So, pizza is one foreign food that I like the most and have enjoyed many times.
- It has become a part of my fun moments with family and friends.

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Do most people like to eat the food they are familiar with or try new food?
Most people prefer familiar food because it gives comfort. But younger people often like trying new dishes. For example, I recently tried Korean food and found it quite tasty.

What kinds of foreign food are popular in your country?
Chinese, Italian, and American fast food are very popular in India. Dishes like noodles, pizza, and burgers are easily found in most cities. Even small towns have shops selling these items now.

Do you like to cook at home?
Yes, I enjoy cooking simple meals. It feels healthier and more satisfying. I usually cook rice and vegetables in the evening. But on weekends, I try something new.

Is it expensive to eat out in your country?
It depends on where you go. Street food is cheap, but restaurants can be expensive. For example, a good meal at a decent restaurant may cost around ₹500 for one person.

What's the difference between Indian food and Western food?
Indian food is usually spicy and uses a lot of herbs. Western food is simpler and less spicy. For example, a typical Indian lunch has many items, while a Western meal may just have one or two.

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# 74. Describe a place with a lot of trees that you would like to visit (e.g. a forest, oasis)

You should say:

- Where it is
- How you knew this place
- What it is like
- And explain why you would like to visit it

- One place with a lot of trees that I would like to visit is Jim Corbett National Park.
- It is in the state of Uttarakhand, in northern India.
- I came to know about this place through a travel show on TV.
- Later, I also read about it in a magazine and searched for it on YouTube.
- This park is full of tall trees, green forests, rivers, and wild animals.
- It is one of the oldest national parks in India.
- Many people visit it to enjoy nature and wildlife.
- There are many types of trees like sal, peepal, and mango trees.
- You can also see animals like tigers, elephants, deer, and monkeys there.
- People go on jungle safaris in open jeeps to explore the forest.
- There are also nature walks and birdwatching tours.
- I have never been to a real forest, so I really want to experience it.
- The air there must be very fresh and clean.
- I think it would be very peaceful and calm, far from the noise of the city.
- I also love taking photos, and this place looks very beautiful in pictures.
- I would love to go there with my family or friends.
- One more reason I want to visit is because I love animals and trees.
- It would be great to see them in their natural home.
- I also want to learn how forests help our environment.
- They give us oxygen, food, and help control the climate.
- I believe visiting such a place would be a new and exciting experience for me.
- It would also teach me to care more about nature and wildlife.
- So, Jim Corbett National Park is the place I dream of visiting.
- I hope I get the chance to go there soon.

Why do people like visiting places with trees or forests?
People go there to relax and enjoy nature. Forests offer fresh air and peace. I once visited a hill station with lots of trees and felt really refreshed after the trip.

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# 75. Describe a live performance you enjoyed watching

You should say:

- Who performed in it
- What kind of performance it was
- When you watched it
- And explain why you enjoyed

- One live performance I really enjoyed was a music concert by Diljit Dosanjh.
- It happened in Ludhiana last year at a big open-air stadium.
- I went there with my cousin and two close friends.
- We had bought the tickets one month in advance because we are big fans of Diljit Dosanjh.
- The concert started in the evening and lasted for around three hours.
- The stage was huge, with colourful lights, big screens, and loud speakers.
- When Diljit Dosanjh came on the stage, the crowd started cheering loudly.
- He sang many popular songs like “Do You Know”, “Lover”, and “Vibe”.
- The atmosphere was electric.
- Everyone was singing along with him.
- Some people were even dancing.
- I could feel the music in my heart.
- Diljit Dosanjh has a very soothing and emotional voice.
- He also spoke to the audience and made us feel very connected.
- I enjoyed the concert because it was my first time seeing a live performance by a famous singer.
- Usually, I only listen to songs on YouTube or the radio, but this time, it was real.
- I also liked the energy of the crowd — everyone looked so happy and excited.
- There were food stalls and merchandise counters as well.
- Another reason I enjoyed it was because I went with my friends.
- We clicked many pictures and made lovely memories.
- Even now, when I watch those videos on my phone, I feel the same happiness again.
- This concert gave me a break from my studies and daily routine.
- It was one of the best evenings of my life.
- I would love to go to another Diljit Dosanjh concert in the future.
- So, this was a live performance that I truly enjoyed and will never forget.

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What kind of party have you had so far?
I've had small birthday parties with friends and family. We usually have cake, music, and games. I enjoy such parties because they are simple and fun.

Do you think it is hard for people to perform in front of their friends?
Yes, for many people it's harder than performing in front of strangers. They feel nervous about being judged. I remember I once forgot my lines during a school play in front of my classmates.

Is it easy to invite your friends to attend your party or your performance?
Yes, it's usually easy because friends support you. But sometimes they might not come due to personal reasons or busy schedules.

Is it expensive to watch a live performance in your country?
Some shows are expensive, especially famous concerts or plays. But local performances are usually affordable. Students and families often go to such events.

Why do many people prefer to watch a live performance rather than watch it on TV?
Live shows feel more exciting and real. The energy of the crowd and seeing artists in front of you is special. Watching on TV is convenient, but it doesn't feel the same.

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# 76. Describe a person who helps to protect the environment

You should say:

- Who this person is
- When this person does this
- What has the person done
- And explain why you think this is important

- I would like to talk about a person who truly cares about the environment.
- His name is Mr. Syal, and he is my neighbour.
- He is around 55 years old and lives just two houses away from mine.
- He is a retired government officer and now spends a lot of his time in social work.
- Mr. Syal does many things to protect nature.
- Every morning, he goes out to clean the area around our colony.
- He picks up plastic waste and tells others not to throw garbage on the roads.
- He has also planted many trees in the nearby park.
- I have seen him watering those trees regularly.
- He also teaches children in the area about the importance of saving water and electricity.
- During festivals, he always uses eco-friendly decorations.
- He has solar panels on his roof and encourages others to install them too.
- He never uses plastic bags. He always carries a cloth bag when he goes shopping.
- Mr. Syal also started a small group in our society.
- This group collects old clothes and gives them to poor people.
- They also collect waste paper and send it for recycling.
- Sometimes, he invites experts to give talks on how to reduce pollution.
- I think his work is very important because today, the environment is in danger.
- There is too much pollution, deforestation, and waste.
- If more people were like Mr. Syal, the world would become a cleaner and healthier place.
- He is a great example for all of us.
- I feel lucky to have such a neighbour.
- He has inspired me to stop using plastic bottles and to save electricity.
- This is why I really respect Mr. Syal and think he is doing a great job for the environment.

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Why can recycling help the environment?
Recycling reduces waste and saves natural resources. For example, using old paper to make new paper saves trees. It also helps in keeping the environment clean.

What have people done to damage the environment?
People throw plastic, cut trees, and use too many vehicles. These actions cause pollution. In my area, lakes are getting dirty because of garbage and chemicals.

Do you think technology can improve environment-related problems?
Yes, it can. Machines that clean water, electric cars, and solar panels are good examples. But people also need to change their habits.

Is it important to teach students environmental protection at school?
Yes, it's very important. When children learn young, they grow up to care about nature. I remember planting a tree in school during Environment Week.

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# 77. Describe a sport that you really like

You should say:

- What it is
- How often you do it
- How you learned to do it
- And explain why you like it

- One sport that I really like is cricket.
- It is the most popular sport in India, and almost every child plays it at some point.
- I started playing cricket when I was around 10 years old.
- At first, I used to play with my friends in the street near my house.
- Later, I joined a small cricket coaching centre in my town.
- There, I learned how to hold the bat properly, how to bowl, and how to field.
- My coach was very helpful and friendly.
- He taught me the basic rules and also told me how to stay fit and active.
- I usually play cricket twice or thrice a week.
- Sometimes, we have friendly matches on Sundays with boys from nearby areas.
- Whenever there is a school tournament, I try to take part.
- I mostly enjoy batting, but I am also good at fielding.
- I like cricket because it is a team game.
- It teaches me discipline, teamwork, and focus.
- When we win a match, we all celebrate together, and that feels amazing.
- Even when we lose, we learn something and try to do better next time.
- Cricket also keeps me physically fit.
- I have made many good friends through this sport.
- I enjoy watching cricket matches on TV as well, especially when India is playing.
- My favourite player is Virat Kohli because he plays with great energy and passion.
- Playing cricket helps me take a break from studies and refresh my mind.
- It brings happiness and excitement into my daily life.
- That is why cricket is the sport I really like, and I will always enjoy playing it.

Are sports important for children?
Yes, sports help children stay active and healthy. They also learn teamwork and discipline. I used to play football in school and it made me more confident.

How can we make children aware of the importance of sports?
Schools can hold fun sports events and tell kids about the benefits. Parents should also encourage outdoor play. Giving rewards can also help in motivating them

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# 78. Describe a TV series you like

You should say:

- What is the name of the TV series
- When you watched it
- What it is about
- And explain why you like it.

- One TV series that I really like is "Kota Factory."
- I watched it for the first time about one year ago on YouTube and Netflix.
- My friend told me about it and said it was very interesting and useful for students. So I decided to give it a try.
- "Kota Factory" is an Indian web series.
- It is about a teenage boy named Vaibhav who goes to Kota, a city famous for coaching centres.
- He wants to prepare for the IIT entrance exam, which is a very tough exam in India.
- The series shows the problems and pressure students face in these coaching institutes.
- The story is very real and emotional.
- It shows friendship, stress, hard work, and family support.
- The main character, Jeetu Bhaiya, is a teacher and a guide for many students.
- I really liked his way of explaining things and motivating students.
- I like this series because it is very relatable.
- Many students in India go through the same stress when preparing for competitive exams.
- The acting is very natural and the story feels real.
- It is also shot in black and white, which gives it a unique and serious look.
- After watching this series, I felt more motivated to study hard and follow my goals.
- It taught me that hard work, discipline, and focus are very important in life.
- I also learned that support from teachers and friends can make a big difference.
- I have watched all the episodes and I am waiting for the next season.
- Whenever I have free time, I watch some scenes again because they inspire me.
- So, "Kota Factory" is my favourite TV series and I would recommend it to all students.

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Is it beneficial to insert advertisements within a TV series?
It depends. Some ads are well-placed and feel natural, but others can be annoying. If they appear too often, they break the flow. I usually skip them when watching online.

Do you think that parents should limit their children from watching television?
Yes, too much TV is bad for kids. It can affect their studies and sleep. My cousin used to watch cartoons all day until her parents set rules, and now she's more active.

Would your family watch TV together?
Yes, we often watch news or movies together in the evening. It's a good way to spend time with family and discuss things. Watching comedy shows is our favourite.

What are the differences in television viewing habits between the elderly and young people?
Older people prefer news, religious shows, or old movies, while young people watch web series, music, or sports. My grandmother watches devotional songs every morning, but my brother prefers Netflix.

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# 79. Describe a plan that you had to change recently

You should say:

- When this happened
- What made you change the plan
- What the new plan was
- And how you felt about the change

- A plan that I had to change recently was a trip to Manali with my friends.
- It was supposed to happen last month during a long weekend.
- We had planned everything — hotel booking, travel by bus, and sightseeing.
- We were all very excited about the trip because we needed a break from our busy schedules.
- But sadly, two days before the trip, heavy rainfall was reported in Himachal Pradesh.
- There were news updates about landslides and blocked roads.
- Our parents also got worried and told us it was not safe to travel.
- So, we had to cancel our trip to Manali.
- At first, we felt very disappointed.
- We had been looking forward to the trip for many weeks.
- We even bought new clothes and packed our bags.
- But we knew that safety is more important than fun.
- So we made a new plan quickly.
- Instead of going to Manali, we decided to have a short one-day picnic at a local resort nearby.
- It had a swimming pool, indoor games, and a small garden.
- We carried food and had a great time together.
- We clicked many photos and enjoyed each other's company.
- Even though it was not as exciting as Manali, we were still happy.
- We got to spend quality time with our friends.
- Also, we promised to plan the Manali trip again in the future when the weather is better.
- In the end, I felt that changing the plan was the right decision.
- It taught me that sometimes we must adjust according to the situation.
- Plans may change, but what matters is making the best of what we have.
- So this is a recent plan I had to change, and I learned something from it.

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Do people often change their plans?
Yes, many people change plans due to work, health, or other reasons. I also do it sometimes if something urgent comes up. It's quite common nowadays.

Would you tell others if you change your plan?
Yes, I always inform them. It's respectful and avoids confusion. Once I forgot to tell a friend, and he waited for me for an hour—I felt really bad.

Why do you think parents still make plans for their children nowadays?
Parents want the best for their kids. They guide them because they have more experience. But sometimes children feel too much pressure if the plans are not realistic.

How does technology help people make plans?
Technology makes planning easier. We can set reminders, use calendars, or book tickets online. I always use my phone to plan my weekly schedule—it saves time.

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# 80. Describe a water sport you would like to try in the future

You should say:

- What it is
- Where you would like to try it
- Whether it is difficult
- And explain why you would like to try it

- One water sport I would like to try in the future is parasailing.
- Parasailing is a fun activity where a person is tied to a parachute and pulled by a speed boat on water.
- The parachute goes up in the air, and the person flies high above the sea.
- I saw parasailing in a video on YouTube and found it very exciting.
- I would like to try it in Goa, which is a famous tourist place in India.
- Goa has many beaches like Baga Beach and Calangute Beach where people do parasailing.
- I think parasailing is a little scary but also fun.
- You are flying high in the air, and the sea is below you.
- But trained people are there to help, so I believe it is safe.
- I want to try parasailing because I love adventure and heights.
- I also want to overcome my fear of heights.
- It will give me a chance to do something new and exciting.
- It will also give me beautiful views of the sea and the beach.
- I would like to do it with my friends, so we can enjoy and laugh together.
- I will also take some photos and videos to share on social media.
- I think it will be one of the best experiences of my life.
- Also, trying new things helps us become more confident and brave.
- I don't want to miss the chance to enjoy something so thrilling.
- So, parasailing is a water sport I would love to try in India one day.
- I hope I can go to Goa during my next holidays and make this dream come true.

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What do you think of the people who waste water?
I think it's very careless. Water is precious, and many people still don't get clean water. Everyone should use it wisely—for example, turning off taps while brushing.

What are the characteristics of goods transported by water?
Water transport is used for large, heavy goods like oil, coal, or machinery. It's cheaper but slower than air or road transport. Ships carry a lot in one trip.

Do you think it is good to teach swimming in school?
Yes, it's a life-saving skill. Children should learn swimming early. In my school, we didn't have a pool, and I still regret not learning it when I had time.

What kinds of water sports are popular nowadays?
People enjoy boating, jet skiing, and scuba diving. In tourist places like Goa, such activities are very popular. Young people love trying them for fun and adventure.

Why do people like to live near water?
Living near water feels peaceful. It's good for health and offers a nice view. My uncle lives near a river, and his house always feels cool and fresh.

What are the advantages of water transportation?
It's cheaper for transporting heavy goods and less polluting than road transport. It's good for long-distance trade. But it's slow and depends on weather.

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# 81. Describe a time you enjoyed a free day off work or school

You should say:

- Where you were
- What you did
- Who you were with
- And how you felt about it

- One day I remember very well was a free day off from school.
- It was a Monday, and it was a holiday because of a local festival.
- I was at home in Phagwara, my hometown in Punjab.
- Usually, Mondays are busy and tiring.
- But that day, I woke up late and felt very relaxed.
- There was no school, no homework, and no pressure.
- I spent the morning watching my favourite TV shows.
- Later, I helped my mother in the kitchen for some time.
- We made chole bhature, my favourite food.
- In the afternoon, I met my friends in the park nearby.
- We played cricket for two hours and had a lot of fun.
- Then we went to a juice shop and drank fresh mango juice.
- In the evening, I watched a Bollywood movie at home with my family.
- We laughed, ate popcorn, and enjoyed the time together.
- I also played some mobile games before going to bed.
- That day made me feel happy and stress-free.
- I enjoyed every moment because I did things I love.
- Spending time with family and friends made it more special.
- I feel that free days like this are very important.
- They give us time to relax and take a break from daily routine.
- They help us feel fresh and energetic again.
- So, this was a day I truly enjoyed, and I still remember it fondly.
- I hope to have more such relaxing and happy days in the future.

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Why is working extra hours common nowadays?
Many people work more to earn extra or meet deadlines. Companies also expect quick results. My friend in IT often works late to complete projects on time.

What can we do to stop working long hours?
We should plan better and take breaks. Companies should also respect work-life balance. If people are fresh, they work better in less time.

Do people nowadays have more free time than in the past?
It doesn't seem like it. Even with technology, people stay busy. In the past, life was slower. Now, even children have packed schedules.

What do people like to do when they are free in your country?
They watch movies, spend time with family, or go shopping. Many people also enjoy eating out or going on short trips on weekends.

Do you think most people are able to manage their free time well?
Not really. Many people waste time on phones or social media. I also used to scroll Instagram for hours until I started using time limits on my apps.

What's the difference between the things people did in their free time in the past and the things they do nowadays?
Earlier, people used to talk more, go for walks, or read books. Now, most people use mobile phones or watch videos. The lifestyle has become more digital.

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# 82. Describe a noisy place you have been to

You should say:

- Where it is
- When you went there
- What you did there
- And explain why you feel it's a noisy place

- With the ever increasing population, noisy and crowded places are not uncommon.
- Here, I would like to talk about a noisy place I remember visiting.
- It is a local market in Delhi, called Sarojini Nagar.
- I went there last year during my summer holidays with my cousins.
- We were in Delhi for a few days, and someone told us that this market is great for shopping, especially clothes at low prices.
- We went there in the afternoon, and it was super crowded.
- There were street vendors shouting loudly to attract customers.
- People were bargaining, music was playing in many shops, and cars and scooters were honking on the nearby road.
- It felt like a never-ending noise.
- We did a lot of shopping — I bought some T-shirts, a pair of jeans, and a handbag.
- It was fun, but at the same time, a bit stressful because of the noise and crowd.
- I feel this place is noisy because there is cacophony of sounds of people, vehicles, music, loudspeakers.
- It's very different from quiet places like a library or my home.
- I don't think I could stay there for long.
- Nonetheless, it was an interesting experience.
- So this is one noisy place I've been to.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you think it is good for children to make noise?

It is neither good nor bad. It is a part of being a child. I think noise is the essence of childhood and a child can never truly enjoy himself if we ask him/her to be quiet. However, I also believe that it is necessary to be respectful to our neighbours and ask children to be less noisy in case they are being excessively loud.

2. Should children not be allowed to make noise under any circumstances?

No, I think there should be restrictions. Children have the right to make noise but people around them also have a right to peaceful environment. For example, children shouldn't be allowed to be noisy at night as it might impact others' sleep and they shouldn't be allowed to make noise in a movie theatre as it might ruin the experience of other movie goers.

3. What kinds of noises are there in our life?

There are so many noises in our life. Firstly, there is noise of vehicles, the engine sounds and horns. If people are living close to an industry, then there is that noise as well. Then, there is the noise of everyday appliances like air conditioners, fans, grinders, machines and so on. Finally, there is the noise from other living beings around us like insects, animals like dogs barking and just other people talking to each other or on the phone.

4. Which area is exposed to noise more, the city or the countryside?

I think it is certainly cities, which are noisier. I think the one of the biggest sources of noise is technology. It may be in the form of cars or industrial machinery or household appliances. Another source of noise is us humans. Both these factors are much more common in cities than in the countryside and thus cities are noisier.

5. How would people usually respond to noises in your country?

Indians generally don't mind noise that much. We are very densely populated country and thus it is hard to find a peaceful or quiet environment. Moreover, there is no segregation between commercial and residential areas. Thus, most people accept noise as a part of life. It's like there is no point complaining about something we can't do anything about. In recent years, however, I have seen people moving to suburbs to avoid excessive noise.

6. How can people consider others' feelings when chatting in public?

Firstly, if it is not urgent, they can just tell the other person they will call them back. However, if it is urgent, they should go out and talk. If that is not possible, then they should at least talk in a low volume.

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# 83. Describe a disagreement you had with someone

You should say:

- Who you had the disagreement with
- What the disagreement was
- What happened
- And explain how you felt about it

- One disagreement I remember clearly was with my school friend Aman.
- We had been good friends for many years, but once during our 11th-grade science project, we had a serious difference of opinion.
- We were assigned to make a presentation on environmental pollution.
- Aman wanted to create a large colourful poster with charts and pictures.
- But I felt we should make a PowerPoint presentation with a short video to make it look more modern and interesting.
- We both felt strongly about our own ideas, and so the argument slowly became heated.
- We spent more time arguing than actually working.
- The next day at school, our teacher noticed something was wrong and asked us.
- We explained everything, and she calmly told us that good teamwork means understanding and combining strengths.
- She gave us the idea to mix both methods — make a short video and also prepare a poster for display. We agreed to try that.
- To our surprise, the final presentation was really well balanced.
- The poster helped those who liked visual displays, and the video made it interactive.
- We got great feedback, and it became one of our best school projects.
- This experience taught me that disagreements are not always bad.
- They help us see things from a new angle.
- Now, I try to listen more and understand others' views before reacting.
- It also brought Aman and me closer as friends because we realised that teamwork is more important than being right.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What do you do if you disagree with someone?

Firstly, I listen to the person carefully to avoid any misunderstanding. Then, I share my opinion along with suitable evidence and reasoning to support it. Finally, I try to find some common ground, which satisfies me as well as the other person.

2. How can we stop an argument from escalating into a fight?

Firstly, I try to avoid personal attacks. I also just calm down and reply based on facts and not on emotions. If I don't see a resolution, I just agree to disagree and move on.

3. Who do you think should teach children to respect their teachers?

I think it is the responsibility of parents and grandparents. I think these are basic etiquettes and parents have the utmost responsibility in this regard. If they feel their children disrespect or behave badly with their teachers, they should understand the reasons for the same and if it is unjustified they should tell their children to apologise.

4. What disagreement do parents and children usually have?

I think it is mostly about freedom and independence like curfew time, screen time, chores and responsibility. There can also be disagreements about academic performance and finally there maybe disputes about lifestyle choices like unhealthy diet, mobile phone usage and friend circle.

5. Why do some people avoid arguing with others?

I think the two major reasons are lack of confidence and trying to avoid the matter from escalating and spoiling the relationship. Some people just don't believe they will be able to explain their point of view and fear being misunderstood so they avoid arguing at all. At other times, they just believe they might say something hurtful, which might spoil their friendship.

6. How do we show respect to others when we disagree with them?

Firstly, we should try and listen to their viewpoint without any prejudice or bias. Secondly, we should avoid personal attacks. If they disagree with someone, doesn't mean they are a bad person. Finally, to avoid it escalating, we can just agree to disagree.

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# 84. Describe a person you disliked at first but ended up being friends with

You should say

- Who he/she is
- How you knew him/her
- Why you dislike him/her at first but changed your mind
- And explain how you feel about the experience

- One person I initially disliked but later became quite friendly with is Simrat, a fellow student from my IELTS coaching class.
- We met when we joined the same batch.
- At first, I found her a bit too serious and unfriendly.
- She rarely interacted with others, always sat alone, and corrected people during discussions.
- I assumed she was arrogant or trying to show off.
- However, my opinion changed when my tutor made teams of students to practice speaking.
- Simrat and I were in the same team.
- That is when I came to know her more closely.
- During our conversations, I discovered that she was actually very warm and thoughtful.
- She gave me genuine feedback on my answers and even shared her own strategies to improve fluency and coherence.
- After that, we started studying together and even helped each other with writing tasks.
- Over time, I realised she was just introverted and deeply focused on her goals, not rude or proud as I had assumed.
- This experience taught me an important life lesson: first impressions can often be misleading, and that we should never judge a book by its cover.
- I'm glad I got the chance to know her better and form a meaningful friendship.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What do you think of making friends online?

I don't think it is a good idea. I feel like the internet is the place to maintain friendship and it's not suitable for making new friends. There are so many people who pretend to be someone else on the internet, I just don't think it is safe. So, I use the internet to keep in touch with my friends by chatting with them from time to time.

2. Is it a good idea to make friends who are much older than you?

I don't consider it to be a good idea, but I don't think of it as a problem as an adult. If the person shares some interests with you, there is no problem being friends with that person. I remember I used to love playing an online game and many of other people who played that game were older people, so I became friends with a few of them. For children, I would consider it to be a bit inappropriate as they are not mature enough to judge the intentions of the other person.

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# 85. Describe a friend of yours who is well dressed and is good at dressing up

You should say

- Who he/she is
- How you knew him/her
- What his/her dressing style is
- And explain why he/she dresses this way

- One of my friends who is always well dressed is Manveer.
- She was my classmate in school, and we became good friends in the 9th grade.
- Even now, we stay in touch.
- Manveer has a great sense of style.
- She always wears clothes that suit her body shape and the occasion.
- On casual days, she wears jeans with smart tops, and for formal events, she wears Indian suits or elegant dresses.
- She also likes to match her outfits with small accessories like earrings, watches, or handbags.
- Even her shoes are always clean and stylish.
- She dresses this way because she believes first impressions matter.
- She takes good care of her clothes so that she does not have to spend a lot on new clothes.
- She mixes and matches her clothes such that it looks as if she is wearing a new attire every day, but actually it is not so.
- For example, she will wear the same shirt with a different salwar or dupatta to give it an entirely new look.
- She says dressing well shows that you respect yourself and others.
- Also, her mother is a fashion designer, so maybe that's where she got her sense of style from.
- Whenever we have an event or party, I always ask Manveer for advice on what to wear.
- Whenever I follow her advice, and wear what she suggests then I get a lot of compliments.
- I really admire how confident and comfortable she looks in whatever she wears.

Another version

- One of my male friends who always dresses really well is Arjun.
- I met him during my coaching classes for IELTS, and we became friends because we had the same batch timings.
- Arjun has a very classy and neat dressing style.
- For regular classes, he usually wears well-fitted jeans and shirts or polo T-shirts.
- His clothes are always ironed, and he pays attention to small details like wearing a watch or using good shoes.
- For special occasions, he wears formal suits or traditional Indian clothes like kurta-pajama, and he looks very elegant in them.
- He dresses this way because he believes that looking good builds confidence.
- He once told me that when you dress well, people take you more seriously, and it helps create a positive image.
- He also follows fashion trends and gets ideas from Instagram and Pinterest.

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- He believes in spending money on good clothes, but does not buy too many.
- He just takes good care of them so that they last long.
- Arjun's dressing sense really stands out, and many of us take inspiration from him before any special event or outing.
- He has taught me also to dress up well and guides me also on what to wear for different occasions.
- Earlier I used to wear whatever I got hold of, but ever since Arjun has started guiding me, I feel that my confidence has grown manyfold.
- So, Arjun is my friend who has an excellent sense of dressing up.

**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do most people in your country prefer to buy clothes online or at the street market? Why?
Online shopping is becoming popular, but street markets are still the most popular means of shopping. I think it is just about the quality and fitting; it is nearly impossible to judge these factors when shopping online.

2. Do you think young people know more about fashion and are better at dressing up than elderly people?
No, I wouldn't say that. I think older people and youngsters have a different sense of fashion; I don't think they are better than the other. Some people just have a better sense of dressing up and fashion than others. It doesn't have anything to do with age.

3. Do you think people would use clothing to show their identity?
I don't think people try to do that, but clothing inadvertently does show people's personality. For example, people who wear casual clothes even to semi formal occasions are generally more carefree. Similarly, people are who are normally dressed in formal clothes even in their day to day lives are more serious and disciplined.

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# 86. Describe an important thing you learned (not at school or college)

You should say:

- What it was
- When you learned it
- How you learned it
- And explain why it was important

- One important thing I learned outside of school was how to make 3D origami.
- Origami is a Japanese art but 3 D origami is a form of Chinese paper art
- It is made by joining many small folded triangles together.
- I learned it from my aunt during the summer holidays last year.
- She visited our house and brought some beautiful pieces she had made — like birds, flowers, and even small animals.
- I was very interested and asked her to teach me.
- We sat together every evening.
- First, she taught me how to fold small triangular pieces from coloured paper.
- Then we joined many of them to make one 3D model.
- We made a swan.
- It looked very difficult at first, but with her help, I learned quickly.
- This skill was important for me because it made me more patient and creative.
- It also helped me stay calm and focused.
- I made many swans since then and gifted to my friends.
- They all loved the swans and many of them have learned this art from me.
- Now we go on you tube and there are many channels which are full of interesting things to make.
- I even made a peacock and gave it to my teacher as a gift.
- So, learning 3D origami was not just fun — it gave me confidence and a new hobby I still enjoy.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What can children learn from parents?

Children learn many things from their parents. Firstly, they learn basic household skills like cooking, cleaning and ironing clothes. They also learn money management from their parents. Finally and most importantly, they learn etiquettes and moral values from them.

2. Do you think some children are well-behaved because of the influence of their parents?

Both yes and no. I do believe parents play a very significant role in the upbringing of their children and imparting them moral values, which in turn impact their behaviour. However, I believe their behaviour is also influenced by other factors like their friend circle and the TV channels they watch.

3. Is it necessary for adults to learn new things?

Yes, I think it is so necessary to keep up with the times. Professionally, people may even lose their jobs if they don't learn new things from time to time. Even personally I think if people don't change themselves, they would be considered dull and boring.

4. How can people learn new things?

The most accessible source for learning new things is certainly the internet. There is information on nearly everything available on the internet. However, in some cases, face to face learning is the only solution like in driving.

5. Does the internet make learning easier or more difficult?

I believe it makes it much easier. There is endless information available on the internet. If people have the willpower, they can learn anything from the internet in today's time.

6. Can people acquire more knowledge now than before?

Yes, again, I think because of internet, it is much easier to access new information. Moreover, we are getting information in the form of videos, which is easier to retain and understand than reading it from a book.

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# 87. Describe a foreign country you would like to visit in the future

You should say:
- What it is
- What you have known about it
- Who you would like to go there with
- And explain why you would like to visit it

- I have always been fascinated by exploring different cultures and meeting people from various backgrounds.
- Among all the countries, Japan is the one I would love to visit the most.
- I enjoy watching Japanese movies.
- During my childhood, I read a lot of Japanese manga (graphic novels) and watched anime (Japanese cartoons).
- Even now, I often watch anime on YouTube or Netflix, which keeps my interest alive.
- Japan stands out for its values and discipline.
- After the 2011 tsunami, there was no looting or violence, which I found very surprising.
- I later learned that moral values and ethics are taught from a young age in schools.
- Japanese students clean their schools in rotation, promoting responsibility and cleanliness.
- They follow hygienic practices like using different shoes indoors and outdoors to prevent the spread of germs.
- Japan refused to sell nuclear technology to India because they no longer use it themselves.
- This reflects their commitment to their beliefs and principles.
- Buddhism, which originated in India, is a major religion in Japan, creating a cultural link between the two countries.
- Although my current knowledge about Japan comes from anime, manga, and news, I would love to visit and experience the culture first hand.
- Visiting Japan would give me the opportunity to explore its traditions, people, and lifestyle more deeply.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What do you think makes countries different?
I think there are many things thats make country different, but the two biggest factors geography and culture. All the other differences emanate from these two factors in some way or another.

Do you think reading is a good way to get to know other countries? Why?
Yes, to a certain extent, we can learn about countries by reading about them. However, I believe it cannot come close to actually visiting the country and experiencing the culture first hand. Moreover, I believe books are always biased based on the writer's experience. So, it can never give the complete picture.

How do people get information about other countries?
I think its mainly by watching movies and documentaries from that country. Moreover, people can also get information by actually visiting that country.

How does travelling abroad affect young people?
Travelling abroad has many effects. Firstly, it makes people more broad minded as it exposes them to another culture. Besides that, it teaches youngsters adaptability as they learn how to adjust in a different environment. It can also teach how to deal with problems like racism.

What are the advantages of working in an international company?
The biggest advantage that it offers is the opportunity to learn about foreign cultures as people have to deal with clients ,colleagues or superiors from other countries.

What do you think of national identity?
I think national identity is good as long as it is about being proud of one's culture and history. However, it can be bad when it leads to feelings of superiority or ill treatment of others from a different identity than us. National identity can be both a unifier or a divider based on how we see it.

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# 88. Describe a rule that is important in your school or at work

You should say:
- What the rule is about
- What happens when people break the rule
- Why do you think it is an important rule
- And explain how you feel about the rule

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

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

When people break rules, how would they be punished in your country?
Normally, there are fines or small punishments when people break rules. Also, punishments can change depending upon how seriousness of the issue or if it is first time offence or a repeat offence.

What are the reasons that cause people to break the rules?
There are many reasons why people break rules. Firstly, they might be unaware about the rule. Secondly, a lot of people break rules just because they are in hurry. For example, a major reason for breaking traffic rules is just to save a few seconds or minutes. Finally, people also break rules because of losing senses due to drinking.

What kinds of rules do people need to follow in public places?
Individuals should conduct themselves in a way that is in accordance to the rules of the places they are visiting. For example, when dining at a restaurant, individuals should keep in mind the rules of "no shoes, no shirt, no service" and dress appropriately. Additionally, where appropriate, individuals should leave tips for restaurant staff.

What rules should people follow when using public transport?
I think firstly they should not sit at places reserved for disabled, women or elderly. In addition, they should use headphones so as to not disturb people around them. Finally, they should keep their bags and luggage underneath the seats or in the baggage compartment so that they do not clutter the walking space.

On what occasions can children be forgiven if they don't follow some rules?
I think children should be forgiven if they break the rule unknowingly and they are really apologetic for their mistake. It should also depend upon whether they are breaking a rule for the first time or they have broken it previously.

What rules should children follow at home in your country?
I was thinking they should sleep on time, not play loud music, listen to their parents, not waste food, finish the household chores and homework before playing. However, I also believe if there are too many rules, children cannot relax and enjoy, so there should be some leniency in the enforcements of rules at least at home.

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# 89. Describe an area/subject of science (biology, robotics, etc.) that you are interested in and would like to learn more about

You should say:
- Which area/subject it is
- When and where you came to know this area/subject
- How you get information about this area/subject
- And explain why you are interested in this area/subject

- Science is very important in a student's life.
- It's through the science subjects that we begin to think logically and find answers to our questions.
- I found all the aspects of science interesting, like physics, biology and chemistry, as these sciences answer everyday questions about why things happen and how we evolved.
- Today I will be talking about a science, which I find the most interesting.
- It is computer science.
- I remember that I started becoming interested in it when we started with the computer science lessons in the 6th standard.
- We had a wonderful teacher who taught us this subject in a very interesting way.
- Her name is Ms. Meenakshi.
- We used to have both theory and practical lessons for this subject.
- We used to look forward to the lab sessions as we got to work on the computers at that time and try out several things we had learned in class.
- The lab sessions were always enjoyable, but our teacher taught it in a very interesting way and we all enjoyed the theory lessons a lot too.
- There are many interesting things that I have learned from this science.
- The first thing is how we can use computers not just as a source of entertainment, but it's use is much more vast than that.
- It can be used to organize and plan things at home. It can be used for many other day-to-day activities like, banking, research work, shopping, connecting with friends and relatives and so on.
- Not only that, it helps the artists creates new art and helps designers create clothes, cars, buildings, etc.
- Another reason that I have an interest in this science is because I know that in every field today we need to use computers.
- It will help me with my higher studies and also in my career later.
- In this contemporary world, the computer science has become an important science and it is essential that everyone is computer savvy to be able to do well in their studies or work or even if it is used as a source of entertainment.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Should scientists explain the research process to the public?
I think it would be really beneficial if scientists explain the research process.To begin with, it will address problems like superstition which exists due to lack of understanding of scientific phenomena. Secondly, it would also attract more youth towards the field of science. Today, many people consider science so difficult, they don't pursue a career in science.

How do you get to know about scientific news?
I mainly get scientific news from newspapers or magazines. I read the newspaper the Hindu and every Thursday, there is column on recent scientific advancements. Moreover, I also learn about scientific advancements by listening to podcasts.

Should people continue to study science after graduating from school?
I am firm believer of the saying that Knowledge never goes to waste. So I believe studying science will benefit people in some way or another. For example, it might people a new business idea.

Which science subject is the most important for children to learn?
I think all science subjects are useful, but the most important in my opinion is biology. I think we all need to have a basic understanding of how the human body works, so we can take steps to remain fit and healthy.

Is it important to study science at school?
Yeah, it is important. It is important to have a basic understanding of how the world works and for that studying science is really important. Moreover, scientific knowledge can help them in many ways like fixing broken appliances and so on. It also helps keep children away from superstitions.

Why do some children not like learning science at school?
I think it is just because some scientific concepts are difficult to understand just by reading. I think it is really important that school teacher have experiments and physical lessons to explain concepts in a better way.

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# 90. Describe a time you made a promise to someone

You should say:
- What the promise was
- To whom you made it
- Whether it was easy or difficult to keep
- And explain why you made it

- Many people are pretty casual about making promises.
- And it really irritates me, when people make promises/commitments, they have no intention to keep.
- I don't make promises easily but if I do I try my best to fulfill them.
- Last year, during the coronavirus lockdown, my parents made me promise that I wouldn't leave the house unnecessarily till the vaccine is released.
- My paternal grandparents live with us and they lie in the high-risk category because of their age.
- Moreover, my grandmother is also diabetic.
- So, all of us were really worried about my grandparents catching the virus.
- I am a very social person and before the corona days, I used to spend at least two to three hours with my friends every day.
- I also spend a lot of time with my grandparents.
- In fact, sometimes I sleep on the couch in their room.
- My parents were worried that I might catch the virus if I spend too much time outdoors and pass it on to my grandparents.
- So, I promised my parents that I would not loiter around and spend time indoors.
- It was very hard in the beginning.
- I felt so bored as I couldn't meet my friends.
- In fact, in the first few days, the only time I left the house was to get groceries.
- I was in contact with my friends on the phone and we used to pass the time by talking for hours on the phone.
- However, within two three days, I ran out of things to talk about.
- Every day was the same.
- I was also angry at my parents for making me promise to not leave the house.
- But in a few days, I came to know that one of my friends had caught the virus.
- From that day onwards, I stopped complaining.
- Things also became a bit easier as I developed some new hobbies like reading the news and playing indoor games like chess and carrom board with my grandparents.
- It's been nearly 10 months since I made the promise, and I am glad I made the promise.
- In fact, I think I am still enjoying the company of my grandparents today because of that promise.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Is it useful to write down promises?
Yes, I think its a really good idea because we do make a lot of promises we forget later. So, writing them down, would be a good way to stop forgetting our promises. Moreover, writing down promises would reduce the number of promises we make without seriously intending of fulfilling them.

Do you often keep your promises?
I try. I think I am able to keep most of the promises I make but sometimes I do forget. Also, sometimes there are unforeseen circumstances, where I am not able to fulfil promises like not reaching somewhere on time due to traffic congestion.

Why do some people fail to keep their promises?
I think most people fail to keep their promises because they make the promises without seriously thinking of what would it require to fulfil them. Also today, there are so many distractions in life, it is very easy to forget the promises we make.

Do children keep their promises?
Well, it depends upon the child and his upbringing. Some parents are very strict about promises and hold back on gifts unless children keep their promise. In this case, children are also more likely to keep their promises.

Do parents in India make promises to their children?
Yes, I think parents all over the world make promises to their children. Parents are much more likely to go back on their word due to work or other commitments, so children ensure that their parents make promises, so that they do not go back on their word.

What kinds of promises do people often make?
In case of parents and children, parents make promises like buying their children their favourite toy or take them out for a movie if they perform well in studies. In adulthood, there are promises to do something the other person asks like help with some work issue.

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# 91. Describe a line(or a few words) that you remember from a poem or song

You should say:
- What is it?
- Which song or poem it is from
- How you knew it
- And explain how you feel about it

- Music makes everything better.
- I like to listen to music when I am cooking, cleaning, driving, exercising.
- It relaxes me in ways nothing else can.
- I listen to songs from different genres and one song that brings a smile to my face every time I hear it, is the timeless pop classic "What a wonderful world".
- It talks about appreciating the beauty of your surroundings and it's the line from the title "And I think to myself, it's a wonderful world" that I remember so well.
- It was first recorded by Louis Armstrong in 1968 but there have been many more versions of it since then sung by various artists.
- It was the biggest selling single in UK and reached number 1 spot that year.
- I think the first time I heard it was on YouTube. I was looking for old hits and this song just came up in the suggestions.
- I was so mesmerized by the lyrics and the singer's soothing voice
- They moved me and just made me realize that I need to find happiness in small things.
- This world may not be perfect but it's so wonderful.
- Now whenever I am stressed, I take a break and go outside.
- Looking at the beautiful sky, listening to the birds chirping and the nature all around me makes me forget about my worries and brings me so much peace.
- I also feel grateful for all the people in my life - my family and friends who make this world so much more wonderful for me
-
- OR (Alternate answer)
- I listen to songs on my phone whenever I am travelling.
- In fact, my song choices have changed so much over the years.
- But there is one song and one particular line from that song that I can never forget.
- The line goes like this – 'One day you will leave this world behind, so live a life that others will remember'
- It is from the song 'The NIGHTS' by Avcii.
- I love listening to the whole song, just for this one line.
- I don't really remember how I first came across this song, but it was about two three years ago.
- I think I might have heard it in a café or a music channel in the TV.
- Whenever, I am feeling low or I don't feel like studying, I listen to the song for motivation.
- The song just energizes me and makes me work even harder.
- But the lyrics also have a darker meaning.
- The singer Avcii committed suicide at a very young age about two years ago.
- I remember the news came as a huge shock to me.
- When I searched online, I came to know, Avcii was going through depression.
- But one day, when I was listening to this song, I realized how Avcii's death really gave life to

the lyrics.

- His body did leave this Earth, but people will never forget him.
- People will always remember him through his songs.
- He has immortalized his memory through his meaningful song lyrics.
- I also really want to do something for my family, my society and my country.
- So that people also remember me after I leave this world.

**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What can people learn from songs or poems?
Songs and poems can teach a variety of meaningful lessons and insights. They are generally an emotional expression that may help one to understand one's own feelings and also inspire one with creatively expressed ideas of courage, traditions and values. They may motivate and inspire people through their content, higher emotional appeal, innovative language and Rythm

2. Do you think it is easier for children to learn a song or poem than adults? Why?
Yes, it is generally easier for children to learn a song or poem than adults, because of two reasons. First is their own quality of being able to easily absorb new content as their brains are more quick to adapt to new things. The second reason is the inherent quality of the poems and songs with their rhythmic pattern and rhyming scheme lending them to fun and easy learning.

3. Do you think children would like the rhythm of songs or poems? Why?
Yes, children generally enjoy the rhythm of songs and poems, because it makes them fun and engaging helping children to form a natural connection with them.
Rhythm makes songs and poems feel like play, which is why children tend to enjoy them so much.

4. Are you good at memorizing things?
I am not very good at memorising things as I get distracted very easily. But sometimes I surprise myself by remembering incidents and things that others may not remember or recollect.

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# 92. Describe an important decision that you made

You should say:
- What the decision was
- How you made your decision
- What the results of the decision were
- And explain why it was important

- We all have to make decisions from time to time.
- Some decisions are simple, like choosing what to wear or what to eat.
- However, some decisions can have a lasting impact on our lives, such as selecting a career or a life partner.
- One important decision I made was choosing my subjects for Senior Secondary.
- After completing my 10th grade, I had to decide between medical, non-medical, commerce, or humanities (arts) streams.
- Many of my friends opted for the non-medical stream, but I realized that physics was not my strong subject.
- I discussed my options with my parents, but they encouraged me to make the decision myself.
- Seeking guidance, I approached my teacher, Mrs. Promilla, who was also my mentor and lived in my neighborhood.
- She advised me to choose commerce or arts, knowing that my strengths were better suited for these fields.
- Although my friends influenced me to take up non-medical, I trusted my teacher's advice and chose arts.
- This was an important decision because my future career depended on it.
- Today, I feel content with my choice.
- I am performing well academically and have enough time to explore my interests.
- In my free time, I have joined dance and music classes, which I enjoy a lot.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

How do people usually make important decisions?
I think people usually make important decisions by consulting with weighing out the pros and cons. Moreover, they normally ask loved ones or their friends for advice before making such decisions. We find comfort in decisions when someone whose judgement we respect, agrees with us on the decision.

Do you think the influence of advertising is good?
In most cases yes. They create awareness and increase demand and sales, which ultimately boosts the economy. However, advertisements of fast foods and unhealthy sugary drinks have also led to diseases like obesity and diabetes. So, there is certainly a downside too.

Do you think advertisements can influence our decisions when shopping?
Yes, we consider products of brands whose advertisements we have seen to be better. It just creates the impression that it is a good brand. Also advertisements help us make more informed decisions as we learn about the features of the products through ads.

Who can children turn to for help when making a decision?
Children can turn to the adults in their life like parents , grandparents and teachers. Today, internet is also a good source of information, so they can always ask for advice on the well-reputed websites before making any crucial decisions.

What important decisions do teenagers need to make after graduation?
They need to take decisions about where to live, financial decisions like renting or buying the home, investing and choosing a life partner.

Do you think children sometimes have to make important decisions?
Yes, of course. They have to take decisions about what subjects to study and what hobbies to pursue and these can a very effect on their whole personality and life trajectory.

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# 93. Describe a time when you helped a child

You should say:
- When it was
- How you helped him/her
- Why you helped him/her
- And how you felt about it

- I know many children and have spent time with several of them, but here I would like to talk about a time when I helped my niece, Gia, who is three years old.
- She is my cousin Jyoti's daughter, who lives in Canada.
- Last year, my cousin visited us for a week in December, and I got the opportunity to spend time with Gia.
- Gia is a very cute and chubby child with adorable dimples on both cheeks when she smiles.
- One thing I helped her with was combing her curly hair, as she disliked getting it done.
- She would often cry and run away, but I found ways to distract her with stories and games, making the process easier for her.
- I also helped in taking care of her daily needs, such as feeding her meals and making sure she had her favorite chocolates and candies.
- My cousin often mentioned how hard it was to look after Gia alone in Canada, and she really appreciated my help during their stay.
- I also took Gia to the park in my neighborhood almost every day.
- There, I made sure she played safely and helped her interact with other children.
- She loved being the center of attention, and I enjoyed helping her make new friends.
- I also taught her how to take turns on the swings and slides, as she would get upset when other children got ahead of her.
- Gia would often cry when it was time to leave the park, but I comforted her with hugs and promises of coming back the next day.
- The experience of taking care of Gia taught me a lot about patience and responsibility.
- Spending time with her was a wonderful experience, and I look forward to helping her again when she visits this summer.
- May God bless her with a long and happy life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Should developed countries provide technological help to developing countries?
Yes, definitely. I think it would be mutually beneficial. Firstly, it would improve the relationship between countries, making the world a more peaceful place and reducing chances of war. Apart from this, there are many global problems like pollution, which cannot be addressed by poor countries only because of lack of technology. So it will help rich countries as well.

Why is it important to help neighbors?`
It is important to help neighbours because they are the closest to us. They can help us quicker than even family members and friends for example in case of disasters like fires and flooding, they can help us. Secondly, helping neighbour helps improve relationships and helps people deal with some neighbourhood problems easily.

Do people in your country like to help neighbors?
Yes, people are very helpful. In Indian culture, people like to share a good relationship with neighbours. People celebrate festivals with their neighbours, children play with their neighbours and this close relationship means neighbours also help each other often. For example, our neighbours often send us special dishes on festivals.

What can you do to help your neighbors?
People can do many things like look after children and dogs in case of emergencies, lend them basic things, water their plants if they go vacation and so on.

What can schools do to develop students' awareness of volunteering?
I think schools can show them videos about the benefits of volunteering. They can also have special yearly rewards for students who volunteer. They can also conduct volunteering exercises, where children about opportunities to volunteer.

Why is it necessary to do volunteer services?
It is about doing something for the society. I think volunteering not only benefits society, but also helps people feel better about themselves. Volunteering makes us feel like we are important and our contributions matter. Volunteering also gives an opportunity to help others who haven't gotten the same opportunities or benefits in life as we have.

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# 94. Describe something you received for free

You should say:
- What it was
- Who you received it from
- Where you received it
- And how you felt about it

- People generally feel very happy when they get something for free, and this doesn't happen many times in one's life.
- This happened to me after my 10th standard exams when I got my result.
- My parents had promised me that if I scored well, they would buy me a smartphone of my choice.
- I wanted to buy an Apple iPhone because of its quality and features.
- I had done a lot of research comparing different phones, and I had finally decided to go for the iPhone.
- Even though it was a bit expensive, I planned to use it for at least five years.
- I also checked where I could get the best deal, whether online or offline.
- I found that the prices online were a bit cheaper.
- Finally, when my result came, I had scored good marks, and my parents agreed to buy the phone for me.
- I told them that it was cheaper online, but they still wanted to visit the Apple store to see the phone in person.
- We went to the store, and they liked the phone and were happy with my choice.
- Luckily, the phone was available at a great discount at the store that day.
- My parents told me to buy it from the store itself, and we made the payment.
- But the biggest surprise of my life came after that.
- The store manager told me that they had a special offer for students, where they were giving Apple AirPods for free with the purchase of an iPhone.
- I couldn't believe my luck.
- I was so full of joy because I had wanted to buy AirPods too, but they were beyond my parents' budget.
- It felt like a dream come true.
- I felt I was the luckiest person on earth.
- Even today, I remember that day as one of the happiest moments of my life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What kinds of free services should be provided by the government?
Education and health care are two main services which should definitely be free at least at the primary level. Besides that, the government should also provide basic services like clean drinking water, public urinals, libraries and so on for free.

Will people be happy when they receive free things?
Yes of course, who isn't happy when they receive free things. But its just not about being free, its also about the quality, if its free but the quality is bad, I don't think it will make people happy.

Is it necessary to provide free public transportation?
No, I believe rather than free public transportation, a well maintained, comfortable, frequent and fast means of public transportation is more important. It could be subsidised for those who can't afford it but in general, it is better to be paid and well maintained than free.

Why should everyone have access to basic healthcare?
Because, access to basic healthcare ensures that problems can be nipped in the bud. Most diseases can be tackled if they are treated timely. Moreover, a healthy workforce is the key to a productive society and so access to basic healthcare is a must.

Why do customers like to receive free gifts from companies?
Its just human nature, getting something free makes us feel like we got something more than we paid for and that makes us happy. Moreover, it helps us justifying overspending on things we shouldn't.

Is it good or bad for people to have a free education in the future?
It really depends upon the quality of education. I honestly believe that free public education can never compete with quality of private education, so it is not a good idea in my opinion.

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# 95. Describe a person who contributes to the society

You should say:
- Who is this person?
- How you knew him/her
- What type of work he/she does
- And explain why you think he/she contributes to the society

- All jobs are important to the society in one-way or the other, such as the job of a teacher, a doctor, a nurse, a scientist, a politician and so many more.
- Here I would like to talk about a person whose job is very important to the society.
- This person is my maternal aunt and she is a teacher.
- She is about 50 years old and looks very beautiful.
- Her hair has started graying, but she doesn't colour her hair.
- She believes in the 3 Gs - going grey gracefully.
- She teaches science in Cambridge International School.
- She did her Bachelors of Education after completing her Masters in Chemistry.
- Teachers are known as nation builders.
- Everyone passes through the hands of teachers in school and college years.
- All other professions such as doctors and nurses also pass through the hands of a teacher.
- That is why I believe that teaching is the most important job.
- A teacher is like a candle that burns itself and shows light to others.
- Since age-old times, teaching has been considered a noble profession.
- In ancient India, there was the gurukul system.
- Even the king's children stayed in the home of the guru or the teacher.
- They used to do the household chores of the guru and in return the guru imparted knowledge.
- Teachers improve the literacy rate of a country.
- When literacy rate is high, crime and violence go down.
- A teacher requires good communication skills and depth of knowledge of his subject.
- A good teacher should treat all students equally.
- Nowadays, teachers are being paid handsomely be the government.
- This is to lure bright students to join this profession.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What kinds of jobs are not paid fairly?
There are many jobs that are not fairly but if I think I would say the physical labour jobs like gardening, carpentry and plumbing are paid less than they deserve. This is just because we rate mental acumen and skill over physical hard work. However, in recent years, there has been a change in this trend.

What skills should be taught at school to improve students' ability to find jobs?
I think every country should do an assessment of jobs, where there is a sincere shortage of workforce and then these skills should be taught at school. If I had to name a few, I would say skills like woodwork, welding and plumbing should be taught. Besides this, I believe basic computer literacy is also a must, so these skills should also be taught.

Do you think younger people should be lower paid than older people?
No, absolutely not. People should be paid based on their skills and experience and not their age.

What was the impact of the epidemic on the work environment?
I think the biggest impact was the increase in work from home opportunities. And with regard to the environment at office, there was more focus on proper ventilation and distancing. For example, there was a shift from sharing of spaces to individuals getting their own space.

What are the changes in working conditions?
Like I said, the biggest change has been the acceptability of work from home. I think most workplaces started allowing work from home and even when normalcy has returned, businesses still allow their employees to work a few days in a week from home.

What jobs are well-paid?
The jobs that come to mind first is the jobs of social media influencers. I have heard of some even earning 100 or 200 times the average yearly income of an individual in a single month. Besides that, the traditional jobs like doctors, lawyers and software professionals are also paid very well.

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# 96. Describe an energetic person that you know

You should say:
- Who is this person?
- How you knew this person
- Why do you think this person is energetic?
- And explain how you feel about this person

- I know a lot of energetic people, but the person who I find to be the most energetic is none other than my mother.
- There are many reasons why I find her to be very energetic.
- Firstly, she does so many things in a single day.
- If I did them all, it would take me at least two three days. Firstly, she gets up at 5 AM and then takes the dogs out for a walk.
- Then, she comes back and feeds the dogs.
- After that, she prepares breakfast for the whole family.
- Then she gets ready and goes to work.
- She is a gynaecologist, so her job is also very stressful.
- She comes back home at around 7 PM.
- Then, she prepares dinner.
- She does a lot of other household chores too like washing utensils, cleaning, folding clothes and placing them in cupboards.
- I don't know when she does them and many times I take them for granted but if she is not home for even one day, it again reminds me of all these chores she does.
- Sometimes, she even needs to go to the hospital at night because of emergencies.
- Secondly, she somehow finds time for all her hobbies inspite of being so busy.
- She does knitting, crochet, sowing, painting , origami and so on.
- Every year, she makes 4-5 sweaters.
- Our whole home is decorated with her hand made artwork.
- Thirdly, I find her so energetic because I have never seen her resting or wasting time during the day.
- She is always doing something.
- Even when she is watching TV, she is knitting side by side.
- If she is on the phone, she is cooking or folding clothes side by side.
- After coming back home from school, I just feel like sitting and doing nothing for a while.
- I don't know if she feels the same, but I have never seen her taking a break.
- Its like the word 'Idle' doesn't exist in her dictionary.
- Each day I aspire to be like her, but I don't think I can come even remotely close to her.
- I can just admire her and feel proud that she is my mother.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Do you think machines could replace human workers in the future?
Yes, in certain job, machines will most likely replace human workers. However, there will always be certain jobs where the human element would remain essential. One example I can think of is of healthcare. I don't think doctors or nurses can ever be replaced by machines.

Can physical workers receive higher salaries in the future?
Yes, I think they would. Its all about demand and supply. The demand for physical workers is increasing, while the number of people learning vocational skills like carpentry, plumbing and masonry are decreasing. So, they would definitely receive higher salaries in the future.

What's the difference between the payment for physical work and that for mental work?
In case of physical work, the payment is generally based on the number of hours worked or the amount of output , while in case of mental work it is about the impact. Generally, physical work is undervalued, while mental work is valued more because it generally requires advanced knowledge and training.

What kinds of jobs need a lot of physical work?
I think many activities require physical work like construction, gardening, plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, agriculture and so on. However, in some of these areas, the physical work is decreasing because of automation.

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# 97. Describe a job that is useful to the society

You should say:

- What job it is
- How do you know about this job?
- What types of people do this job
- And explain why you think this job is useful to the society

- I think all jobs are useful to the society in their own way.
- However, if I would have to pick one job that is very important for the society, I would say teaching.
- Youth and children are the future of the country and I think teachers have the largest influence on them second only to parents and friends.
- Children are like a wet clay and teachers help shape them in responsible and productive members of the society.
- In many cases, the children's future career depends upon the teachers.
- Children are much more likely to choose careers in fields, where they had excellent teachers during childhood.
- If teachers are able to engage and create interest for the subject, students are likely to continue studying them in the future.
- Moreover, teachers also impart moral values and ethics to children.
- They help them differentiate between right and wrong.
- Teachers teach them many important qualities like discipline, punctuality and responsibility.
- Teachers play the role of friends.
- If teachers are friendly, children share their problems and feelings them.
- Teacher's advice and guidance helps children navigate the challenges of childhood.
- They are an emotional support for children.
- For all these reasons, I think the role of teacher is very challenging.
- It requires a lot of patience and responsibility.
- In addition, dealing with today's children can be very exhausting so they need to be mentally strong.
- However, it is also one of the most rewarding professions as it has the ability to shape people's career.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Do you think schools should provide career advice to students?
Yes, definitely. Firstly, I think children lack the knowledge about different career options they can pursue. Also, children are not mature enough to clearly make decisions about their future life without guidance, so there should definitely be career advice.

Who should receive a higher salary, young people or older people?
I don't think it should depend upon age, but rather their contribution and output. If it is physical work, in most cases, young people would be able to contribute more, so they should be paid higher. But in jobs, where experience might be the key, I think older people would have a bigger impact and they should be paid higher.

Do you think doctors should be well-paid?
Of course, I think it is one of the most mentally challenging and stressful jobs in the world. Even small mistakes can result in people losing their lives. Doctors also need to put their lives at risk - as in case of Covid Pandemic. Finally, there is already a severe shortage of healthcare professionals around the world, so paying them well would be the first step to address this shortage.

What kind of jobs deserve a high salary?
I think it depends upon how physically and mentally challenging the job is. As the difficulty increases, the number of people who can do the job decreases and thus the pay should increase.

What kind of jobs receive a low income?
I think generally physical work receives low income as it is considered that they are easier to replace because of availability of unskilled labour. As the specialisation for the job increases, the pay also increases. For example, in vocational jobs also painters are paid less than carpenters as the job of carpenter is more specialised.

What kind of jobs are well-paid in your country?
I think its most mentally challenging jobs that are paid well like engineers, doctors and lawyers. Also, jobs in the entertainment industry like actors are also paid well. Moreover, today, YouTube artists and social media influencers are one the biggest earners.

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# 98. Describe a place you have been to and would like to recommend others to live there (not your hometown)

You should say:

- Where is it?
- What the place is like
- When you visited there
- Who you went there with
- And explain why you would recommend this place to others

- India is a diverse country.
- There are many beautiful cities in India.
- Some are beautiful because of their historical buildings, whereas others are beautiful because of their modern architecture. Some cities are beautiful because they are in the mountain valleys, whereas some are beautiful, because of the beautiful and warm smiles of people.
- Here, I would like to talk about Chandigarh, which is also known as 'The City Beautiful'
- It was designed by the French architect Le Corbusier.
- I studied a lot Chandigarh because it was the first planned city of India after independence.
- I have visited it many times as my grandfather lives there.
- I normally visit it with my whole family, my parents and my sister.
- We go there at least once a month to spend some with my grandfather.
- Chandigarh is one of the cleanest cities in India
- It is a union territory and is also the capital of two states - Punjab and Haryana.
- There are a lot of tourist attractions in the city as well.
- The Rock Garden in Chandigarh is a masterpiece made out of waste material.
- Sukhna lake is the biggest man-made lake. It is a beautiful place for people to enjoy with their families.
- The sector 17 market is a shopper's paradise.
- The city also has a lot of entertainment places like shopping malls, multiplexes and clubs.
- The city has 50 sectors.
- Each sector has residential and commercial zones
- The roads are designed and oriented in such a way that for most of the time of the day, they are under shade.
- There are huge parking areas in the commercial zones so that the parking problems don't create havoc on the main roads.
- I feel Chandigarh is the best city to live in India because the quality of life is very good here.
- Unlike other cities, people do not have to deal with problems such as pollution, traffic jams, and unhygienic living conditions. Moreover, people in this city also have access to some of the best healthcare and educational facilities in the country.
- Finally, I believe that the greatness of a city depends on its people, and Chandigarh is among the cities with the highest literacy levels. The people in Chandigarh are warm, friendly, and ready to help each other in difficult times
- The city has a lot to offer to people from all walks of life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Why do many people choose to move to big cities?
I would say there are two main reasons. Firstly, it is easier to find high paying jobs in bigger cities. Secondly, big cities also offer access to better healthcare ,education and entertainment facilities as compared to towns and villages.

What factors make a city liveable?
I think there are many factors but if I had a name a few, I would say affordable housing ,good transportation and road infrastructure, quality healthcare and educational facilities and well paid employment opportunities. Apart from that, I would say clean environment and access to parks and recreational areas is also very important.

What are the benefits of living close to one's workplace?
The biggest advantage of living close to the workplace is the reduced time and expenditure on commute. People get to spend more quality time with their family members and avoid the stress of being struck in long traffic jams. It is also good for the environment as people can walk or cycle to their workplace instead of commuting by cars.

What kinds of place do people in your country prefer to live in?
I think people prefer to live in places, which have easy access to all modern amenities. In other words, people prefer living in places close to good schools, hospitals and shopping areas. Moreover, they also prefer living as close to their workplace as possible so they have to spend less time on commuting. Finally, people prefer quiet areas away from main highways and roads.

What should people prepare before they move to a different city?
I think they should first research the areas that would be the most suitable to live in. They should also try to lean about the city's culture, social customs and climate, so it easier for them to adjust. Finally, they should make a list of things or services, they would immediately need after moving like an internet connection and place an order for them.

Why do people move from one place to another?
There are many reasons why people move from one place to another but employment and education opportunities are the two biggest reasons. In India, one of the major reasons is marriage. Girls generally move to husband's hometown after marriage.

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# 99. Describe a time that something changed your life in good ways

You should say:

- When and where it happened
- What happened
- How you felt about it
- And explain how it changed your life in good ways

- Change is the law of nature.
- Knowingly or unknowingly many things bring a change in our life.
- Here I would like to talk about a time when my life changed for the better.
- It was about two years ago.
- My cousin Jasleen visited us from Canada.
- She had gone to Canada for her higher education.
- The Jasleen I knew was a size XXL.
- But the Jasleen in front of me after 2 years was a size XS
- She was unrecognizable.
- She was also a lot more confident and smarter.
- She was with us for 2 days only, but those 2 days with her changed me a lot.
- Even I was on the borderline obese side, but nothing had worked for me till that time for losing weight.
- I asked Jasleen about her journey from extra big to extra small.
- She told me that it had not been easy for her, but she had made up her mind to lose weight gradually and in a sustainable way.
- She made it a point to walk to her college, which was just a mile.
- All her friends took the bus, but she walked.
- Surprisingly they reached the college in almost the same time. They had to wait 5-10 minutes for the bus, but she reached the college in 14 minutes with her brisk walk.
- In the evening she would again go to the library of the college.
- So these 4 miles every day helped her.
- Another thing she did was add a lot of fruit to her diet.
- She stopped sugar altogether.
- Just these 2 things and in two years she was a new person.
- Since then I have started walking whenever and wherever possible.
- My teas are without sugar and when I am hungry between meals, I go for fruit.
- It has not only improved my looks, but I also feel healthier and more confident.
- All my clothes look good on me and I don't feel conscious of my body any more.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What are the disadvantages when people keep making changes?
I think there are many disadvantages of making changes frequently. Firstly, it disturbs the regular routine and this can be extremely stressful. Secondly, it can lead to more mistakes. When people need to learn new routines, they are more likely to commit errors. Finally, changes take time to adapt and this can slow down productivity.

When things like getting married or moving home happen, what kinds of things would you consider?
I think there are so many things to consider. I think the first would be financial aspect. Both marriage and moving homes mean added expenses. Secondly, one needs to consider the new responsibilities. Getting married or moving might change our responsibilities. For example, normally when living with parents, a person doesn't need to cook but they might need to cook when moving to a new place or after getting married.

Who can adapt better to changes, children or adults?
I think it is easier for children. I think children are quick to adapt because they learn new things faster. As people grow older, the mind deteriorates and it is harder to adapt and make changes. In most cases, older people are the first ones to resist changes.

How do you adapt to changes in life?
I am a go wit the flow kind of person. I don't normally make any special preparations. As things happen, I make changes. However, I am trying to become more proactive because sometimes responding later can lead to problems.

Why do some people quit and change jobs?
It could be due to multiple reasons. However, some of the common reasons are better pay offers, lack of professional growth, toxic work environment, monotony in life and so on.

Do you like new things or changes in life?
I like new things when they adopt them voluntary but if I have to make changes forcibly, I do crib sometimes. For example , recently I picked up chess and I loved learning it. On the other hand, when I was forced to learn cooking, I used to complain everyday. In fact, I used to eat out at first , but gradually I had to learn cooking as restaurant food was expensive and unhealthy.

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# 100. Describe a countryside area that you have been to

You should say:

- Where is it?
- When and why you went there
- Who you went there with
- And explain how you felt about it

- I belong to Phagwara.
- It is a small town, and there are many villages near my hometown.
- My maternal uncle and aunt have a farmhouse in a village near my hometown.
- Their farmhouse is in the centre of lush green farms.
- Last year, they invited us over to stay with them for a few days.
- Their farmhouse is very well maintained, as they have given a portion of it to a family who stays there and looks after it.
- They have maintained a very good kitchen garden, and I remember, the whole week we enjoyed fresh veggies from the garden.
- They had grown aubergines, okra, bottle gourd, broccoli, cauliflower, mint, coriander and green chilly.
- My uncle has retired from the agriculture department, and he knows a lot about organic farming.
- He never sprays any insecticides and pesticides and even prepares compost at home from the kitchen waste.
- Those vegetables tasted different.
- What we eat in the cities has so much spray of insecticides and pesticides that the taste of veggies is different.
- It was so much fun.
- They have 4 dogs, two Pugs and two German Shepherds.
- Every morning, we used to go for long walks in the fields, and the four dogs would walk by our sides without their leashes.
- In the cities, you always have to leash your dog while going for a walk.
- After the walk, we would all eat delicious parathas with butter made by my aunt.
- We played badminton in their courtyard, and sometimes we also played Frisbee.
- The air also seemed fresh and pollution free.
- The atmosphere was so calm and quiet. There was also no noise pollution.
- They have such a peaceful life, with absolutely no hurry and worry.
- I look forward to going and staying with them again this summer.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What are the differences between the city and the countryside?
There are many differences between the city and countryside. On the positive side, cities have better facilities in terms of infrastructure, educational institutes and healthcare services, while on the negative side, they are more polluted, more traffic and a higher cost of living.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in the countryside?
The main advantages of living in countryside are less traffic, cleaner environment and lower cost of living. By contrast, the main drawbacks are lack of facilities and employment opportunities.

What kind of people would like to stay in the countryside?
I think people who prefer a slow pace of life, a quiet environment and those who live spending time with then nature would prefer the countryside.

Do people go to the countryside to travel or to live?
I think rural to urban migration is reality of today's time. So, today mostly people visit the countryside mainly as a tourist. However, some people are also shifting back to countryside to live a more stress free and peaceful life.

Do most people prefer to live in big cities or in the countryside?
Like I said before, the population in rural areas is decreasing, while it is increasing in urban areas. So people do prefer living in the big cities.

Do people in your country like to go hiking?
No, I don't think hiking is that popular. It is still a niche activity. However, in recent years, the number of people doing hiking has increased certainly.


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# 101. Describe an invention that is useful in your daily life

You should say:

- What is the invention?
- What it can do How popular is it?
- Whether it is difficult or easy to use
- And explain why it is useful

- The invention I find very useful in my daily life is the Apple Smartwatch.
- I got it as a gift from my parents on my 18th birthday.
- The watch is black, and I added a leather strap to make it stylish.
- I am a fitness enthusiast, and this watch helps me stay active.
- It tracks my steps and motivates me to do 10,000 steps every day.
- I like running and working out in the gym, and it is very helpful for both activities.
- I can also receive calls from my friends when my hands are busy.
- This feature is great because I don't have to carry my phone during a run.
- The watch also tracks my sleep and gives me a report on how well I slept.
- It has saved many lives by detecting heart rate problems and alerting people to seek medical attention.
- The latest version of the watch can do ECG and monitor other health parameters.
- There is a current offer where you get the watch for free if you do 15,000 steps daily for a year.
- The watch is very easy to use and connects well with my iPhone.
- I love it because it keeps me healthier and reduces my need to check my phone often.
- This smartwatch has become a very important part of my life.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Who should support and sponsor inventors, governments, or private companies?
I think both the governments and private companies should support and sponsor inventors. It depends upon the area of research and its significance on the common people. For example, in case of life saving drugs, government should be one to support and sponsor so even common people can benefit from the research and not just the rich elite.

Do all inventions bring benefits to our world?
No, some inventions have been disastrous like weapons of mass destruction. In the end, inventions can bring both benefits and drawbacks, it really depends upon how we end up using them.

Are there any other inventions that make the world better?
Yes, there are so many inventions that have made the world a better place to live like electricity, the internet, aeroplanes and so on.

What inventions do you think should be improved?
I think nearly every invention can be improved. For example, computers could be made smaller, transportation could be made faster and less polluting. There is a scope for improvement in any technology.

Do you think only scientists can invent new things?
No definitely not. In fact, it is common people who come up with more inventions as they understand the problems faced by common man much more. They are more likely to come up with solutions to address these problems. Most inventors have been people involved in other fields, it is only after they invent something, we start calling them researchers and scientists.

What qualities do inventors have?
I think inventors have many qualities but the biggest is determination. They don't give up that easily even after multiple failures. Moreover, they have the ability to think out of the box. They look to do thing differently than the traditional way.

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# 102. Describe a difficult decision that you made and had a good result

You should say:

- What the decision was
- When you made that decision
- Why it was difficult to make
- And explain how you felt about the good result

- We all have to take crucial decisions from time to time.
- Some decisions are very small such as – what clothes to wear and what food to eat.
- But some decisions have far reaching effects – such as choosing a career and choosing a life partner.
- Here I am going to talk about a decision, which was very difficult for me.
- It was choosing my subjects for Senior Secondary.
- After my 10th, I was in a dilemma, whether to go for medical, non-medical, commerce or humanities (Arts) stream.
- Most of my friends were going for non-medical, but I knew I was not so good at physics.
- I consulted my parents, but they told me to decide on my own.
- Then I went to my teacher, Mrs Promilla.
- She was my favourite teacher in school and fortunately lives in my neighbourhood.
- She told me to go for commerce or arts, as she knew I was not so good at the sciences.
- My friends were forcing me to join non-medical, but I took my teachers advice and chose Arts.
- This decision was very difficult as the whole future depends on this decision.
- The career is based on subjects of senior secondary.
- Now I am very happy.
- I am doing well in studies and also have time to pursue my hobbies.
- I am interested in music and dance, so in the evening I have joined dance and music classes.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Do advertisements influence consumers' decisions?
Yes, certainly advertisements do have an influence. For example, people are likely to prefer a brands whose ad they have seen previously. Advertisements about discounts and offers also make people buy more than they require and sometimes even buy things they might not need.

Who do young people like to ask for advice when making decisions?
Young people like to ask for advice as they lack the experience and confidence to make the decision on their own. As people grow older, they become more confident and ultimately are able to take decisions on their own. Even if they know what decision they want to take, they ask for advice to assure themselves that they are not making the wrong decision.

Do you think it's necessary for kids to make as many decisions by themselves as much as they can?
Yes, I think it is necessary to kids to make as many decisions as possible. If they don't take decisions themselves, they lack the confidence to take decisions in their adult life as well. This makes them indecisive.

Do you think some people can make decisions without asking for advice from others?
Yes, I think some people can make decisions without asking for advice. It depends upon people's nature and field. For example, my sister is very confident about clothes and fashion and she normally goes for shopping alone. She trusts her judgement about clothing more than anybody else's.

Do you think young people are easily influenced by others when they make decisions? Why or why not?
It depends upon the area's culture. In some cultures, old people are respected and valued a lot and their advice is given a lot of weightage. In this case, young people are more likely to get influenced because they are expected to take their advice into consideration. However, it also depends upon the person's nature. Some youngsters are really confident while making decisions and they don't get influenced easily.

What kinds of decisions do young people have to make?
Young people have to make many big decisions like deciding a career, choosing where to live ,choosing a life partner, selecting which hobby to pursue and so on. There are also endless small decisions that they need to take on a day to day basis like what to wear, what to eat, which appliance to buy etcetera.

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# 103. Describe a time when someone asked for your opinion

You should say:

- Who asked for your opinion
- Why he/she wanted to know your opinion
- What opinion you gave
- And explain how you felt when he/she asked for your opinion

- Well in my country people keep asking for each other's opinion all the time
- Sometimes people like to give their opinions on matters that even do not relate to them.
- They do it to show care and help others.
- Today, I would like to talk about a time when one of my cousins asked me about my opinion on apple and android phones.
- My cousin had recently completed his 10th standard and because he had performed well in his examination, his parents had promised to buy him a new phone.
- Since his parents are extremely wealthy, he had a budget of 70,000 Rs to buy the new phone.
- My cousin reached out to me because I am considered a gadget freak in my family as I love to try new phones and devices that come in the market.
- I have also created a lot of review videos of different technology products like smartwatches, speakers, laptops, and mobiles, etc.
- So, when my cousin started the apple vs android debate, he really wanted to know which product is a better choice and offers the most value for money.
- I explained to him the hardware and software offerings of both devices in detail and discussed with him the different use case scenarios where each device can perform better than the other.
- I told him that Apple devices offered better hardware, camera quality, privacy, and an ecosystem that allows the users to connect seamlessly with other apple products, however, the android devices offered more value for money as they provide all the same features at a much lesser cost.
- Also, android users can do a lot of customizations on their phones as compared to apple devices where the user experience is more controlled.
- Prior to our discussion, my cousin had a very negative opinion about android phones but when I showed him some of the advanced features and tricks that an android device could do, he was really impressed.
- Our discussion went on for almost 4-5 hours and at the end of it, my cousin had a different opinion about the android devices.
- I felt really happy when he came asking for my opinion because I like to engage in such discussions.
- I believe that having a healthy conversation like this helps to increase one's intellect and general awareness about things.
- Although sometimes people can also get into heated arguments, I think that people should learn to respect each other's opinions.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What should a company do when receiving feedback about its products?
I think it should firstly thank the customer for the feedback. Then, it should try to work on the criticism so that they can offer customers better products and services. No company can be successful in today's time if it doesn't work on customer feedback.

Should teachers give advice to children?
Yes, I think children are immature and I think teachers should definitely advise them so children make better decisions. However, I think teachers need to careful so that the advice doesn't come off as too formal because children and especially teenagers are very rebellious by nature.

Why do some people dislike giving their opinions?
There are many reasons why some people do not like to share their perspectives/ideas about things. Sometimes they lack the confidence or the ability to explain their opinion in detail. They feel that they will be embarrassed if someone would counter their opinion and might not be able to defend their opinion. Another reason could be that some people are just shy in nature and like to keep things close to themselves.

Are there any apps designed for collecting opinions about products or services?
I am not aware of any app that only collects opinions about products but almost all the shopping apps have an option for the users to comment about the products they have purchased from their website. For example, many people write reviews on Amazon shopping app and give ratings for the products available there.

Why do people like to express their opinions on the Internet nowadays?
The primary reason is that people want their voice to be heard and Internet provides them a platform where they can express their views about anything and everything while being anonymous. Internet also provides them a sense of freedom to express their mind without having to worry about what others will think. Also, one can easily choose to engage or disengage in a conversation as per their convenience.

What are the disadvantages of sharing opinions on the Internet?
I think there are many disadvantages of this trend. Firstly, a lot many times people hurt each other's sentiments by writing abusive content online. It is often seen in many chat forums that people are hurling abuses at each other over minor disagreements. Secondly, I think that online discussions are mostly not productive and waste people's useful time.

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# 104. Describe a time you used your cellphone/smartphone to do something important

You should say:

- What happened
- When it happened
- How important the cellphone/smartphone was
- And explain how you felt about the experience

- In today's world, it is hard to question the importance of cellphones
- They are not just about communication, they are used for many different things.
- Recently, I used my mobile phone for something I never imagined I would use it.
- I used to it lodge a complaint with the government authorities and I also got immediate redressal for my complaint.
- I was travelling to Delhi by train.
- When I boarded, I noticed that the AC in my compartment was not working.
- I asked the coach's caretaker if they could get it fixed.
- He said it had just stopped working and nothing could be done about it.
- It would only be fixed at the final destination.
- Normally, I am very adjusting, but it was extremely hot and humid that day.
- So, I decided to tweet a complaint to the railway minister with my phone.
- I had seen videos on the internet, where people had talked about how they had gotten immediate relief by doing the same.
- However, I had thought of them as publicity stunts by the government.
- So I wasn't very hopeful, but within ten minutes, there was an electrician in my compartment.
- And in another ten minutes, he had fixed the AC.
- He also scolded the railway employee responsible for my coach and asked him, why he hadn't contacted him straight away when I raised the issue.
- The employee apologised and told me he didn't think the problem could be solved.
- I was so surprised with the quick response, but more than that I felt so proud of the government.
- I could never have imagined it happening four-five years ago.
- Cell phones have many purposes but I think one of the most important is that it is a tool for an ordinary citizen to directly connect with their elected representatives.
- It has made the government officials much more accountable and responsive.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Do you think it is too late to call others at 11 or 12 o'clock at night?
Yes, I think it is too late. I normally avoid calling people after 8 o'clock. If it is really urgent, I drop a message on WhatsApp. I value my sleep personally and I am against disturbing other people also.

What can be done to stop cellphone addiction?
I don't think it is easy to stop cellphone addiction. However, the biggest responsibility is with parents. They should have strict check on the amount of time, children spend on cell phone. Secondly, I think parents should set rules like no cell phone usage during dinner or family time. Government could also restrict cellphone usage at public places.

Do you think there should be a law to stop people from making phone calls in public?
I think there might be emergency situations, where it might be necessary to make calls. So I don't support a ban on calling in public places but I do think that we should encourage people to avoid calling as it can be really disturbing. I consider audio calls as a sort of noise pollution and it has a serious impact on our focus and concentration.

Which one is more important, using a cellphone to make phone calls or to read messages?
I think it really depends upon the person. Some people like chatting, for them it's about sending and receiving messages, while for others it is about calling.

What are the differences between young people and old people when using a cellphone?
Old people mainly use mobile phones for calling and to some extent for chatting. However, young people treat mobile phones like a mini computer. For most youngsters, their whole life nowadays revolves around the mobile phone. They use it for entertainment, for studies, for clicking photos, for shopping, for banking and so much more. The list is really endless.

What do you usually do with a cell phone?
I use my cellphone for many purposes besides calling and chatting with my friends. I use it for playing games like chess and Ludo, listening to music, watching videos, and for navigation. Above all, I use it for photography.

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# 105. Describe a way/change that helps you save a lot of time

You should say:
- What is it?
- How do you implement it?
- How difficult is it?
- And explain how you feel about the way/change

- Time is the only thing in our life that is truly invaluable.
- If we lose money, we can earn it back, if we lose reputation, we can build it back but if we waste time, it is lost forever. We cannot get that time back.
- I have learned about the importance of time more and more as I have grown older.
- I have realised that because of wasting time, I am not able to fulfil my commitments and I fall back on my work.
- I do a lot of things to save time but one activity that saves me a lot of time is taking a small 10-15 minute nap whenever I feel tired.
- I started doing this, a few years back after I read an article about advantages of taking a nap in a magazine.
- It saves me time as it refreshes me.
- After a nap, my mind feels lighter and I am able to finish my work much quicker.
- I just close my eyes, keep an alarm and try to lay down.
- Earlier it was very hard for me but now I can sleep on cue.
- I don't struggle with it anymore.
- The challenging part is getting up but my phone's alarm clock has been my saviour in this regard.
- I do this every four five hours.
- If I can't find a place to lay down, I just close my eyes and try to switch off my brain for 10 mins.
- I have noticed I save time, as I have much more free time.
- I am able to finish my work sooner.
- I am also less irritated and so I don't get negative thoughts.
- Without any distractions, I am able to concentrate on things better.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What can schools do to help students learn time management?
Firstly, I think schools should have dedicated lessons on time management. Secondly, they should try to encourage students to have physical or digital planners to schedule their tasks. They should try to teach students about prioritising important activities. Finally, they can work with parents to ensure that these habits are enforces are home as well.

Is it necessary for children to learn time management?
I think it is absolutely necessary. There is too much for today's children to do and it is very easy for them to get overburdened and stressed if they don't manage their time. So, time management is the key to their mental well-being.

Do people who can manage time well become successful more easily?
There is doubt in my mind that this is true. We all have 24 hours in day. All that matters is how we utilise these 24 hours. People who do it better become successful because they are able to do more.

Do you think parents should be responsible for teaching children to save time?
I learnt saving time by watching my mother. She has a habit - she never sits idle. She does something productive all day - like knitting, reading or gardening. So, I think parents have a big role in teaching children how to manage time. At the same time, I feel teachers also need to play a role by helping children make a time table.

Does technology help people save time? How and why?
Yes and no. Technology does save time as it provides us appliances like washing machines which take a lot less time to finish work. At the same time, people become addicted to mobile phones and computers and they end up wasting time on social media and playing video games.

What can people do to save time?
People can do many things to save time. They can keep a calendar and note down everything, they can plan things ahead, they can stop devoting time to non-important decisions like what to eat , what to wear and so on. However, I think the biggest thing they can do is to stop multitasking as I feel people waste more time when they try to do more things together.

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# 106. Describe a friend you like to talk with

You should say:

- Who is he/she
- What do you like to talk about
- Why do you like to talk with him/her
- And explain how you feel about him/her

- I have many friends and it takes me no time to get comfortable with strangers.
- Today, I am going to talk one of closest friends, Ravi.
- I love talking to him and spending time in his company.
- Ravi and I are childhood friends.
- I think we first met when we were just 3 years old.
- Our topics of conversation cover everything.
- We have talked about politics, technology, books and even movies.
- And once we start talking, we can continue for ages.
- It is never-ending.
- However, the one topic we love to talk about, is sports and especially cricket.
- Both of us are avid cricket lovers.
- During the cricket season, we get together and watch almost all the matches together.
- I love talking to him because he is so knowledgeable about cricket.
- Whenever I talk to him, I learn something I didn't know before.
- I also know a lot about cricket but its mostly about Indian players and Indian matches.
- He follows all the matches.
- Moreover, it is never boring talking to him.
- He is a story teller.
- He doesn't tell facts like facts.
- He narrates a story.
- I feel lucky to have him in my life.
- Another reason that I like his company is that he is excellent secret keeper.
- I have shared some of my deepest secrets and problems with him.
- I somehow always feel lighter and happier after talking to him.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

What are the differences between talking to a friend and talking to a stranger?
I think there are many differences. Firstly, the topics of discussion with a friend are more personal, while with a stranger it is more general like weather, current events. There is also a difference in tone. With friends we are more casual, humorous and even blunt, whereas with a stranger we are more formal and polite. Finally, we are comfortable sharing personal information as there is level of trust, whereas we are more cautious with strangers and avoid revealing too much personal info.

What makes a good listener?
A good listener is one who listens to the other person without interrupting. They also give their full attention to the conversation and avoid distractions like phones and maintain eye contact. Lastly, good listeners are empathetic. They don't just pay attention to the words, but also the emotions and context behind them.

On what occasions do people talk with strangers?
People talk with strangers nearly everyday. Personally speaking, I mostly talked with strangers when I used to travel by a public bus to my school. Nowadays, I talk with strangers mostly at parties.

Do you think people should be honest when talking with friends?
I really think if we can't be completely honest with friends, they are not actually friends. Saying that, I also have a few friends who can't really keep a secret, so I do hide a few things from them.

What do young people talk about when they meet up?
I think young people mostly talk about clothes, movies, fashion, sports and technology. They also talk about their love interests.

Where do young people like to meet?
Young people mostly at places of entertainment like malls, cafes, clubs, restaurants etc. Also, nowadays young people love working out at gyms togethe

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# 107. Describe a time when you were stuck in a traffic jam

You should say:

- When it happened
- Where you were stuck
- What did you do while waiting
- And explain how you felt in the traffic jam

- I live in a small town and in general, there is not much traffic on the roads.
- The only time we face traffic jams is when there is a religious procession or a political rally.
- And most of the times, these are announced beforehand so I rarely get stuck in traffic jams.
- However, last month I had gone to Jalandhar to buy some clothes for my cousin's wedding.
- When we went, there was no traffic.
- On the way back, the main road was shut down as there had been a collision between two buses between Phagwara, my hometown and Jalandhar.
- Big cranes had to be called to remove the buses from the roads and that took time.
- This being a main road slowly led to a huge jam.
- The traffic police tried to get the traffic diverted through the service road.
- But the road was considerably narrower than the main road and because of that the traffic built up.
- We were stuck in the jam for at least 2 to 3 hours.
- At first, we didn't think we would have to wait for so long.
- We thought it was just busier than normal and things would clear up soon.
- However, when our car barely moved 100 metres in 15 minutes, my dad went out and enquired about what had happened.
- We couldn't really back up as there was no space.
- So, we tried to use the time by playing games and listening to music.
- To be honest, we also spent a big part whining about government failure, although we all knew such circumstances are unavoidable.
- I don't think I could describe what we felt at that time.
- We all just wanted the traffic jam to clear up and reach home as soon as possible.
- But the day ended on a happy note as far I as was concerned.
- Because we reached home late, my mother didn't get time to cook.
- And we got Pizzas to eat for dinner.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Would you rather be in a car or a bus in a traffic jam?
I think I would rather be in a bus, so I can walk and I am not stuck. I can walk the area till where the traffic jam starts and then board another bus there.

Do you like to use public transportation?
Not really. Honestly, public transportation in India is not that good. Firstly, it takes much more time travelling by public transport than by our own vehicle. Secondly, it is also not comfortable as most buses and trains are not maintained regularly. In many cases, they are unclean. However, things are changing for the better.

What are good ways to manage traffic?
The best way to manage traffic is have to a fast and well maintained public transportation. For example, the traffic in Delhi decreased significantly after Metro. Secondly, the government should improve the road infrastructure for example construct flyovers and widen roads.

Do you think the high ways will help reduce traffic jams?
They do to a certain extent, but as the population is increasing and more and more people prefer to travel by their vehicles, it is certainly not the best solution. In fact, they are counter productive as they encourage more people to travel by their own cars.

Do you think developing public transport can solve traffic jam problems?
Yes, certainly. There are examples of many cities in India where traffic has reduced considerably because of improvement in public transportation. If the public transportation is fast, convenient and frequent, most people prefer travelling by it rather than their own vehicle.

How can we solve the traffic jam problem?
I would say the best solution to traffic jam problem is also the solution to most of the problems in today's world - controlling population. However, that is the long term solution. In the short term, I would say improving the public transportation and road infrastructure should be the priority.

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# 108. Describe a quiet place you like to go

- Where is it?
- How you knew it
- How often do you go there?
- What do you do there?
- And explain how you feel about the place

- It isn't easy to find quiet places in the fast-paced life of today.
- However, I would like to talk about a place where I go quite often and I find great peace there.
- The place I am referring to is a Sikh temple in my hometown, Gurdwara Sukhchainana Sahib.
- I go there once a week, sometimes with family and sometimes with friends.
- Sometimes we walk to the gurdwara and sometimes we go by car. It is about 3 km from my home.
- It is away from the main road, so it is very quiet there.
- Whenever I go there, I do circumambulation of the holy book inside the main hall and pay obeisance to the almighty.
- There is a well-maintained fishpond in the gurdwara, which has many fish species.
- I just sit on the steps of the pond and listen to the holy chants going on all the time there.
- It gives me great peace of mind. makk@r|eLtS
- Sometimes I take some bread from home and feed the fish.
- There are two catfish among the other many, who seem to be talking to me.
- I know it is all my imagination, but I love it over there.
- I feel that the tempo of life has slowed down a bit.
- It is so relaxing to watch the movements of the fish in the water.
- This activity takes all the physical and mental tiredness away from my body.
- I feel very light-hearted after that.
- Even though there is always a great rush in this temple, one can find peace and quiet over there.
- Sometimes, I offer voluntary services in the community kitchen over there.
- Free food is offered to one and all in the community kitchen and this service is round the clock.
- I generally go there on weekends and spend a good two hours over there.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**Why are there more noises made at home now than in the past?**
Homes are nosier now because many people are working and studying from home because of remote jobs and online classes. Also, now people use more appliances, electronic gadgets and smart devices which contribute to the noise.

**Why do old people prefer to live in quiet places?**
Old people prefer quiet places because loud noises can be very overwhelming and stressful. Quiet places help them relax and enjoy the peace.

**Do you think only old people have time for leisure?**
It is true that many old people are retired, which gives them more free time to relax and enjoy their hobbies. However, young people can also find time for leisure activities if they can balance their work, studies, and other responsibilities.

**How does technology affect the way people spend their leisure time?**
Technology has made leisure time more fun and convenient by offering online games, movies, and social media. But because of technology, people spend less time on outdoor and face-to-face activities.

**How do people spend their leisure time in your country?**
In my country people spend leisure time watching movies, playing video games, visiting friends and family, shopping, playing cricket with friends on the streets, etc.

**Is it easy to find quiet places in your country? Why?**
It is very hard to find quiet places in my country because cities are crowded and noisy with traffic and activities. However, rural areas are much quieter and peaceful.


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# 109. Describe something that surprised you and made you happy

**You should say:**

- What it was
- Who did this?
- How you found out about it and what you did
- And explain why it surprised you and made you happy

- I have been surprised many times but one incident that I remember very vividly is my 16th birthday.
- My best friend Mansi planned a birthday party for me.
- I had no idea about it, and it was such a wonderful surprise.
- My 16th birthday was just a few weeks before the exams.
- I knew everyone would be busy preparing for the exams, so I decided not to have a party with my friends that year.
- We were in 10th standard, and it was very important to score good grades that year.
- Usually, every year I start planning for my birthday weeks in advance. I am always excited about my big day.
- I was so sad that I would not have a birthday party that year.
- I was jealous of my friends who either had their birthdays after the exams or much before.
- On my birthday, my best friend Mansi called me to her house in the evening to help her with some math problems.
- I didn't find it odd as we do usually study together at each other's house.
- When I reached there, I got the surprise of my life.
- As soon I entered her house, I heard Happy Birthday wishes from all corners of her drawing room.
- All my friends were there, my parents and my sister were there.
- There were decorations and balloons everywhere, and there was a big cake on the table.
- I couldn't believe my eyes. How did she do it, when did she get the time and why are all my friends here and not home studying?
- I had so many questions for her. She told me that she knew how much this day meant to me.
- So, she conspired with my friends to throw me a little surprise party that day.
- They decided to keep it at her house, so I won't figure it out.
- They even studied a bit extra every day that week so they could attend my birthday.
- She even involved my parents. I was surprised that they knew, and they didn't let me know what was going on.
- I was so happy that I got a party and celebrated my 16$^{th}$ birthday with all my loved ones.
- I couldn't thank Mansi enough for making my day so special.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**What do people usually spend money on?**
People usually spend money on food, clothes, housing, transportation, etc. They also spend money on entertainment, education, electronic gadgets like phones, computers, video games, etc.

**Do men and women have different attitudes and feelings about shopping?**
Yes, men and women often have different attitudes about shopping. Many women enjoy browsing, taking their time, and waiting for sales and deals, while most men prefer to shop quickly and buy what they need. But this can vary from person to person.

**Is it good for people to be unhappy? Why?**
No, it's not good to be unhappy. Good mental health is very important for our wellbeing and being unhappy can lead to depression and anxiety. Sometimes it's hard to force the mind to stay positive and in such cases, meditation and deep breathing can help us stabilize our mind and chase the blues away.

**How can people be happy?**
People can be happy by focusing on good things and being satisfied with what they have in life. Also, people should remind themselves that life can be tough at times but if they stay positive, they can conquer the hurdles and get past the difficult situations. Another way to be happy is to be with people who bring you joy and stay away from negative people who try to bring you down.

**Do you think happiness has any effect on people? How?**
Happiness is contagious. It spreads and uplifts the moods of everyone around you. It gives meaning and purpose to life. It also has many health benefits like better sleep, lower risk of cardiovascular diseases, stronger immune system, etc.

**How do people express happiness in your culture?**
People express happiness in different ways in my culture. I think in all cultures, a smile is the most common way to express happiness. In my culture, people express it by celebrating their happiness with their loved ones by having a party, cooking something special, buying gifts, etc.

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# 110. Describe a family member who you want to work with in the future

**You should say:**

- Who is he/she
- Whether you worked together before
- What kind of work would you like to do with him/her
- Explain how you feel about this family member

- I have always wanted to work in a big multinational company.
- I would never miss a chance to work in any such company.
- However, my uncle runs a spare part manufacturing company by the name of Akal Industries.
- I have seen him grow from a small firm with a handful of employees working under him, to a fairly big company with about 300 employees.
- I am sure that with his way of working and his rapport with his employees, the day is not far when it will be no less than any MNC
- I would love to work with him.
- I would like to do my master's in business management from Canada and then join him.
- I have not worked with him so far, but I have seen him work many times.
- He is in his forties and is tall and very handsome.
- His son Aman is the same age as me, and we are both classmates.
- My uncle has promised that he would allow us to work for his company only after we have both got some degrees from good colleges in hand.
- Aman wants to go for Mechanical Engineering, and I want to do Business Management.
- With different skills in hand, we both would prove to be an asset to the company.
- I would feel very good if I would get a chance to work in my uncle's company.
- Although he has so many employees, he himself also works with the machines with them. He looks after their needs very well.
- All of them are happy working for him.
- He has taken part in many auto fests in India and abroad.
- He gets many orders from abroad and always fulfills them on time even though he has to make his workers work double time.
- He is very quality conscious and if any end product does not meet his expectations, he takes a second to discard it.
- It would be great to work for a person like him and be like him one day.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**What do people need to do to change their jobs?**
People need to learn new skills or gain experience for a new role. They also need to update their resume and apply for new opportunities.

**Why do people want to change their jobs?**
People may need to change their jobs for better pay, career growth, or a healthier work environment. Some change jobs because they are exhausted and want a job that offers more work-life balance and less stress.

**What benefits are there when working for big companies?**
Working for big companies can offer benefits like better salaries, health insurance, and job security. There are more opportunities for training and career growth.

**Why do people want to have a family business?**
People may want a family business because it allows them to work closely with loved ones and build something together. It can offer more control over decision-making and provide long-term stability. By having a family business, one can be a job provider rather than a job seeker. An entrepreneur is his own boss.

**Is it good to work with family members? Why?**
It is good to work with family members because you already know and trust each other. A family member would be more supportive if an occasional time off is needed. However, sometimes it can be challenging as personal issues might affect work relationships.

**What kinds of family businesses are common in India?**
India is a diverse country and a fast-growing one too. All sorts of family businesses are there in India like shops, restaurants and manufacturing units. Many families run agricultural businesses, construction companies, and small-scale industries.

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# 111. Describe a job that one of your grandparents did

- What was the job about
- Was this only the one job she or he did
- How you felt about it

- I used to visit and stay with my maternal grandparents during summer vacations in my childhood.
- And my grandfather told me a lot of stories about his life when we stayed over.
- My grandfather's story is really inspiring.
- He did a lot of jobs during his life, but he started a fruit and vegetable seller.
- My great grandparents were farmers and my grandfather also a developed an interest in agriculture due to his parents.
- So, he did bachelors in agricultural sciences.
- However, he couldn't find a job in this field at that time.
- So, he joined his parents in agriculture.
- But, after sowing of crops, there was not much work on the farm for months.
- So, to earn a livelihood, he used to buy fruits and vegetables from the neighbouring farmers and sell them in the vegetable market.
- He didn't earn much, but he was able to support his expenses and didn't have to ask for financial help from his parents.
- He did this for almost 2 years.
- After that, he completed his masters and then he got a job in the Punjab university agriculture department.
- I think today most people would look down on roadside vegetable and fruit sellers, but I proudly tell my friends that my grandfather also used to do it.
- His story is a story of struggle and hard work.
- He didn't lose hope when he didn't get job, but did something to support himself and studied more to be able to a secure a better job.
- He ultimately retired as the head of education department, Punjab.
- I feel very inspired from my grandfather's life story and this job is one of most crucial aspect of his story.

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# 112. Describe someone you really like to spend time with

You should say:

- Who is this person?
- How you knew him/her
- What you usually do together
- And explain why you like to spend time with him/her

- If I had to talk about myself, I would say I am very reserved person and it takes a lot of time to become familiar with strangers.
- However, I love spending time with my family.
- I am very close to both my parents but as we are all working (as they are working and I am studying), its hard for us to spend time together.
- The person I do spend a lot of time together with is my nephew- my sister's child.
- He is nearly five years old.
- He is very special to me.
- There are many reasons for that.
- Firstly, everyone says that he looks like me and secondly, we both like spending time with each other.
- I think the reason for that is we feel very comfortable with each other.
- I get to act like a child around him and I miss being a child.
- He is also like me – very shy with strangers and he is very naughty – just like I was in my childhood.
- So, spending time with him reminds me of my childhood in some ways.
- In my childhood, I was in a hurry to grow up but now I sometimes wish I could reverse time and bring back my childhood.
- There are so many things we do together.
- But something that we really enjoy doing is to play pranks on Deepa, my sister and his mother.
- I think we can do that all day long.
- We also both love eating chocolates, so whenever we can, we try to buy and eat chocolates secretly.
- However, I do get scolded sometimes as I am the adult.
- I also have a dog and so we both like playing with her.
- We love taking her out on walks and feeding her.
- In the evening, I take my nephew to the park and just spend time on the swings there.
- Sometimes, I wish he would always remain a child, but I know that's not going to happen even if I wish for it a million times.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Do you think it is important for us to get along with different kinds of people?
Yes, it is very important to get along with different kinds of people because it helps build strong relationships and promotes understanding. Interacting with diverse individuals broadens our perspectives and makes it easier to collaborate in both personal and professional settings.

2. Do you think it's important to spend some time alone?
Yes, spending time alone is important as it allows for self-reflection, relaxation, and personal growth. It helps clear the mind, reduces stress, and gives us the opportunity to recharge, making it easier to handle challenges and interact with others more effectively.

3. Do you like talking with older people? Why?
Yes, I enjoy talking with older people because they have a wealth of life experience and wisdom. Their stories and advice often provide valuable insights into various situations and help me learn from their experiences.

4. Do people have time for themselves nowadays?
It can be difficult for many people to find time for themselves these days due to busy schedules. With work, family responsibilities, and other commitments, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. However, it's important to prioritize personal time for mental and emotional well-being.

5. How do leaders get along with their subordinates?
Leaders who are approachable, respectful, and communicate effectively tend to get along well with their subordinates. They show empathy, listen to their team's concerns, and create a supportive environment, which fosters trust and cooperation.

6. What kinds of people are easy to get along with?
People who are open-minded, respectful, and have a positive attitude are generally easy to get along with. They listen without judgment, adapt to different situations, and are understanding of others' perspectives, making interactions pleasant and comfortable.

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# 113. Describe a special cake you received from others

You should say:

- When it happened
- Where it happened
- Who you got the cake from
- And explain why it's a special cake

- My birthday falls on June 23rd.
- • During these days, there is summer vacation in Indian schools and most of friends go out to visit their relatives.
- So, I mostly celebrated my birthday with my family, my parents and my sister.
- However, last year because of the pandemic, most of my close friends were home and they gave me surprise party on my birthday.
- And the best part of the party was the cake.
- It was a very well thought of cake.
- The cake was in the shape of the mouth and above it there was a can of Pepsi, with dark chocolate pouring down in the mouth of the cake.
- My friends specially got it custom made.
- Pepsi and Dark chocolate are my favourite things in the world.
- The cake showed me that my friends really thought about me.
- Secondly, it just looked amazing.
- I never thought anyone could make such a cake in my small town.
- So, I couldn't even believe the cake.
- And everything was edible, even the can was made out of cake.
- For ten minutes, everyone was busy taking pictures of the cake.
- Even my friends said that the cake turned out better than they expected.
- But that was just the looks.
- It tasted even better than it looked.
- I don't like sweet food, in fact, I hardly have desserts because of this reason.
- My friends had even made sure that the cake had minimal sugar.
- It was sweet but it was the right amount of sweet.
- And finally, there was a surprise element, the cake had a tinge of coffee.
- Coffee is also one of my favourites and the coffee just uplifted the taste of the dark chocolate even more.
- Overall, it was one of the best birthdays I ever had. It was one of the rare times I was able to celebrate it with my friends and their thoughtfulness with the cake made me realise how lucky I am to have such friends.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. What do you think of people using their mobile phones during a meal?
I think it can be distracting when people use their mobile phones during a meal. It takes away from the experience of spending quality time together and can make conversations less meaningful. However, occasionally checking the phone for important matters is understandable.

2. In your country, do people nowadays cook at home as frequently as people did in the past?
In recent years, many people in my country have been cooking less at home, mainly due to busy schedules and the availability of ready-made food. However, traditional home-cooked meals are still very important in many families, and some people make time to cook, especially on weekends or during festivals.

3. Do you think it's good to communicate when eating with your family?
Yes, I believe it's great to communicate during meals with family. It's a time to catch up, share experiences, and bond. Having meaningful conversations during meals strengthens relationships and creates lasting memories.

4. Why are some people willing to spend a lot of money on meals on special days?
Some people are willing to spend more on meals during special days because they want to celebrate and make the occasion memorable. It's often a way to treat themselves and their loved ones to something special, whether it's a holiday, birthday, or anniversary.

5. Is there any food in your country that is eaten at special times or on special occasions?
Yes, in India, certain foods are associated with special occasions. For example, sweets like ladoos or halwa are commonly prepared during festivals like Diwali or weddings. Also, dishes like biryani are often served during celebratory gatherings.

6. What are the differences between special food in India and other countries?
In India, food is often linked to cultural and religious celebrations, and meals are prepared with a variety of spices. Special foods in India are typically rich in flavor and texture, with a focus on vegetarian dishes in many regions. In other countries, special foods may also be tied to occasions, but the types of dishes may be simpler or centered around meat, with different preparation styles and ingredients depending on the culture.

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# 114. Describe an interesting song

You should say:

- What is the song?
- What story the song tells
- Whether the song is popular
- And explain why you think it is interesting

- I love music and I love listening to Hindi and Punjabi songs.
- Most of these songs are very meaningful.
- Here I would like to talk about a Punjabi song by a famous Punjabi singer GurdasMaan, which I find very interesting.
- The name of the song is Boot Polishan.
- It is from his album Boot Polishan
- It was released in 2008.
- The song gives the message that work is worship.
- Instead of begging for money a person should work and earn.
- It does not matter if the work is big or small such as polishing shoes of people.
- If a person works and earns, he can always hold his head high.
- I heard this song about two years ago and since then it has become my favourite song.
- Actually, Gurdas Mann is my favourite singer.
- He is a multifaceted personality.
- He is a singer, actor, director and a lyricist as well.
- He writes the lyrics of his songs himself.
- He has also acted in many Punjabi movies.
- All my family members also love his songs.
- When we go out anywhere together we play his songs in the car.
- All his songs have good messages.
- He even performs in stage shows.
- He always has his tambourine in his hands when he performs.
- There is a village near my hometown where he comes every year and performs for charity.
- I went there last year.
- It was an electrifying experience.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Are foreign songs popular in your country?
Yes, foreign songs are quite popular in my country. Many people enjoy listening to international music, especially from Western countries like the US and the UK. Pop, rock, and hip-hop are particularly popular, and people often enjoy discovering new genres and artists from around the world.

2. Do you like to watch music TV programs? Why?
I enjoy watching music TV programs because they allow me to discover new songs, artists, and music videos. It's also a fun way to stay updated on trends in the music industry and enjoy live performances from various genres. It's also relaxing and entertaining.

3. What are the differences between live concert and online concert?
A live concert is an in-person experience where you can feel the energy of the crowd, hear the music up close, and interact with the performers. An online concert, on the other hand, is virtual, where you watch a pre-recorded or live-streamed performance on a screen. While online concerts are convenient, they lack the immersive atmosphere and connection that a live concert provides.

4. What kinds of people like traditional music?
People who are interested in their cultural heritage and history tend to like traditional music. It is often loved by older generations who have grown up with it, as well as by those who appreciate the deep connection to cultural roots and the storytelling aspects of the music.

5. What kinds of music do young people like?
Young people today tend to enjoy a wide variety of music genres, with pop, hip-hop, and electronic dance music (EDM) being especially popular. They also like to listen to international artists and explore fusion genres that mix different styles of music, including Indian and Western influences.

6. Why are many music competitions popular in India?
Music competitions are very popular in India because they provide a platform for young, aspiring singers to showcase their talents. They also attract a wide audience as people enjoy watching the talent and emotional stories behind the contestants. These competitions often discover new stars, making them a source of entertainment and inspiration for many. For example, people like watching Indian Idol and Saregama music competition.

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# 115. Describe an interesting discussion you had with your friend

You should say:

- What the discussion was about
- What opinions you and your friend had
- Why do you think the discussion was interesting?
- And how you felt about it

- I am a person who loves meaningful conversations and discussions.
- I enjoy talking about a variety of topics like politics, sports, religion, economics, stock markets, health, education, and the environment.
- Today, I would like to talk about a discussion I had with my friend Gurleen.
- The discussion was about our future education and career.
- We specifically discussed which country would be the best for pursuing higher education.
- The debate was about whether to continue studying in India or move to a developed country like the USA, Canada, the UK, Australia, or European nations.
- We explored the pros and cons of studying abroad during our conversation.
- My friend highlighted the challenges, like the high cost of education abroad and the emotional difficulty of being away from family.
- On the other hand, I emphasized the positives, such as exposure to a new culture, gaining confidence and independence, and acquiring valuable skills.
- We also shared insights from YouTube videos we had watched on the topic.
- Additionally, we discussed the experiences of friends who had moved abroad; some had positive feedback, while others found it to be a struggle.
- This discussion was particularly interesting because it allowed us to organize our thoughts and gain new perspectives.
- Before the conversation, our ideas were just scattered opinions, but afterward, they felt more structured and informed.
- I appreciated that despite having different views, we didn't argue and instead respected each other's perspectives.
- I felt great about the discussion because it was not just enlightening but also strengthened our friendship.
- Overall, it was a meaningful exchange of ideas that left me feeling more informed and open-minded.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Why do some young people refuse to communicate with others?
Some young people refuse to communicate with others because they may feel shy, anxious, or insecure. Social pressures, fear of judgment, or past negative experiences can also make them hesitant to open up. Additionally, some may prefer solitude or feel overwhelmed in social situations.

2. Should parents consider their children's opinions on everything? Why?
Parents should consider their children's opinions, but it may not always be necessary to agree with them on everything. Listening to their views helps develop their confidence and decision-making skills, and it can improve the parent-child relationship. However, parents should also guide their children when necessary, as they have more experience and knowledge.

3. In what industries do you think communication is a necessary skill?
Communication is a necessary skill in almost every industry, but it is especially crucial in fields like marketing, sales, customer service, healthcare, teaching, and media. Effective communication helps build relationships, convey information clearly, and resolve conflicts, all of which are vital for success in these sectors.

4. Should parents require their children to obey them?
Parents should require their children to follow rules, as discipline helps guide behavior and ensure safety. However, it's important for parents to also explain the reasons behind the rules and allow room for discussion, so children can understand the value of following them rather than just obeying blindly.

5. Do children have strong opinions?
Yes, children can have strong opinions, especially as they grow older and become more exposed to the world. As they develop their personalities and critical thinking skills, they often form views on various issues, although these opinions may be influenced by their environment, upbringing, and peers.

6. When do children normally form their own views?
Children typically start forming their own views during their pre-teens and early teenage years. This is the time when they become more independent thinkers, question authority, and develop a sense of individuality. Their views are shaped by their experiences, education, and the influence of family and friends.

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# 116. Describe a toy you liked in your childhood

You should say:

- What kind of toy it is
- When you received it
- How you played it
- And how you felt about it

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

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**What are the advantages and disadvantages of modern toys?**
Modern toys often have the advantage of being educational, interactive, and designed to enhance children's learning and development. They can introduce kids to technology, foster creativity, and improve problem-solving skills. However, the disadvantage is that some modern toys can be too reliant on screens or technology, reducing physical play and face-to-face social interactions. Additionally, they can sometimes be expensive.

**What's the difference between the toys boys play with and girls play with?**
Traditionally, toys for boys are often action-oriented, such as cars, trucks, and building sets, encouraging physical play and construction. Girls, on the other hand, might be given dolls or cooking sets, promoting nurturing behaviors and domestic skills. However, these distinctions are becoming less rigid as society moves towards more gender-neutral toys that encourage all children to explore various interests and activities.

**Do you think parents should buy more toys for their kids or spend more time with them?**
While toys can be valuable for a child's development, I believe spending quality time with children is more important. Interaction, like playing games, reading together, or engaging in conversations, fosters emotional bonding and learning in ways that toys alone cannot. Parents' time and attention provide a sense of security and love that no material item can replace.

**What's the difference between the toys kids play now and those they played in the past?**
Toys today often incorporate technology, such as interactive robots or educational apps, offering a more immersive experience. In the past, toys were simpler, like wooden blocks or dolls, and encouraged imaginative play. Today's toys can be more focused on individual play with screens, while older toys often encouraged more physical and social interaction among children.

**Should advertising aimed at children be prohibited?**
Yes, advertising targeted at children can be problematic, as it often encourages materialism, unhealthy eating habits, or unrealistic expectations. Children may not have the critical thinking skills to recognize advertising tactics, which can influence their behavior and desires in harmful ways. Some level of regulation is important to protect young audiences from being manipulated.

**How do advertisements influence children?**
Advertisements can have a strong influence on children by shaping their desires and opinions. They often create a sense of need for products, whether it's toys, snacks, or even clothing. Children are impressionable and can be persuaded to ask their parents for products they see in ads, even if they don't fully understand the product's value.

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# 117. Describe an important river/lake in your country

You should say:

- Where is it located
- How big/long it is
- What it looks like
- And explain why it is important

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

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**Are rivers and lakes important to a country?**
Yes, rivers and lakes are very important to a country. They provide essential water resources for drinking, agriculture, and industry. Additionally, they support biodiversity and offer recreational opportunities. In many countries, they play a key role in cultural heritage and tourism.

**What are the popular water sports in your country?**
In my country, some popular water sports include swimming, boating, kayaking, and fishing. In coastal areas, people also enjoy surfing, jet-skiing, and windsurfing. These activities are enjoyed by people of all ages and are often seen as fun ways to stay active and connected to nature.

**Are rivers and lakes good for transportation? Why?**
Yes, rivers and lakes can be good for transportation, especially in areas where roads and railways are limited. They can serve as important trade routes, allowing for the movement of goods and people. However, the feasibility depends on the size of the river or lake and the infrastructure available for boats and ships.

**How do rivers and lakes affect local tourism?**
Rivers and lakes often attract tourists due to their natural beauty and opportunities for outdoor activities like fishing, boating, and hiking. Tourists also visit for scenic views and to engage in cultural or eco-tourism. Local communities can benefit economically from the influx of tourists, who spend money on accommodation, food, and activities.

**Do you think rivers and lakes attract tourists?**
Yes, I think rivers and lakes do attract tourists. The serene and picturesque landscapes they offer often serve as a major draw for people seeking relaxation or adventure. Many tourist destinations are centered around famous rivers or lakes, such as the Ganges in India or the Great Lakes in North America.

**How can rivers and lakes benefit local people?**
Rivers and lakes provide local communities with water for drinking, agriculture, and industry. They also offer opportunities for fishing and other forms of livelihood. Furthermore, they support tourism, which can create jobs and boost the local economy. Additionally, these natural resources often play an essential role in local cultures and traditions.

**Do people like that river in your country?**
Yes, people generally have a deep connection with the rivers in my country, especially the major ones like the Ganges and Yamuna. These rivers hold cultural, religious, and historical significance. Many people visit them for religious ceremonies, festivals, and even for spiritual purposes, making them an integral part of daily life.

**Do you like any activities on water?**
Yes, I enjoy activities like swimming and kayaking. Water activities are refreshing and offer a sense of freedom. Being on water can be both relaxing and thrilling, depending on the activity, and it's a great way to connect with nature.

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**Is it necessary for everyone to learn swimming?**
I believe learning to swim is important for safety reasons. It can prevent drowning and allow people to enjoy water activities with confidence. Additionally, swimming is a great form of exercise. While it may not be essential for everyone, it is certainly a valuable life skill.

**Do people in your country go to swim in their spare time?**
Yes, many people in my country enjoy swimming in their spare time, especially during the hot summer months. Public pools and natural bodies of water like rivers and lakes are popular spots for leisure swimming. It's a great way to cool off and stay active.

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# 118. Describe an old person you know who has had an interesting life

You should say:

- Who is this person?
- Where he/she lives
- What he/she has done in his/her life
- And explain how you feel about him/her

- 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 many interesting 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.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

**Do you think old people's life will improve with the development of technology?**
Yes, I think the development of technology can greatly improve the lives of older people. With advancements like medical devices, online health consultations, and home automation, they can live more independently and safely. Technology also allows them to stay connected with family and friends, reducing feelings of isolation.

**Do old people prefer to stay at home or go outside? Why?**
It varies, but many older people prefer staying at home due to comfort and familiarity. However, some enjoy going outside for social interaction, exercise, or to engage in activities like shopping or visiting parks. The preference often depends on their health and mobility.

**What are the benefits of elderly people living alone?**
Living alone can offer elderly people a sense of independence and autonomy. They can maintain their own routines and enjoy peace and solitude. However, it's important for them to have support systems in place for emergencies or when they need help with daily tasks.

**Can old people and their grandchildren learn from each other when they live together?**
Yes, when old people and their grandchildren live together, there is a great opportunity for mutual learning. Older people can share their life experiences, wisdom, and traditions, while grandchildren can teach them about technology and new trends. It creates a bond and helps both generations grow.

**Why do some people live with old people?**
Some people choose to live with elderly relatives to provide care and support. It can be out of love, a sense of duty, or to ensure that older family members are not left alone, especially if they have health issues. Living together also helps maintain family connections and provides emotional support.

**What do old people often do in their daily lives?**
The daily activities of older people can vary based on their health and interests. Many spend time on hobbies like reading, gardening, or knitting. Some engage in social activities, such as meeting friends or attending community events. Others might focus on maintaining their health through exercise or medical appointments.

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# 119. Describe a movie you watched recently

- You should say:
- When and where you watched it
- Who you watched it with https://amzn.to/3MZe8HX
- What it was about
- And explain why you watched this movie

- I am a movie buff and like to watch a lot of movies.
- I used to go to the movie theatres and watch most movies on the big screen.
- But recently streaming platforms like Netflix, Prime Video, Hotstar, etc. have such a big collection of movies that I rarely go to the movie theatres.
- Most movies get released in the theatres first and about 2 months later they come on either of these platforms. https://amzn.to/3MZe8HX
- Recently I watched a movie on Netflix called Laapataa Ladies.
- Netflix usually releases movies on Friday and after I came back from work my mother suggested that we should do something fun as a family
- We ordered dinner from our favorite place and decided to watch this movie.
- This movie is the story of two newlywed brides who get exchanged during a train ride to their husband's homes.
- It shows the funny and chaotic situations that happen as the families and police try to find the missing women. https://amzn.to/3MZe8HX
- I really liked that it explores themes like gender roles, marriage, traditions, and societal expectations in a humorous manner.
- I watched this movie because I really liked the trailer.
- Also, this movie is directed by Kiran Rao and this is her second movie as a director.
- I loved her first movie and also some other movies in which she was the assistant director.
- Aamir Khan has co-produced this movie and he has always been my favourite actor. I knew anything coming from him would be good.
- The main actors in the movie are all newcomers and I had no idea about them before I watched this movie.
- All of them impressed me with their acting skills.
- I wish more directors would make movies like this in the future.

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- https://g.co/kgs/GBYy9Mi - Phagwara
- https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ - Mohali
- https://g.co/kgs/9XnhRqa - Jalandhar
- https://g.co/kgs/u2p4jK3 - Chandigarh
- https://g.co/kgs/mDAeiYA - Zirakpur

**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. Why do people prefer to watch movies in the cinema?
   I think people prefer to watch movies in the cinema because the large screens, high quality sound makes the movies more engaging. Also, it's fun to watch movies in the cinema with friends and family. Cinemas also offer formats like IMAX OR 3D that enhance audio and visual quality.

2. Do you think successful movies should have well-known actors or actresses in leading roles?
   Having well-known actors or actresses can generate initial interest and make a movie successful by attracting large audiences. However, a good story, a creative director, and solid performances are more important for lasting success. Lesser-known actors can perform exceptionally well and make the movie a success. https://amzn.to/3z1O23H

3. Do you think only well-known directors can create the best movies?
   I don't think that only well-known directors can create the best movies. Many outstanding movies have been made by directors making their debut. A passionate director, a unique compelling story, and good performances by actors can make a movie successful.

4. Do Indian people prefer to watch domestic movies or foreign movies?
   I think Indian people prefer to watch domestic films especially Bollywood movies and movies made in regional languages like Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Malayalam, and Marathi that they speak. These films resonate better with Indian audiences as they reflect local culture, traditions, and social issues.

5. What are the factors that make a successful movie? https://amzn.to/3z1O23H
   There are many factors that make a movie successful. Most important is the story which should be original, relatable, and meaningful. Next is a good director who can bring the story to life and guide the actors well. Another factor is good talented actors and exceptional performances.

6. What kinds of movies do you think are successful in your country?
   In my country, movies that have a blend of romance, drama, and comedy appeal to a wide audience and are usually successful. Also, films that have a good social message that resonates with the audience's real-life experiences do well. Lastly, high energy action movies with larger-than-life heroes and a lot of dramatic stunts attract big crowds.

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# 120. Describe an ideal and perfect place where you would like to stay (e.g. a house, an apartment)

- You should say:
  - Where it would be
  - What it would look like
  - What special features it would have
  - Whether it would be big or small
- And explain why it would be an ideal place for you

- An ideal and perfect place where I would like to stay would be a house by the sea.
- It would be located on a quiet beach, with beautiful views of the ocean.
- The house would be modern but cozy, painted in soft colours like white and light blue to match the peaceful surroundings. https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ
- The house would have large windows so that I could always see the sea, and it would have a small balcony where I could sit and enjoy the sunset.
- Inside, there would be a comfortable living room with soft sofas, a kitchen where I could cook fresh meals, and two bedrooms—one for me and one for my parents.
- One special feature of the house would be a small garden with flowers and plants.
- My parents love gardening and so the house should have space for a kitchen garden.
- The house would not be too big, just the right size for a small family.
- I think a small house feels cozier and easier to manage. https://amzn.to/4gcbYC9
- It would also be close to nature, with the beach just steps away, and perhaps a forest nearby for walks.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. **What do you think buildings will be like in the future?**

In the future, buildings will likely be taller and smarter. They might have eco-friendly designs with solar panels and green spaces to help the environment. Many future buildings could be fully automated, using technology to control lights, temperature, and security. Some buildings might even be built underground or underwater to save space.

2. **Why do some people choose to live in the city centre?**

Some people prefer living in the city centre because it is close to work, shops, and entertainment. They can save time on traveling and enjoy a more active lifestyle. City centres often have better public transport, restaurants, and cultural events. It's also convenient for people who like being in the middle of the action and want everything nearby.

3. **Do different people have different preferences for houses or apartments?** Yes, different people have different preferences. Some people prefer houses because they want more space, privacy, and perhaps a garden. Others like apartments because they are easier to maintain, often located in convenient areas, and can be more affordable. It depends on a person's lifestyle, family size, and budget. https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ

4. **What would people normally consider when they rent or buy a house or an apartment?** People consider several things, such as location, size, price, and safety. They also think about how close the house or apartment is to work, schools, and shops. Other important factors include the quality of the neighbourhood, the condition of the property, and whether it fits their family's needs. https://amzn.to/4gcbYC9

5. **Why are apartments popular in some places while not in other places?** Apartments are popular in crowded cities where land is limited and expensive. In these places, apartments are more affordable and convenient. In rural areas or smaller towns, people may prefer houses because there is more space available, and houses can be cheaper than in cities.

6. **What are apartments like in your country?**

In India, apartments come in different sizes and styles. In big cities like Mumbai and Delhi, apartments can be small due to limited space, and they are often expensive. However, in smaller cities, apartments are more spacious and affordable. Many new apartments are built with modern designs, and some even have shared facilities like gyms or gardens.

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# 121. Describe something that you did with someone/a group of people

You should say:
- What it was
- Who you did it with
- How long it took you to do this
- And explain why you did it together

- One of the most memorable activities that I did with my school friends was a weekend camping trip.
- We had been planning for this trip for weeks, and we were all excited to finally be able to spend some quality time together in the great outdoors.
- The trip started early on a Friday morning, when we all met at a designated location to pack our gear and set off on our journey.
- We had planned to camp at a nearby hill station called Kasauli, and we had all brought our own tents, sleeping bags, and other essentials.
- As we drove to the hill station, we chatted and laughed, eager to start our adventure.
- Once we arrived at the hill station, we set up our campsite and started to explore the area.
- We hiked through the forest, taking in the beautiful scenery and enjoying the fresh air.
- We stopped to have a picnic lunch by a stream, and we even went swimming in a nearby lake.
- The evenings were spent around the campfire, telling stories and roasting vegetables and meat.
- We laughed and joked, and it was a great way to bond with each other.
- We even played games and sang songs; the memories of that night are still fresh in my mind. https://g.co/kgs/xBR5EKQ
- On the second day, we decided to go on a longer hike.
- We set off early in the morning, and the hike was challenging, but also very rewarding.
- We were able to see some amazing views from the top of the mountain, and we even came across a waterfall.
- It was a great way to spend the day, and we were all proud of ourselves for making it to the top.
- On the last day, we packed up our gear and said goodbye to the beautiful campsite.
- We all hugged each other, and promised to do it again soon.
- Overall, the camping trip was an unforgettable experience.
- The reason why we did it together was because it was a great way for my friends and I to spend time together, and to bond in a way that we never had before.
- We were able to disconnect from the world for a little while and reconnect with each other and with nature.
- It was a weekend filled with laughter, adventure, and memories that will last a lifetime.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

1. How do you get along with your neighbors?

I have a very good relationship with my neighbors as I have known them for more than 10 years now. It almost feels like that they are part of our family now, as we spend a lot of time at each other's place. We support each other during both good and bad times. Sometimes I think that our neighbors play a more important role in our lives as compared to our relatives.

2. How do neighbors help each other?

Neighbors can help each other in a variety of ways, such as by lending tools or household items, watching each other's homes when one is away, assisting with household repairs or projects, offering to take care of pets or children, and sharing gardening or cooking tips. They may also look out for one another's safety and well-being, and provide emotional support during difficult times. Additionally, neighbors may work together to improve the community through volunteerism or organizing neighborhood events.

3. Do you think neighbors help each other more often in the countryside than in the city?

It's possible that neighbors may help each other more often in rural or suburban areas compared to urban areas. The reason being that in rural or suburban areas, neighbors may have a greater sense of community, and may be more likely to know each other personally, and therefore be more likely to offer help when needed. Additionally, in rural and suburban areas, people may have more opportunities to interact with each other, such as while working on shared projects or participating in community events.

4. How do children learn to cooperate with each other?

Children learn to cooperate with each other through a combination of socialization, modeling, and direct teaching. For example, they can learn cooperation by playing with other children, as they learn to share toys, take turns, and work together to achieve a common goal.

5. Do you think parents should teach children how to cooperate with others? How?

Yes, I believe that parents play a vital role in teaching children how to cooperate with others. Cooperation is an important life skill that is needed in a wide variety of contexts, such as in the family, at school, in the workplace, and in the community. Children learn by example, so when parents demonstrate cooperation and collaboration in their own relationships and daily activities, children will learn how to do the same. Parents can also provide opportunities for children to practice cooperation by setting up games and activities that require teamwork. Additionally, parents can teach children the importance of listening to others' ideas and opinions, compromising, and taking turns.

6. Do you think it's important for children to learn about cooperation?

Yes, it is very important for children to learn about cooperation. Cooperation is a key social skill that is essential for success in many aspects of life. Children who learn to cooperate with others are more likely to develop positive relationship and achieve academic success.

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# 122. Describe a time when missed or were late for an important meeting/event

You should say:

- When it happened
- What happened
- Why you missed/were late for it
- And explain how you felt about this experience

- I am not a very punctual person, but I try to be on time for important meetings and events.
- In fact, I have rarely been late for important meetings.
- But recently, I got late due to an small mistake on my part.
- I mistook the timing for my best friend Ravi's birthday.
- My friend normally celebrates his birthday in the evenings and the timing is around 7 o clock.
- So, when he set me the birthday e- invite, I didn't check the time.
- I thought it would be in the evening like previous years.
- However, this time due to some reason he had decided to celebrate in the afternoon.
- He is very close to me and we never miss each other's birthday.
- The timing of the function was 12 o clock but when I didn't reach by even 1 o clock, my friend called me and asked me if everything was alright.
- When I said yes, he asked why I wasn't at the function.
- I took us about 15 secs to clear up the confusion.
- I got ready in such a haste, but I still reached at about 2 o clock as the venue was about 10 kms from my house.
- My friend had refused to cut the cake without me.
- So, everyone was waiting on me.
- I apologised to each and every person there.
- Now, it is a funny story and we laugh every time thinking about it whenever someone is late.
- However, this whole experience brought about a change in me as I now check the timings of events at least 2 times whenever I receive any invite.

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**Part 3 Follow Up Questions**

Are you a punctual person?
I am ashamed to say, but no I am not a very punctual person. I have been trying to be better though. I am kind of laid back when it comes to meetings or appointments but I am trying to change that.

Do you think it important to be on time?
Yes, I think it is important to be on time. I think if we don't value other people's time, people won't value our time as well. It also gives others the feeling that we are not serious about the work we are doing.

Do you always avoid being late?
I try to avoid being late but I do get late sometimes. I have been trying to reduce it by giving myself a 10-15 minute for any unseen circumstances.

Why are people often late for meetings or appointments?
I think people are late for various reasons but the major reason is not getting up on time. Most people are late for morning appointments because they sleep late and thus are unable to get up on time. Sometimes it is also due to unseen events like car breakdown or traffic congestion.

Are people in your country often late for meetings?
Yes, people are often late. We are sadly not known for our punctuality. We are more laid back and happy go lucky kind of people and we don't give a lot of importance to punctuality.

Do you think people are born with time management skills or they can develop them?
I think time management skills are certainly teachable. The biggest example I can think of is the army. I have had cousins who have become very punctual and disciplined after joining the army. They are not just disciplined in their professional life but also their personal life.

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# SPEAKING PART 1

# INTRO QUESTIONS

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# 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



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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. 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?

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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 hometown 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.

## 4. Hometown

1. What's (the name of) your hometown?
   I am from Phagwara, which 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 does 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.

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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.

## 5. Rules

Are there any rules for students at your school?
I am not in school anymore. But, yes, there are quite a few rules at my school like students had to wear the proper uniform, attend classes on time, and maintain discipline in the classroom. There were also rules about using mobile phones — we weren't allowed to use them during lessons.

Do you think students would benefit more from more rules?
No, I think too many rules can hinder creativity and create a very restrictive environment. It can also make them rebellious as they see rules as unnecessary.

Have you ever had a really dedicated teacher?
Yes, I did. One of my most dedicated teachers was Mr. Anson, who taught me computer science in 10th standard. I remember he even took extra online classes during holidays, and he wasn't just focused on finishing the curriculum but also on going beyond it to make sure we truly understood the subject.

Do you prefer to have more or fewer rules at school?
Like I said earlier, I like a few basic rules. Too many rules create a restrictive environment, which hampers learning.

## 6. Public Places

Have you ever talked with someone you don't know in public places?
Yes, many times. I have often talked to strangers when I am travelling in public transport. I have also had conversations with new people at parks and shopping malls.

Do you wear headphones in public places?
I don't like wearing headphones. I feel irritated and, but I do it sometimes when I want to watch information videos.

Would you like to see more public places near where you live?
Absolutely, more public spaces like parks or community centers would give people places to relax, exercise, and meet others, which would make the area more enjoyable.

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Do you often go to public places with your friends?
No, I don't go often to public places with my friends. I think I travel to public places alone.

## 7. Staying with old people

Have you ever worked with old people?
I have never worked in my life, but I don't think I would mind working with old people.

Are you happy to work with people who are older than you?
I have never thought of age as a factor. I would love to work with both younger and older people. It doesn't matter to me.

Do you enjoy spending time with old people?
It depends upon the person. I loved to spend time with my maternal grandfather. He used to tell amazing stories.

What are the benefits of being friends with or working with old people?
There are many benefits of being friends with or working with old people. Their experience can guide us on how to deal with difficult situations. Also, we get to hear amazing stories.

## 8. Growing vegetables/fruits

Are you interested in growing vegetables and fruits?
Yes, I am interested, but I don't have the space to grow fruits and vegetables. Maybe, if I shift to a house with open space, I will try it.

Is growing vegetables popular in your country?
Yes, it is quite popular. A lot of people grow some vegetables in their backyards, and it has become even more popular after awareness about increasing use of chemicals and pesticides in crops.

Do many people grow vegetables in your city?
Yes, many grow vegetables in my city. I think most of friends have small vegetable gardens in their home.

Do you think it's easy to grow vegetables?
No, I don't think it is easy, but I also don't think it's difficult. I think anyone can learn it, if they put their mind to it.

Should schools teach students how to grow vegetables?
Absolutely, I am in favour of teaching practical skills like growing plants, cooking in schools. I think it is a necessity.

## 9. Going out

Do you bring food or snacks with you when going out?
No, I don't carry food or snacks when going out. I just buy them from local shops.

Do you always take your mobile phone with you when going out?
Yes, of course. I mostly take my phone when I go out. However, when I go out to walk my dogs, I don't take my phone with me.

Do you often bring cash with you?
No, I am very bad with cash. I have dropped it many times while taking out my phone from my pocket.

How often do you use cash?
I rarely use cash. I normally use UPI payments.

## 10. Quiet/noisy places

Do you like quiet or noisy places?
I might be an exception, but I like noisy places more. I just feel like if there is some noise around me, I can concentrate more.

Do you like to go to quiet or noisy places on weekends when you are free?
I like to go to cafés. I think they are slightly noisy.

## 11. Advertisement

What kind of advertising do you like?
I like advertisements that are funny, creative or tell a story. I also like ads that address social issues and challenge stereotypes.

Do you like advertisements?
I don't mind ads if they are not too long and intrusive.

Do you see a lot of advertising on trains or other transport?
Yes, I see a lot of advertising on trains or other transport like buses and autos. I think it is good way to advertise as it can reach a lot of people at once as many people commute daily via public transport.

Is there an advertisement that made an impression on you when you were a child?
Yes, I remember an ad about Cadbury chocolate where a girl jumps in the middle of a cricket match after the player hits a boundary. She is dancing while eating and enjoying chocolate.

## 12. Crowded place

Is the city where you live crowded?
No, I live in a small town. I don't think it is that crowded. In fact, I can reach anywhere within fifteen minutes.

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Is there a crowded place near where you live?
Yes, there is an outdoor mall – Eastwood village about 10 minutes from my home. It is always crowded. In fact, on weekends, it is impossible to find a parking spot there.

Do you like crowded places?
I don't mind crowded places themselves, but I hate spending excessive time in travelling. So, I don't like going to crowded areas.

Do most people like crowded places?
No, on the contrary, I think I most people don't.

When was the last time you were in a crowded place?
The last time I was in a crowded place was just last weekend. I went to my local Gurudwara on a festival. It was really crowded and there was a no space to take a single step.

## 13. Chatting

Do you like chatting with friends?
No, I don't like chatting. I prefer doing something productive rather than chatting with friends.

What do you usually chat about with friends?
Like I said, I don't usually chat with friends but if I do talk, it's about what's happening in my life or their life. Sometimes, I also talk about the news.

Do you prefer to chat with a group of people or with only one friend?
When I do chat, it's normally with only one friend. I don't like chatting with many people at one time.

Do you prefer to communicate face-to-face or via social media?
I normally Facetime my friends. Most of friends live far away, so it's not possible to meet them face to face often.

Do you argue with friends?
Yes, of course. I do argue sometimes. One of my friends is always late. I have had many arguments with him about it. Once I missed my train just because of him.

## 14. Friends

Do you invite friends to your home?
Yes, I love having friends over at my place, we always have a good time.

Do you prefer to spend time with one friend or with a group of friends?
I prefer spending time with a smaller group of friends as it feels more personal and I get time to interact with everyone.

Do you often go out with your friends?
Yes, we often go out to movies, malls, cafe's etc.

Where do you often meet each other?
We usually meet at home, coffee shops, malls and movie theaters.

Do you have a friend you have known for a long time?
Yes, I have one friend I have known for years. He is very important to me, and we always make time to catch up.
What do you usually do with your friends?
We usually go out for meals, movies or just hang out at home.

How important are friends to you?
Friends are very important to me, especially my childhood friends. We know each other so well and always make time to stay in touch.

Why are some places suitable for a meeting while others are not?
It's just because there is no privacy in some places and it is quite challenging
Is there a difference between where you meet friends now and where you used to meet them in the past?

## 15. Art

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.

Do you like visiting art galleries?
I live in small town. Unfortunately, there are no art galleries in my hometown. If I get a chance to visit a renowned art gallery while travelling, I will surely visit it.

Do you want to be an artist?
No, I don't want to be artist. I am not that talented. I love enjoying art, but I don't think I would be good at creating art.

Do you like modern art or traditional art?
I like both. I love certain modern art forms like 3D origami, but I also like traditional art forms like pottery.

## 16. Shoes

Do you like buying shoes? How often?
No, I don't like buying shoes. I have just 2-3 pairs. One for running, one for casual wear and one set of formal leather shoes

Have you ever bought shoes online?
Once I bought shoes online for my mother, but I have never bought shoes for myself online.

How much money do you usually spend on shoes?
It ranges. I have spent even as low as Rs 300 and as high as Rs 15000. But normally, I buy shoes in the range of Rs 2000 to Rs 3000.

Which do you prefer, fashionable shoes or comfortable shoes?
Comfort over looks any day. My feet are quite sensitive, and they start aching all over if wear something uncomfortable, so I prefer comfortable shoes.

## 17. Museum

Do you think museums are important?
Yes, I do. Museums are important because they preserve history, culture, and art, and they also give people a chance to learn in a more interactive way.

Are there many museums in your hometown?
Not really. My hometown doesn't have many museums, but there is small museum on Bhagat Singh about 15 kms from my hometown.

Do you often visit a museum?
To be honest, not very often. I usually only when I am traveling to another city.

When was the last time you visited a museum?
The last time I visited a museum was about a year ago, when I went to a history museum in Delhi. I remember being really impressed by the ancient artifacts there.

## 18. Having a Break

How often do you take a rest or a break?
I usually take short breaks of around 5-10 mins after every hour or so, especially when I'm studying or working for long hours.

What do you usually do when you are resting?
Normally, I just scroll through my phone, have a cup of tea. Sometimes, I also listen to music to relax.

Do you take a nap when you are taking your rest?
Not usually, but if I'm really tired, I take a short nap during the afternoons.

How do you feel after taking a nap?
If it's a short nap, I feel refreshed and more energetic. But if I sleep too long, I actually feel a bit lazy afterward.

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## 19. Internet

1. When did you start using the internet?
I started using the internet when I was in 10th standard. At that time, I got my first smartphone and so I bought a net pack and started using the internet and the first thing I did was to make an email account.

2. How often do you go online?
I usually spend at least four to five hours on the internet. I use it for studies, for watching, playing games and chatting with my friends.

3. How does the internet influence people?
Firstly, people are going out less because they can almost anything sitting at their home like shopping or banking. Secondly, people have become less social as they meet each other face to face less often. Finally, it has impacted their health.

4. Do you think you spend too much time online?
Yes, I think so. I am spending about four to five hours on the internet every day and I think I should not spending more than 2 hours.

5. What would you do without the internet?
I can't imagine a life without the internet but if it happened I think I would spend more time with my loved ones and I would give more time to my hobbies and interests.

## 20. Praise/ encouragement

1. Have you had any achievements recently?
Just two months, I graduated in bachelor's of nursing and I stood second in the whole class.

2. How do you feel when you are praised?
I feel very happy when someone praises me. I feel motivated to do even better.

3. When was the last time when you praised someone?
Last year, I praised my friend when she came first in a dance competition.

4. Do you think parents should often praise and encourage their children?
Yes, parents should often praise and encourage their children so that they do better in the future and feel motivated.

5. Have you ever been praised or encouraged by your teacher?
Yes, in my third year of graduation when teacher praised me when I stood 1st in the whole class.

## 21. Holidays

1. Where did you go for your last holiday?
I went to Shimla for the last holiday. It's a famous hill station in the foothills of Himalayas.

2. Do you like holidays? Why?
Of course. Who doesn't like holidays. I think they are just release the stress of work and studies and provide a break from the monotony of everyday life.

3. Which public holiday do you like the best?
I like Diwali the best. We get a lot of gifts on Diwali. Also, I love lighting up the house with diyas and candles.

4. What do you do on holidays?
If it's a festival, we take part in special traditions like cooking special food and decorating the house or go to a religious place. Otherwise, I spend time with my family. We either go out and just stay home and watch a TV show or a movie.

5. Do you like to spend your day at home?
Yes, sometimes. After a few hectic or busy days, I prefer to just stay home and chill. However, sometimes I also get bored staying at home and doing nothing.

6. Do you prefer a leisurely or a busy holiday?
It depends upon the company. With my friends, I prefer a busy holiday like going to different tourist sites, doing trekking, trying new cuisines. On the other hand, with my parents, I just like to stay at a resort and relax.

## 22. Library

1. Do you often go to library?
No, unfortunately, my city doesn't have a public library.

2. What do you usually in the library?
Like I said, I don't normally go to the library. However, people normally just go read books or complete their assignments or work. Nowadays, people visit libraries more for their peaceful environment than for borrowing books or other reference material.

3. Did you go to the library when you were a kid?
Yes, my school had a very spacious library. I used to go there every week to borrow books.

4. Do Indian kids often go to the library?
I don't think reading is a very popular hobby in India. So, I don't think children go to libraries often. But, I think there has been a shift after Harry Potter, which has made reading more fashionable.

## 23. Small business

1. Do you know many small businesses where you live?
Yes, there are many small businesses where I live like clothes shops, pharmacies, grocery stores and so on. There are also a few small scale industries in my area.

2. Do you prefer buying things from big companies or small businesses?
I prefer buying things from big companies because I feel the quality of products from big companies is better.
3. Have you ever thought about starting your own business?
No, I have never thought of starting my own business. I want to do a job. I think businesses involve much stress and uncertainty.
4. Have you ever worked In small businesses?
No, I have actually never worked in my life till now. I just recently completed my bachelors and now I want to do masters. Maybe after that I will start working.

## 24. Chocolates

1. Do you like eating chocolates? Why or why not?

Yes, I often eat chocolate. My favourite chocolate is dairy milk.

2. How often do you eat chocolates?
   I eat chocolate once or twice a month.

3. Did you often eat chocolate when you were a kid?
   Yes, I ate chocolate when I a child. I think I ate it much more than now.

4. Why do you think chocolate is popular around the world?
   There are many reasons for this. Firstly, it is of course the taste. Chocolate has a rich creamy texture and sweet flavour which appeals to a wide variety of palates. Secondly, I think chocolate releases certain chemicals, which mildly boost a person's mood and energy.

5. What yours favourite flavour of chocolate?
   My favourite chocolate is dark chocolate. I don't like overly sweet things and dark chocolate suits my palate perfectly.

6. Do you think it is good to use chocolate as gifts to others?
   Yes, it is wonderful gift. Chocolate is associated with feelings of love and celebration and so giving a chocolate shows the care and love towards the other person.

## 25. Singing

1. Do you like singing? Why?
   I like it, but I am a terrible singer. So, I sing mostly when I am alone.

2. Have you ever learnt how to sing?
   No, I just sing casually. I don't think I am talented at it. If I was, maybe then I would have learnt it professionally.

3. Who do you want to sing for?
   Like I said before, I only sing when I am alone, so I guess I sing for myself.

4. Do you think singing can bring happiness to people?
   Yes, definitely. Singing is associated with release of certain chemicals like endorphins and dopamine which uplift mood. Singing also allows us to express our emotions and this release of suppressed emotions can be very cathartic.

## 26. Outer space and stars

1. Have you ever learnt about outer space and stars?
   Yes, I learnt about outer space and stars when I was in school. It was a part of geography.

2. Do you like science fiction movies? Why?
   Yes, I love science fiction movies. For me, these movies showcase an alternate reality, which is always exciting to watch. I like fantasy movies as well for the same reason.

3. Do you want to know more about outer space?
   Yes, I would love to. I do try to keep up with the news about advancements in space. Especially, since India has achieved a lot in the realm of space in recent years, my interest in outer space has only increased.

4. Do you want to go into outer space in the future?
   Yes, but not immediately. After the new travel technologies have been properly tested, I would love to travel to other planets then.

## 27. List

1. Do you make a list when you shop?
   Yes, I am very forgetful, so I do make a list. Whenever I run out of something at home, I note it down on my mobile phone and I get it in my next visit to the supermarket.

2. Do you make a list for your work? Does it work?
   I don't make one separately for work. I make one for all the things I need to do at the beginning of the week. It does work. It saves me from procrastination or forgetting important things at least.

3. Why don't some people like making lists?
   There are many reasons. Firstly, some people are just good at mentally processing things so making a list seems unhelpful to them. Secondly, it can sometimes get overwhelming, looking at the number of the things one has to finish. Finally, some people feel like making a list is restrictive and it just limits flexibility and freedom.

4. Do you prefer to make a list on paper or your mobile phone?
   Earlier it was paper, but since the last 3-4 years I have gone completely digital. I make lists using apps like reminders and notes.

## 28. Housework and cooking

1. Do you do some cooking or help your family cook at home now?
   Frankly, we have a maid and she does most of the cooking. I do help in minor things like washing the utensils or chopping vegetables when she is on leave.

2. Did you do some house cleaning when you were young?
   Yes, I did not much. I used to clean my own room every weekend. My mother didn't let me do much as she wanted me to focus on studies.

3. Do you have breakfast at home every day?
   No, I don't like breakfast. I just makes me feel bloated and heavy throughout the day. However, if I have a very light dinner, I do eat some egg whites  the next morning.

4. Do you want to learn how to cook well?
   I want to learn cooking to survive. I want to just learn the basics so that if I have to cook for a few days, I don't end up ordering out every day. I don't want to learn cooking otherwise.

5. Do you think your house is clean and tidy?
   Yes, my mother is very particular about cleanliness. So, she makes sure that the whole house is very clean. We all have to clean our room every week.

6. What housework do you like or dislike doing?
   I don't like cooking as I said before. I am good with all other housework. I like washing utensils and cutlery. I don't know, I just find it relaxing.

## 29. Text Messages

1 How often do you send text messages?
I send messages very often. I normally communicate using text messages. However, if I need to communicate urgently, I call instead of sending a text message.

2 Is sending messages popular in your country?
Both yes and no. I think it is popular in the younger generation, but the older people still prefer calling over sending text messages.

3 Did you send more messages when you were younger?
No, I think I send more messages now. I rarely sent messages when I was younger as I got a mobile phone very late. I used to communicate with my friends by borrowing my parent's phone and then I usually called instead of texting.

4 Do you reply to messages as soon as you receive them?
No, I only reply to messages immediately if it is something urgent. Otherwise, I respond only when I get free.

## 30. Being busy

1. Are you busier now than when you were a child?
Yes, I am working now, and I also need to do household chores like cooking and washing clothes. These were all managed by my parents when I was a child, so I feel a lot busier now.

2. When was the last time you were very busy?
The last time I was very busy was about 6 months ago. My college exams were going on and at the same time there was a cricket competition in our village, and I was the captain of the cricket team. I barely got any free time then. I think I hardly slept for 4-5 hours for a whole week.

## 31. Puzzles

1. Did you solve puzzles in your childhood?
Yes, I solved a lot of puzzles when I was a child. I especially loved doing jig-saw puzzles. Besides that, I also solved some crossword puzzles and number puzzles like Sudoku in the newspaper.

2. When do you solve puzzles, while travelling or when you feel bored?
I normally solve them at both times. I solve jig saw puzzles at home, it is a hassle to carry all the small pieces, and I am afraid of dropping them. I do solve crossword and number puzzles while travelling.

3. Do you like solving word puzzles or number puzzles? Which is more difficult for you?
I am good at math, so I find number puzzles easier, but I also love solving word puzzles. I also solve 'Wordle' nowadays. I consider word puzzles to be slightly difficult for me as my vocabulary is limited.

4. Do you think it is good for old people to solve puzzles?
Yes definitely, it keeps their mind sharp and active.

## 32. Saying 'thank you'

1. Do people in your country often say, 'thank you'?
No, it's not common. People do smile and show their appreciation through other gestures, but people don't often say thank you.

2. On what occasions do people often say, 'thank you'?
People normally say thank you when the other person goes out of the way to help them. People don't often say thank you in everyday life.

## 33. Public transportation

1. What kind of public transportation do you usually take?
   I normally use the train. In buses, I feel road sick, so I prefer the train.

2. When do you usually take public transportation, in your everyday life or when you are travelling?
   For short distances, I prefer using my own car and I only use public transportation for long distances.

## 34. Names

1. Does your name have any special meaning?
   Yes, my name is Indroop. It means the avatar of Lord Inder, the God of Rain, according to Hindu mythology.

2. How would you choose names for your next generation?
   I would like to keep a unique name. So, I think I will be taking the help of Chatgpt or any other AI for keeping the name.

3. Does anyone in your family have the same name as you?
   No, I am the only one with this name in my family and it is a pretty unique name. I think there are very few people with the same name globally.

4. Are there any differences between how Indians name their children now and in the past?
   Yes, in the past, people used to give importance to religious books. A special letter was chosen by religious gurus, and the name was kept starting with that letter. Nowadays, people don't believe in such traditions and people just name their kid with the help of the internet.

5. Are there any names that are more popular than others in India?
   Yes, there are certain names like Gurpreet, Gagan, Aakash, Rahul and Shahrukh which are common. I remember in my class there were three girls with the name Gagan and none of them used sir names. It led to some big misunderstandings.

## 35. Jewelry

1. Do you often wear jewelry?
   No, I personally, I don't like the feel of anything like a metal or plastic touching my skin. So, I don't wear jewelry. I don't even like wearing a wristwatch for the same reason.

2. What types of jewelry do you like?
   I like plain, subtle jewelry. I think it gives a more elegant look.

3. Do you usually buy jewelry?
   No, I have never bought jewelry. I have accompanied my parents to the jewelry store, but I have never chosen the jewelry.

4. Why do you think some people like to wear a piece of jewelry for a long time?
   Some people like to wear a piece of jewelry for a long time as it has emotional value. For example, a family member or loved one may have gifted them that piece of jewelry. Moreover, jewelry like rings become a part of the person and people feel something is missing when they take it off. Finally, a jewelry may have religious significance like the 'Kara' in Sikh religion.

## 36. Geography

1. Do you like geography?
   Yes, I do. I love travelling and exploring new places. I think this passion developed only out of my love for geography.

2. Do you think geography is useful?
   Yes, I think geography is very useful. It gives insight into the layout and physical features of the earth like mountains, rivers and oceans. It is also important in certain professions like city planning, environmental protection, and travel and tourism. Finally, it improves understanding of global issues like migration, global warming and so on.

3. Have you ever learned geography?
   Yes, I learnt geography when I was in school. It was a compulsory subject till 10th standard.

4. Do you want to be a geography teacher?
   No, I am interested in learning more about geography, but I don't want to be a teacher. I think teaching is a very challenging profession. It requires a lot of patience, and I lack that.

5. Do you want to learn more about the geography of other countries?
   Yes, I would love to learn more about geography of other countries if I get the opportunity. It gives certain insights about culture which are very fascinating. For example, recently I learnt that in hot countries eat more spicy food because it makes them sweat, which in turn helps them cool down.

## 37. Flowers

1. Do people in your country often give flowers to others?
   Yes, people in my country often give flowers and bouquets on special occasions like birthdays, wedding ceremonies, anniversaries and even professional events like retirement or promotions. Nowadays, people have also started giving plants as gifts instead of flowers.

2. Do you know anyone who loves flowers?
   Yes, in fact I know many people who love flowers. My mother is also one of them. She has more than a 100 flower pots.

3. Are there a lot of flowers where you live?
   No, there are not a lot of flowers, where I live. I live in an urban area and there are not many gardens near my house. However, my mother has a lot of flowerpots. So, there are flowers at our home.

## 38. Birthday

1. What do you usually do on your birthday?
   In the morning, I go to the Gurudwara and take blessings from God. In the evening, I go out with either my friends or family members for a meal.

2. What did you do on your birthday when you were young?
   My day started exactly like it starts now, with a visit to the Gurudwara. In the evening, my parents invited all my friends to my home, I cut the cake, and we played some fun party games.

3. Do you think it is important for you to celebrate your birthday?

Yes, I think birthdays should be celebrated. I think it is a celebration of being alive and moreover, it brings all friends and family members together.

4. Whose birthday do you think is the most important to celebrate in India?
   I think 2nd October – the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi is the most important birthday celebrated in India. He is considered the father of the nation, and his principles of non-violence are still reflected in our countries' principles today. Apart from this, another special birthday is 14th April, the birthday of B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of Indian constitution.

## 39. Plan/Schedule

1. Do you like making plans?
   No, personally, I like going with the flow. I used to make plans earlier and I felt like it took the joy out of things.

2. Do you use paper or your cellphone to make plans?
   If I do make plans, I make it on paper. Maybe, I am old school, but I still prefer jotting things down on a paper rather than typing it on the small screen of my phone.

3. What are the benefits of making plans?
   There are certainly a few benefits. Firstly, it saves time by making us organized. I feel like, I can do more when I plan. Secondly, planning helps people become punctual. When we plan, we are more likely to note down appointments and thus reach on time.

## 40. Spare time

1. Do you often have free time?
   After work, I have some free time as I have a part-time maid for cleaning. Also, I have free time on weekends.
2. What do you usually do in your free time?
   I read books and do some exercise. Sometimes, I listen or watch the TV as well.

## 41. Spending time by yourself

1. Do you usually spend time by yourself?
   Yes, I usually spend time by myself because I like spending time alone. Also, I want to spend time on self-improvement, which I cannot do with others. However, when I was younger, I loved spending time with my friends and going out, but I have changed a lot with time because now I feel I should do something meaningful.

2. What did you do last time when you were by yourself?
   I dipped my feet in hot water and gave myself a foot massage. I also applied a face mask.

3. How do you usually spend time by yourself?

4. Do you like spending time by yourself?
   For all answers 1,3 and 4 - Yes, I usually spend time by myself because I like spending time alone. Also, I want to spend time on self-improvement, which cannot I do with others. However, when I was younger, I loved spending time with my friends and going out, but I have changed a lot with time because now I feel I should do something meaningful.

## 42. Writing

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1. Do you write a lot?
   Yes, I write a lot as I must do a lot of writing in my work. However, I don't write by hand, I type.

2. What do you like to write? Why?
   Apart from my work, I write poetry. Sometimes, I also write about experiences so that I can learn from them. It's also a means of expressing my feelings. When I see something beautiful, I just want to express it in words.

3. Do you think the things you write would change in the future?
   Maybe. I don't think about it. But I believe as I grew older, I changed my habits and character so I might also change what I write about in the future.

4. Do you prefer typing or handwriting when you are writing?
   I prefer typing because it is more convenient and it's also easier to store information. Also, my typing speed is a lot faster than my writing speed.

## 43. Weather

1. What's the weather like where you live?
   Fortunately, I live in an area where the weather is pleasant throughout the year. The temperature ranges between 15-25C throughout the year.

2. Do you prefer hot or cold weather?
   I like pleasant weather. I neither like hot weather nor cold weather. However, If I had to choose one, I would choose hot weather because the AC makes it comfortable inside the house in the summer and, I can wear beautiful summer dresses. However, in the winter, my feet are always cold and because of that I am always uncomfortable. My clothing choices also get very limited in the cold weather.

3. Do you prefer dry or wet weather?
   I prefer dry weather because in the wet weather my shoes and clothes get dirty very easily.

4. Are you in the habit of checking the weather forecast? When and how often?
   No, I don't have that habit because the weather is stable where I live. It doesn't change very suddenly.

5. What do you think are the effects of climate change in recent years?
   I think the biggest change has been the increase in the number of climatic disasters in recent years. It seems like every year there is a climatic disaster now. Earlier these events used to happen after many years. Secondly, in my area at least, the winters have become milder, and the summers have become much warmer. It is impossible to survive without air conditioning now.

6. Would you like to visit other cities that have different climates from where you live?
   Yes, of course. I especially want to go a hill station with a lot of snow. It never snows in my area, there are hailstorms sometimes but not snowfall. So, I really want to enjoy the snow.

## 44. Snacks

1. When do you usually eat snacks now?
   I normally have snacks with tea in the evening. I also have it during movie nights with my family or when I got out with friends or family.

2. Do you think it is healthy for you to eat snacks?

No, it is not healthy. However, I think if I eat snacks in a limit, it doesn't make a big difference.

3. Did you often eat snacks when you were young?
   Yes, when I was younger, I preferred eating snacks over regular meals. I remember my parents used to scold me a lot about it. I used to spend all my pocket money on snacks.

4. What snacks do you like to eat?
   I don't have a sweet tooth. So, I prefer savory snacks like chips and Indian snacks like pakoras and samosas.

## 45. Patience

1. Are you a patient person?
   If I was asked this question a few years back, I would have said yes definitely. However, now I would say I do lose patience sometimes. With age, I have become a little bit impatient.

2. What is it that makes you feel impatient?
   The main thing that makes me impatient is my expectation. I normally expect something to be done in a particular period and when that doesn't happen or it takes much longer than expected, I do get impatient.

3. How do you feel when you have to do something for a long time?
   I start feeling fatigued, bored and even impatient and frustrated if the progress is slower than I expected. That's why I take breaks from time to time.

4. Are you more patient now than when you were a child?
   On the contrary, I am less patient. I tend to lose patience quicker. I think it's because I have more responsibilities now and when something takes longer than I expect, it disrupts my other activities too.

## 46. Machine

1. What is the favorite machine in your home?
   My favorite machine in my house is my coffee machine. I just can't survive without it and because of this one machine I save a lot of money as earlier I used to go to cafés for drinking coffee.

2. Do you think washing machines and sweeping machines are important?
   Yes, of course. I don't think people can do things manually nowadays. Due to long working hours and hectic lifestyles, these machines have become indispensable.

3. Do you read instructions before using a machine?
   I try using it on my own first. If I am not able to figure it out, only then I turn to the instructions.

4. Do you think it is important to read instructions?
   I think it helps, and it is a good idea if we are using something for the first time or using something delicate, which might break if not used correctly.

## 47. Memory

1. Are you good at memorising things?
   No, I am not very good at memorizing things. That's why, if it is something important, I usually note it down in my phone.

2. Have you ever forgotten something important?

Yes, once I forgot a dental appointment and I only realized it after I got a call from the dentist office that they were waiting for me.

3. What do you need to remember in your daily life?
   I don't need to remember much. I think it's mostly passwords nowadays. I think that's the I have become bad at memorizing things.

4. How do you remember important things?
   I generally type it in the Notes app in my mobile phone. I also use the Reminder app.

## 48. Hats/caps

**Do you like to wear hats?**
I like wearing hats sometimes especially when I am out in the sun. I like to wear baseball caps when it's sunny. I also wear warm winter caps like beanies when it gets cold.
**What kinds of hats do you have?**
I have different types of hats like baseball caps and beanies. I also have one cowboy hat that my aunt got from Canada.
**Where do you like to buy hats?**
I usually buy hats from sports stores or online. I like to try the hats before I buy them, so if it's a new brand, I prefer to buy them in store.
**Is wearing hats popular in your country?**
In my country, wearing hats isn't that common, but it's popular for outdoor activities. People do wear warm woolen caps in the winter.

## 49. Borrowing/lending

**How do you feel when people don't return things they borrowed from you?**
It is very frustrating when people don't return the things they borrow from you but I don't let it bother me too much.
**Do you like to lend things to others?**
I don't mind lending things if I trust the person.
**Have you ever borrowed money from others?**
Yes, I have borrowed money a few times from my friends and relatives. I make it a point to return the money on time.
**Have you borrowed books from others?**
Yes, I often borrow books from libraries and friends. If I really like a book I borrowed, I buy it later for myself

## 50. Colors

**What color makes you uncomfortable in your room?**
I don't like black in my room as it feels too dark and intense for me. I like light colors on the walls.
**What colors do your friends like most?**
My friends like shades of blues and green the most.
**What is the color you dislike? Why?**
I don't like fluorescent colors like fluorescent green and yellow as they are too loud for my taste.

**What's your favorite color?**
My favorite color is blue as it is very calming. It reminds of the ocean and I find it very soothing to the eyes.

## 51. Hobby

**Do you have the same hobbies as your family members?**
Yes, some hobbies I have are same as my family members like cooking and gardening.
**Do you have a hobby that you've had since childhood?**
Yes, I love to read and that is a hobby I have had since childhood.
**Did you have any hobbies when you were a child?**
Yes, as I mentioned before, I enjoyed reading as a child. I also loved to draw and color.
**Do you have any hobbies?**
I like gardening, cooking, reading, hiking and travelling.

## Swimming.

**What's the difference between swimming in the pool and swimming in the sea?**
Swimming in the pool is safer as you are in control. Swimming in the sea can be dangerous as there is a risk of drowning if the currents are too strong.
**Where do people in your country like to go swimming?**
People in my country like to go swimming in swimming pools. In villages, people swim in the ponds and rivers.
**Is it difficult to learn how to swim?**
It can be tough in the beginning but with proper technique and practice swimming can be learnt easily. It is good to learn it at a younger age than as an adult.
**Do you like swimming?**
Yes, I love to swim. It is very good, low impact aerobic exercise and tones the body.

## 52. Advertisement

**What kind of advertising do you like?**
I like advertisements that are funny, creative or tell a story. I also like ads that address social issues and challenge stereotypes.
**Do you like advertisements?**
I don't mind ads if they are not too long and intrusive.
**Do you see a lot of advertising on trains or other transport?**
Yes, I see a lot of advertising on trains or other transport like buses and autos. I think it is good way to advertise as it can reach a lot of people at once as many people commute daily via public transport.
**Is there an advertisement that made an impression on you when you were a child?**
Yes, I remember an ad about Cadbury chocolate where a girl jumps in the middle of a cricket match after the player hits a boundary. She is dancing while eating and enjoying chocolate.

## 53. Feeling bored

**Do you think childhood is boring or adulthood is boring?**
I think adulthood is boring as there more responsibilities and people get busy with repetitive chores and tasks. They don't have much time to play, be creative and enjoy life.

**What do you do when you feel bored?**
When I'm bored, I usually read or watch something on TV.
**When would you feel bored?**
I feel bored when I have nothing to do or I am stuck in a routine.
**Do you often feel bored?**
No, I have something to do and I am never bored.

### 54. Friends

**Would you invite friends to your home?**
Yes, I love having friends over at my place, we always have a good time.
**Do you prefer to spend time with one friend or with a group of friends?**
I prefer spending time with a smaller group of friends as it feels more personal and I get time to interact with everyone.
**Do you have a friend you have known for a long time?**
Yes, I have one friend I have known for years. He is very important to me and we always make time to catch up.
**What do you usually do with your friends?**
We usually go out for meals, movies or just hang out at home.
**Where do you often meet each other?**
We usually meet at home, coffee shops, malls and movie theaters.
**Do you often go out with your friends?**
Yes, we often go out to movies, malls, cafe's etc.
**How important are friends to you?**
Friends are very important to me, specially my childhood friends. We know each other so well and always make time to stay in touch.

## 55. Books and reading habits

Which do you prefer, reading books or watching movies?
I prefer reading books as they let me use my imagination more than movies.
**Have you ever read a novel that has been adapted into a movie?**
Yes, there are many such novels. Recently I read a novel – The Book Thief which has been adapted into a movie. I loved the book but didn't like the movie as much.
**Are your reading habits now different than before?**
Yes, my reading habits have changed with time. I used to read only fiction books but now I enjoy nonfiction books as well specially the autobiographies.
**Do you often read books? When?**
I often read book books before bed or on weekends when I don't have to go to work.
**Do you read more or less now than when you were younger?**
I read more now than when I was younger. I used to spend more time outdoors playing sports when I was younger.

## 56. Evening time

What do you hate doing in the evening?
I am too tired and don't like exercising in the evening. I usually work out early morning before I start my day.

Do you like the morning or evening?
I am not a morning person as I prefer to stay awake till late. My brain needs some time to get active, so I perform better in the evening.

What do you usually do in the evening?
I do many things. I go and play cricket with my friends, I take my dogs out for a walk and sometimes I help my mother in the kitchen.

What did you do in the evening when you were little? Why?
I think it was nearly the same except the dog part. We didn't have a dog when I young. Sometimes I also played videos games.

Are there any differences between what you do in the evening now and what you did in the past?
Like I said the main difference was that nowadays I take my dogs out for a walk but I didn't in the past, as we didn't have a dog then.

Do you spend your evenings doing the same things on both weekends and weekdays? Why?
On the weekends, I normally go out shopping with my friends. Sometimes, I watch movies at the cinemas. But, sometimes I also do the same things as the weekend.

## 57. Sitting down

Do you find it easy to fall asleep when sitting on a sofa?
No, sofa sleeping is not for me. I need to lay down to sleep.

When you were a kid, did you usually sit on the floor?
I don't think so. My parents allowed shoes inside the house, so the floor wasn't that clean. So I didn't sit on the floor.

Do you feel sleepy when you are sitting down?
No, I don't feel sleepy when I am sitting down. Like I said, I normally need to lay down to sleep. I am only able to sleep sitting down when I haven't slept for 2-3 days and I am extremely tired.

Do you always sit down for a long time?
Not always but yes I do sit down for long hours when I am watching the TV or studying. I am trying to change this habit, however.

Where is your favorite place to sit?
My favourite place to sit is the sofa in our living room. Its really comfortable.

## 58. Computers

In what conditions would it be difficult for you to use a computer?
I cant imagine a situation where it would be difficult, but I avoid using it at the cafe or restaurants as I am afraid of coffee spilling on it. It happened once and I had to get my touchpad replaced.

What would your life be like without computers?
Oh, I can't even imagine. I am so dependent upon computers that I would like something is missing. There are so many things I do using computers and doing them in the traditional way would be so irritating.

When was the first time you used a computer?
I think it was when I was in the 3rd or 4th standard. My uncle had a computer shop and he set up a Personal computer for us.

In what conditions would you use a computer?
I think I would use a computer in any situation. Its a part of my life and I can't imagine not having a computer.

## 59. Old buildings

Are there any old buildings you want to see in the future? Why?
Ya, I want to really see the Pyramids. Its my lifelong dream. I just had a fascination for Pyramids from a very young age, when I saw a documentary about them on Discovery Channel.

Do you prefer to live in an old building or a modern house?
I prefer a modern house. I think its really difficult to maintain an old house in today's time. Moreover, it is hard to imagine living without the amenities of today's era.

Do you think we should preserve old buildings in cities?
Yes, I think it is our duty. Preserving old buildings is a key to preserving our culture and heritage and moreover, these can add to the tourism appeal of the cities and generate valuable revenue for the city authorities.

Have you ever seen old buildings in the city?
Yes, my dad was a government servant and he was a allotment a bungalow which was actually the palace of the erstwhile king of my city.

## 60. Collecting things

Where do you usually keep things you need?
I normally keep things I need in my room. I also keep certain things which I need while going out like my shades, keys and jacket in a cupboard next to the main door of the house

Would you keep old things for a long time? Why?
I have kept certain things like handmade sweaters, my childhood toys, my parent jeans for many years. Otherwise, I normally throw away or donate the things as I don't to clutter the house.

Are there any things you have kept from your childhood?

Yes I have certain toys from my childhood. Apart from that, I have two sweaters, which were made my mother.

Do you collect things?
No, I am not collecting things kind of person. I have a friend who collect coins and one who collects cards, but I personally don't.

## 61. Art/drawing

Did you learn to draw when you were a kid?
Yes, I had drawing as a subject when I was in 6th standard. I didn't like it much and always got very less marks in it.

Do you want to learn more about art?
No I am not interested in arts. I am more into sports and cars.

Do you like to go to the gallery?
No, I don't, in fact, I don't even remember the last time I visited any art museum or the gallery.

Do you like drawing?
No, like I mentioned earlier I don't like to draw.

## 62. Talents

Do you think anyone in your family has the same talent?
I don't think I have any special talents but, my mother and niece share many talents. They are both good in artsy things like painting, drawing, knitting and so on.

Do you think your talent can be useful for your future work? Why?
Like I said, I don't think I possess any special talents. I am good with numbers, so maybe that can be helpful in future.

Was it mastered recently or when you were young?
I think it was my dad that helped me develop it in the childhood. He made do every calculations orally, I was not allowed to use a pen or a calculator. So, maybe thats how I became good.

Do you have a talent or something you are good at?
I am good with numbers. So I am able to do calculations without need a calculator.

## 63. Watch.

Do you think it is important to wear a watch? Why?
No, I don't think it is important to wear a watch these days as we can check time in the mobile phones.

Why do some people wear expensive watches?
I think expensive watches are a fashion accessory more than anything else. I have never bought one, but I think they are just a means to show off one's wealth.

Have you ever got a watch as a gift?
Yes, my grandpa gave me a watch when I was a child. It was the first time he gave me something. It made me really happy.

Do you wear a watch?
No, I don't. I normally use my mobile phone to check the time.

## 64. Taking photos

Do you want to improve your photography skills?
Yes I would love to learn more about photography. I think it is a skill that everyone should learn these days because clicking pictures has become an important part of our life.

What is your favorite family photo?
My favourite family photo is the one that was taken during my brother's wedding. In this photograph all my family members are there, and everyone is smiling and looking happy.

Do you like taking selfies?
I am not a big fan of selfies. I take selfies with my friends when no one else is there to click our picture.

Do you like taking photos?
Yes I love taking pictures and people tell me that I have got good photography skills.

## 65. Cars.

Do you think car colors are important?

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Yes, in respect of cleaning. Some colours just look very dirty if not cleaned regularly. Moreover, a different colour can make the car stand out, which can be helpful in finding it in a crowded parking.

What do you usually do when there is a traffic jam?
I normally just listen to music on my mobile phone.

Do you prefer to be a driver or a passenger?
A passenger of course. I feel it gives me time to do other things.

What types of cars do you like?
I am not a car person. I prefer any car with comfortable seats and enough leg room and space for luggage.

Did you enjoy traveling by car when you were a kid?
No, I used to get car sick very easily. Especially, if the journey was long, I used to vomit at least once.

## 66. Lost and found

Will you post on social media if you lose your item?
Yes, I think I might. However, I don't have many friends on social media, so I don't know if it would be useful

Have you ever lost things?
Yes, I have lost things many times. Like, recently I lost my headphones while travelling. I think I might have dropped them and forgotten them at a store.

Do you report to the police when finding something lost by others? Why?
It depends upon what I found. If it is something valuable like a wallet or phone, I do report but if it something small like shades or earphone, I just keep it back where I found it.

What will you do if you find something lost by others?
Same as above.

## 67. Websites

What kinds of websites are popular in your country?
There are many websites which are popular. Firstly, the search engine Google is the most popular website. Apart from that social media websites and apps like Facebook and Instagram are also popular. In terms of entertainment, it is websites like YouTube and movie streaming sites like Netflix, which are really popular.Finally, I think news and information websites like Wikipedia are also popular.

Are there any changes to the websites you often visit?
No, I don't think so. Its kind of the same. There is one difference though. When I was a child I used to find free websites as I couldn't afford to pay, now I have subscriptions to websites like Netflix and Amazon prime.

What is your favorite website?
My favourite website is of course google. I believe it has answers to any questions or doubts I have.

What kinds of websites do you often visit?
The two websites I visit most often today are Youtube and Google.

## 68. Street market

Are there many street markets in India?
Yes, street markets are very common in India as most people can't costly branded items.

When was the last time you went to a street market?
I think it was last week. I had to buy headphones as I had lost my headphones.

Do you prefer to go shopping in the shopping mall or on the street market?
It depends upon what I am buying. For clothes and shoes, I prefer malls but for electronic items I normally visit street markets.

What do people usually buy on the street market?
In India, you can buy almost everything on the street market from clothes, shoes, bags, groceries to even electronic appliances.

## 69. Mobile phone

How has your mobile phone changed your life?
I think it has nearly transformed my life both in a good way and bad way. On the positive side, I always have something to do because of my mobile phone and on the negative side, I am always distracted because of messages, email alerts and calls

Will you buy a new one in the future?
I change my mobile phone every three four years, when the battery of the old phone fails or it slows down considerably.

Do you often use your mobile phone for texting or calls?
Yes, I use it nearly every hour for both .I prefer texting but I do call as well.

What was your first mobile phone?
My first mobile phone was a Nokia 3310. It was a basic phone. I just used it for calling or texting.

## 70. Time management.

Do you like to be busy?
Yes, I love being busy. I am an over thinker. So, I think wrong thoughts when I am free so I prefer to be busy.

When do you find it hard to allocate time?
I find it hard to allocate time when something unexpected happens like my parents get busy and I have to take over their responsibilities or I fall sick. Normally, I am able to manage it well.

Is it easy to manage time for you?
Normally, yes. But like I said, in case of something pops up out of the blue, it does get difficult and I do need to reschedule or cancel appointments.

How do you plan your time in a day?
I don't plan on daily basis. I just have things to do and I start doing them in order of priority.

## 71. Sports programs

Have you ever watched a sports game in a stadium?
No, never. I want to someday. I was a big sports fan when I was young, but not so much anymore. However, if my friends make a plan, I would go surely accompany them.

Do you prefer to watch sports games alone or with a group of friends?
Neither. I don't prefer watching games anymore. Earlier I used to prefer watching them with my friends. Now, its just hard to find time for watching sports game. I watch highlights sometimes, however.

What kinds of games do you expect to watch in the future?
I think sports matches would become shorter and shorter. Its very hard to find five six hours to watch a sports match, so in the future, there would be be abridged version of sports matches like it has happened in cricket with T20.

Who do you like to watch sports games with?
Earlier it used to be friends. Now I don't watch sports games much. I only watch special events like olympics or world cups an I do that alone mostly.

Do you like to watch live sports games?
No, like I said before, I am not a big sports fan now.

Do you like watching sports programs on TV?
Yes, If I do watch them, I do watch them on TV.

## 72. Making Friends

1. What do you often talk about with your new friends?
I usually talk about our interests and hobbies, and sometimes share stories about our experiences. It helps us find common ground and build a connection.

2. Have you made any new friends recently?
Yes, I've made a few new friends recently through work and social events. It's always nice to meet new people and expand my social circle.

3. Did you make a lot of friends when you were a child?

Yes, I made quite a few friends as a child, mostly through school and neighborhood activities. I enjoyed playing and spending time with them.

4. Do you like making friends?
Yes, I enjoy making friends because it allows me to learn about different perspectives and build meaningful relationships.

## 73. Good View

1. What is your favorite place? Why?
My favorite place is the beach because I love the sound of the waves and the feeling of sand between my toes. It's a relaxing and peaceful environment.

2.Would you take photos when you see a good view?
Yes, I always take photos when I see a good view. It helps me capture the moment and remember the experience.

3. Have you seen an unforgettable and beautiful view or scenery?
Yes, I once visited the Grand Canyon, and the view was breathtaking. The vast expanse and stunning colors were truly unforgettable.

4.What is the view like around the place where you live?
The view around my place is mostly urban, with a mix of buildings and parks. There are some nice green spaces and occasional cityscapes.

## 74. Laughing

1. When was the last time you laughed?
The last time I laughed was while watching a comedy movie with friends. It was a really funny scene, and we all enjoyed it.

2. Do you always laugh at funny things?
Yes, I tend to laugh at funny things. I find humor to be a great way to lighten the mood and enjoy moments with others.

3. Are you a person who often makes others laugh?
I try to make others laugh by sharing jokes or funny stories. It's nice to see people smile and have a good time.

4. Do you think you are a funny person?
I think I have a good sense of humor and can be funny at times. I enjoy making people laugh and finding humor in everyday situations.

5. Do you enjoy watching interesting and funny movies?
Yes, I enjoy watching interesting and funny movies. They provide entertainment and a good laugh, which helps me relax.

## 75. Teamwork

What do you dislike about teamwork?
One thing I dislike about teamwork is when there is a lack of communication, which can lead to misunderstandings and delays.

What do you learn from working in a team?
Working in a team teaches me collaboration skills and the importance of different perspectives. It helps me understand how to work effectively with others.

Have you teamed up with someone else before?
Yes, I have teamed up with others on various projects at work and in school. It's often a productive experience when everyone contributes their strengths.

Do you like teamwork?
Yes, I like teamwork because it allows for shared ideas and diverse skills. It often leads to better results and helps build strong relationships with colleagues.

## 76. Fishing

Did you ever go fishing when you were a child?
Yes, I went fishing with my family when I was a child. It was a fun outdoor activity that we enjoyed together.

Do you like fishing?
I do enjoy fishing, though I don't do it often. It's a relaxing way to spend time outdoors and connect with nature.

Do you like eating fish?
Yes, I like eating fish. It's a healthy and tasty option, especially when it's cooked well.

Is fishing popular in your country?
Yes, fishing is quite popular in my country. Many people enjoy it as a leisure activity and as a way to spend time with family and friends.

## 77. Perfume

Do you spend a lot of money on buying perfume?
I don't spend a lot of money on perfume. I prefer to buy one or two good quality ones that last a long time.

Do you send perfume to others as a gift?
Yes, I sometimes send perfume as a gift. It's a thoughtful present that can be personalized based on the recipient's preferences.

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Where do you spray perfume?
I usually spray perfume on my wrists and neck. These areas help the fragrance last longer and be more noticeable.

Do you use perfume?
Yes, I use perfume daily. It's a nice way to feel fresh and add a personal touch to my style.

Do you like perfume?
Yes, I like perfume. It's a pleasant way to express my personality and make a good impression.

## 78. Roads and Streets

Do you think the roads in your city need improvement?
Yes, I think the roads in my city could use some improvement, particularly in terms of reducing traffic congestion and potholes.

What is the condition of the roads in your city like?
The condition of the roads varies; some are well-maintained, while others have issues like uneven surfaces and traffic jams.

How do people cross the road in the city where you live?
In my city, people cross the road using pedestrian crossings and traffic signals. However, it can be challenging in busy areas.

Are the roads and streets in the area where you live busy?
Yes, the roads and streets in my area can be quite busy, especially during rush hours. Traffic congestion is a common issue.

## 79. Coins

Did you use coins as a child?
Yes, I used coins as a child for small purchases and to save money in a piggy bank.

Do you use coins in your daily life?
I use coins occasionally for small transactions, but I mostly use digital payments for convenience.

Is it convenient to use coins?
Using coins can be convenient for small purchases, but carrying a lot of them can be cumbersome.

Have you ever collected coins?
I haven't collected coins seriously, but I did keep some interesting ones as a child.

Do you often carry coins with you?
I don't carry coins often, as I mostly use card payments or digital methods. However, I keep a few for emergencies.

## 80. Teachers

Do you want to be a teacher in the future?
No, I don't want to be a teacher in the future. I admire teachers but have chosen a different career path.

Do you have a teacher from your past that you still remember?
Yes, I remember my high school English teacher who inspired my love for literature and writing.

Are you still in contact with your primary school teachers?
No, I'm not in contact with my primary school teachers anymore, but I have fond memories of them.

In what way have your favorite teacher helped you?
My favorite teacher helped me by encouraging my interests and providing valuable guidance that shaped my academic and personal growth.

Do you have a favorite teacher?
Yes, I have a favorite teacher who made learning enjoyable and motivated me to pursue my passions.

## 81. Bikes

Did you ride a bike when you were little?
Yes, I rode a bike when I was little. It was a fun way to get around and play with friends.

Are bikes popular in India?
Yes, bikes are quite popular in India, especially for short commutes and as a means of exercise.

Do you often ride a bike now?
I don't ride a bike often now, but I enjoy it occasionally for leisure and exercise.

Do you have a bike now?
No, I don't have a bike at the moment, but I plan to get one for recreational use in the future.

Did you have a bike when you were young?
Yes, I had a bike when I was young, and I used it frequently for fun and getting around.

## 82. Transport

What are the advantages of using public transportation?
Public transportation is cost-effective, reduces traffic congestion, and is better for the environment compared to driving a car.

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Do most young people prefer to take public transport to school or to work?
Yes, many young people prefer public transport because it is convenient and often more affordable than owning a car.

Which means of transportation is expensive?
Owning and maintaining a car is generally more expensive than using public transport due to costs like fuel, insurance, and repairs.

Which means of transport is convenient?
Public transport is convenient for many people because it offers a reliable way to get around without the hassle of parking and traffic.

## 83. Challenges

How do you usually deal with challenges in daily life?
I deal with challenges by staying calm, breaking the problem into smaller steps, and seeking support when needed.

Do you like to live a life that has a lot of challenges?
I prefer a balanced life with some challenges. They keep me motivated and help me grow, but too many can be overwhelming.

Do you like to challenge yourself?
Yes, I enjoy challenging myself because it helps me improve and achieve my goals.

What subject do you think is the most challenging at school?
I think subjects like advanced mathematics and science can be the most challenging due to their complexity and depth.

## 84. Asking for Help

When was the last time you asked for help?
The last time I asked for help was when I needed assistance with a work project. I reached out to a colleague for guidance.

What kinds of help do you often ask for?
I often ask for help with work-related tasks and advice on personal projects from friends and family.

Why are teachers always willing to help students?
Teachers are willing to help students because they are committed to their students' success and want to support their learning and development.

Do you ask for help when you have a problem?
Yes, I ask for help when I have a problem, as it can provide different perspectives and solutions that I might not have considered.

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## 85. Childhood Memory

Who did you like to play with as a child?
I liked to play with my friends and siblings. We often played outdoor games and had fun adventures together.

Where did you go to play as a child?
I used to go to the local park and playground to play as a child. It was a great place for outdoor activities and socializing.

Do you think it is better for children to grow up in the city or in the countryside?
Both have their advantages, but growing up in the countryside can offer more space and nature, while the city provides more social and educational opportunities.

What are your best childhood memories?
My best childhood memories include family vacations, playing with friends, and holidays spent with loved ones.

Did you enjoy your childhood?
Yes, I enjoyed my childhood. It was a time of exploration, learning, and making lasting memories.
What did you enjoy doing as a child?
As a child, I enjoyed playing sports, reading books, and spending time outdoors with friends and family.

## 86. 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.

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## 87. Exciting activities

1. Have you ever tried any exciting activities?
Yes I have done river rafting at Rishikesh, it was adventurous.
2. What do you think were exciting activities when you were a child?
Going to the amusement park was very exciting for me when I was young.
3. Has anything exciting happened to you recently?
No, I have been preparing for my exam for last two months, so nothing exciting has happened in my life.
4. Would you like to try scuba diving and bungee jumping?
Definitely yes, I like the adrenalin rush that I get from these adventurous activities.

## 88. Staying at home

1. Are you a person who likes to stay at home?
Well, I am more of an outdoor person. I come to home mostly for a good night sleep.

2. What do you do when you stay at home?
Home is a place for me to relax and rejuvenate. I mostly have my meals and watch Netflix at home.

3. What is your favourite place at home?
I like to spend time in the living room watching Netflix.

4. What did you often do at home as a child?
I don't remember it clearly but when I was young we mostly played or studied at home.

5. Would you like to stay at home a lot in the future?
No, like I said earlier, I like to spend time outdoors.

## 89. Sharing

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

## 90. Morning Routine

1. Do you often get up early in the morning?
Yes, I wake up early in the morning as I like to give myself enough time to get ready and have breakfast before I go to my college. If I don't get up early, I have to rush in the morning and sometimes miss my bus.

2. What do you usually do when you get up early?
I like to start my morning with a cup of tea. I also play with my dog a bit and then get ready for college.

3. Do you get up early on weekends?
On weekends I don't get up early. I let myself sleep in for an hour and sometimes even more. It depends on what time I get to bed on Friday night.

4. Which morning do you like the best in a week?
I like Sunday morning the best. My father doesn't work on Sunday and we are all home. My mom cooks a big brunch and we get to spend the morning together.

## 91. 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 convay 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.

## 92. Keys

1. Do you always bring a lot of keys with you ?
No I don't have a lot of keys with me. I own a bicycle and for that I use a number lock

2. Have you ever lost your keys?
Yes I had lost my house keys once and my parents scolded me a lot after that.

3. Do you often forget the keys and lock yourself out?
As I mentioned earlier it happened me with once and after that I have been very careful.

4. Do you think it's a good idea to leave your keys with a neighbour?
I think it depends on the relationship level with the neighbor. If there is a lot of trust amongst neighbors then it is ok to leave the keys.

## 93. Numbers

What is your favorite number?
My favourite number is seven. It is also my date of my birth.

Are you good at remembering phone numbers?
It's difficult for me to memorise phone number because whenever I have to make a call I just look up the person's name and call their number.

Are you good at math?
I would say that I am average in maths. For difficult calcualtions, I have to rely on the calculator.

Do you usually use numbers?
I use numbers everyday, mostly while doing any financial transactions.

## 94. Science

1. Do you like science?
Yes, I like science. I am very curious by nature and love to know how things work.

2. When did you start to learn about science?
I started learning about science right from elementary school.

3. Which science subject is interesting to you?
Chemistry is the most interesting subject to me. I like doing hands-on experiments and applying classroom learning in the lab. It's really interesting to see what happens when different substances mix with each other.

4. What kinds of interesting things have you done with science?
I have done many interesting things with science like the volcano experiment where we added vinegar and baking soda in an empty bottle. The reaction created carbon dioxide gas which erupted out of the bottle. It was so cool to watch.

## 95. News

1. Are you interested in news?
No, I don't watch or track news these days.

2. How do you usually find news?
I use an application called inshorts on my smartphone to read the news.

3. How do your friends get news?
They also use the same app but some of them also like watching news on TV

4. Have you read the news this morning?
No, I haven't read the news today because I was preparing for the exam.

5. Do you often talk with your friends about the news?
Yes, sometimes we like to discuss about political and sports news.

## 96. E-books and paper books

1. Which do you prefer, e-books or paper books?
I prefer ebooks because they are less expensive and I can easily carry many books on my phone.

2. When do you usually read online?
Whenever I get free time I like to read few pages of a book.

3. Will you read more online in the future?
I don't want to read a lot online because if I would spend many hours in front of a screen it will not be good for my eyesight.

4. Do you think paper books will disappear in the future?
No I don think so because there are still many people who prefer reading paper based books.

## 97. Holidays

1. Where did you go for your last holiday?
I went to Goa for my last holiday. It was in Feb 2020 and was a very memorable holiday. My cousin had invited us to his destination wedding in Goa. We stayed back for four days after the wedding. I enjoyed the beaches, water sport activities, cruises, and casinos. We also visited old Goa and the beautiful churches that display the Portuguese architecture.

2. Do you like holidays? Why?
   I like holidays as they provide me the opportunity to relax and get a break from my demanding job. I also get to spend more time with my family and friends. I feel refreshed and I am much more productive when I get back from the holidays.

3. Which public holiday do you like the best?
   My favorite public holiday is Diwali – the festival of lights. I love lighting our house, eating delicious sweets, meeting my friends and relatives, etc. The atmosphere is so lively, and people are happy all around. The view is beautiful as all houses and shops are decked up with beautiful lights.

4. What do you do on holidays?
   I usually like to travel on holidays. I love exploring new places, trying different foods, and learning about different traditions and cultures.

## 98. Staying Up

1. Do you often stay up late?
Yes, I call myself a night person and I normally don't sleep before midnight.

2. Did you stay up late when you were a kid?
No, at that time my parents used to put me to bed early because I had schoold early in the morning.

3. What do you do when you stay up late?
Normally I like to read online articles or browse through the social media posts.

4. What does it feel like the next morning if you stay up late?
It doesn't feel much different now because my morning routine is not that busy. So, I get up late and casually go about things.

## 99. Small business

1. Do you know many small businesses where you live?
Yes there are many small clothing and food businesses in my city.

2. Do you prefer buying things in big companies or small businesses?
Although I love to buy branded products from large companies but if I get same quality from small businesses then I don't mind buying from them.

3. Have you ever worked in small businesses?
No I have never worked in a small business.

4. Have you ever thought about starting your own business?
Yes I want to become and entrepreneur in the future and start my own food business.

## 100. Language

a. What languages do you speak?
   I speak Punjabi, Hindi and Englsih.

b. When did you learn English?

I started learning englsih when I was in 1st standard. Probaly I was around 5 years old at that time.

c. Do you think English is difficult to learn?
I do not think any language is difficult to learn, it depends a lot on whether a person is giving enough time for practice or not.

d. Would you like to learn other languages?
Yes I would like to learn French because the country where I am planning to do my higher studies, has French as the second language.

## 101. Happy things

1. Is there anything that has made you feel happy lately?
Yes,my father gifted me a new phone last month. It was my dream phone and I feel really happy when I use this phone.

2. What made you happy when you were little?
When my parents bought me gifts on my birthday I used to feel very happy.

3. What do you think will make you feel happy in the future?
I'll be happy in future when I'll fullfil my dreams and achieve success in life.

4. When do you feel happy at work? Why?
Whenver I finish my pending tasks it gives me a sense of accomplishment and happiness.

5. Do you feel happy when buying new things?
Yes I have always been happy whenever I have bought something new. There is a different kind of charm to buying new things.

6. Do you think people are happy when buying new?
Of course yes people always feel happy when they buy something new. For example, almost everyone loves the smell of new car and it makes them smile.

## 102. Pen or Pencil

1. Do you prefer to use pen or pencil?

I prefer to use pencil because it can be erased, and mistakes can be removed. Also, I love to draw, and pencils are much better for that. They are also cheaper than pens.

2. When was the last time you bought pen or pencil?

I bought a pencil set for myself at the beginning of my college year along with other stationery items like notebooks, pens, erasers, sharpeners etc. I usually buy pencils when I run out or if I see a new kind that I don't already have.

3. How would you react if someone sent you a pen as a gift?

I would be very happy if someone sends me a pen as a gift because I love to write and for me pens are a sign of creativity. My mom gifted me a set of pens last year that I still use a lot and remember her whenever I write with them.

## 103. Stages of life

**1. Do you enjoy your current stage of life?**
Yes, I am currently a student and thoroughly enjoying this stage of life. Right now, I just have to think about getting into a good college. I have some personal responsibilities but don't have to worry about finances, getting a job, buying a house. I think life becomes busy and responsibilities become bigger when you start working.

**2. In what stage of your life were you the happiest?**
I think early childhood was the happiest stage of my life. I was carefree, had zero responsibilities, didn't have to worry about studying
and my parents were always there to take care of me. I had a lot of neighborhood friends and I have happy memories of playing all day with them.

**3. Which stage of your life do you think is the most important?**
I think all stages of life are important but childhood is the most important stage. It is crucial for our physical, emotional, and mental development. A child's brain can be molded and whatever one learns during their childhood will determine what kind of a person they will become as adults.

**4. What's your plan for your next stage of life?**
I want to graduate from a good college and find a well-paying satisfactory job. I would like to help my parents financially and also pay off my student loans. I also want to achieve a work-life balance and find time for my hobbies.

## 104. Library

1. Do you often go to library?
No I don't often visit the library. I prefer to study at home.

2. What do you usually do in the library?
Normally I like to read the newspaper or some interesting novels while I am in the library.

3. Did you go to library when you were a kid?
I only went to the school library during my childhood.

4. Do Indian kids often go to library?
No I don't think so because there are not enough libraries in our cities/ towns

## 105. T-shirts

1. Do you like wearing T-shirts?
Yes I like T-shirts because they are very comfortable and also they are available in many colours, whereas the formal shirts are generally white or blue.
2. How often do you wear T-shirts?
I don't wear T-shirts much during winters but during summers I wear them almost every other day.

3. Do you like t-shirts with pictures or prints?
I have never really given much thought to it but I think most of my t-shirts are printed one's.

4. Do you think older people who wear T-shirts are fashionable?
Yes, in my country they are definitely considered fashionbale because usually older people prefer to wear formal clothing.
5. Would you buy t-shirts as souvenirs on vacation?

No I won't because I like to buy souvenirs which can be used for home décor and last for many years whereas t-shirts can be worn only for few years.

## 106. Weekends

1. Do you like weekends?
   Yes, I absolutely love weekends because I get to spend more time with my family members and also get a break from my weekday routine.

2. How do you usually spend your weekends? Do you study or work?

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.

3. 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.

4. Do you plan for your weekends?
   Not always but sometimes when I want to go out with friends I like to have things planned.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

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## 107. Breakfast

1. What do you usually eat for breakfast?
I like to eat cereal and eggs for breakfast.

2. Do you think breakfast is important?
I think it is the most important meal of the day. A good breakfast helps us to stay active throughout the day.

3. Are there any differences between the mornings of your childhood and now?
Well, as a kid the mornings were very fast because I used to get up really early for my school bus but now I have relaxed mornings.

4. Would you like to change your morning routine?
No I am happy with my current morning routine and I don't want to make any changes.

## 108. Video games

**Do you play video games?**
I don't play video games. I think they are a waste of time and can get very addictive. I am an outdoor person and prefer spending my free time pursuing other hobbies like gardening, tennis, hiking, etc.

**What kinds of video games do you play?**
I don't play video games. I like watching sports, so if I play video games in the future, I think I would like video games that have a sports theme.

**Is it good for young people to play video games?**
It's good if done in moderation. It helps them bond with their friends and improves their hand-eye coordination and problem-solving skills. Too much time playing video games can affect their sleep, relationships, social behavior, and focus.

## 109. Sunglasses

**Do you often wear sunglasses?**
Yes, I wear sunglasses whenever I am outside in the sun. I always wear them when I am driving.

**Do you spend a lot of money on sunglasses?**
No, I don't like to spend a lot of money on sunglasses. I don't buy very cheap sunglasses because they can scratch easily and may not offer full protection. I like to buy good quality sunglasses that fit well.

**Do you give sunglasses as a gift?**
No, I don't give sunglasses as a gift. I think they need to fit right, and people should buy the style and frame they prefer.

**Why do you wear sunglasses?**
I wear sunglasses to reduce the glare from the sun especially while driving. I also wear them to protect my eyes from harmful UV rays.

## 110. Social media

**When did you start using social media?**
I started using social media in high school. I got my first phone around that time and that's when I downloaded and created accounts on a couple of social media apps.

**Do you think you spend too much time on social media?**
I don't spend too much time on social media. I don't post about my personal life on social media. I just follow a few accounts of people I admire and can learn a lot from. I have a small circle of friends and I prefer calling my friends or meeting them in person.

**Do your friends use social media?**
I have a small circle of friends and most of them are not very active on social media. We are all busy with our careers and family life. Two of my friends have a small business and they mainly use social media to promote it.

**What do people often do on social media?**
People like to stay connected with their family and friends on social media. They share pictures of their travels, celebrations, and other important events on social media. Some use it to advertise and promote their business. Some use it to find ideas and inspiration for a new hobby.

## 111. Cake

**Do you like eating cakes?**
I don't like traditional cakes because I hate frosting. I like eating coffee cakes, pound cakes, and cakes with fruits and nuts with no icing.
I also try to make substitutions like replacing white flour with whole wheat, sugar with dates, etc. to make the cake more healthy

**Do you know how to bake a cake?**
Yes, I know how to bake a cake. My mom used to bake cakes for all our birthdays and other special occasions. I learned the basics from her. I like to try new cake recipes that I find online.

**When do usually eat cakes?**
I usually eat cakes when we are celebrating something like birthdays or anniversaries. Sometimes I make coffee cakes and enjoy them with my morning or evening tea.

**What is your favorite kind of cake?**
My favorite cake is Upside-Down Cake with a layer of fruit like peaches or pineapple. Not only do they taste so good, but they also look very fancy.

**1. Do you prefer to save money or spend money?**

Well, I like doing both. I love to buy new things for which I have to obviously spend but at the same time I do realise the importance of saving money for difficult situations in life.

**2. How do you save money?**
I like to create fixed deposit in my bank account so that I am able to earn some interest as well.

**3. What do you think about payment apps or mobile payments?**
I believe that they are a very convenient for doing shopping these days but at the same time one should be careful about the frauds happening on such apps.

**4. Do you use a credit card to buy things?**
No I don't have a credit card, however I would like to have one in the future.

**5. Do you think cash will still be popular in the future?**
I think the popularity of cash will decline in future. Because I have online payment apps on my phone, I hardly carry any cash these days. Also, most of the businesses accept online payments.

## 112. Losing things

**Do you often lose things?**
Yes, I am very absent-minded and often lose things. I think two things that I lost a lot are my car keys and eyeglasses. I mostly lose them at home and find them after looking for them everywhere.

**What can we do to avoid losing things?**
We can avoid losing things at home by being more organized and having a designated spot for all our personal belongings. For example, a tray or hooks for keys. When we are outside, we should carry a bag or backpack and keep all our personal belongings in there to avoid losing them.

**Why do some people tend to lose things more often than others?**
I think one reason can be that some people are more forgetful and get easily distracted. People who are not organized also tend to lose things more often.

**What will you do if you find something lost by others?**
It depends on the situation and where I found the item.
First, I will look around and see if I can find the owner. If that's not possible I will hand it to someone who can help like the police. If I find something in my neighborhood, I will post about it on my neighborhood social media page.

## 113. Colors

**What is your favorite color?**
My favorite color is green, especially sage green because I find it very calming and relaxing. It reminds me of nature and greenery.

**Do you usually wear clothes in your favorite color?**
No, I like to wear black clothes. They look very elegant, and sophisticated and go with everything.

**Are there any colors that have a special meaning in your country?**

Saffron is considered sacred in India and is a symbol of purity. Priests wear saffron-colored clothes, and it is a big part of all religious ceremonies. It is also on the Indian flag.

**Do you think different types of people like different colors?**
Yes, I think people have different color preferences. I think color preferences vary by gender, culture, and age. Some people prefer bright and warm colors and others prefer cooler colors.

## 114. Memory

**Why do some people have a better memory while others just don't**
One reason can be genetics and some people are just born with better memory. But at the same, I think memory is like a muscle and can be trained. People can use many techniques to train their memories to be better.

**Why do more people rely on cell phones to remember things?**
People are multitasking and life has become busy. Smartphones provide an easy way to save to-do lists, important dates, meetings, events, etc. so people don't bother to remember things on their own. Even simple directions don't have to be memorized because all phones have a map app.

**Are you good at memorizing things?**
I am not good at memorizing things. I save everything on my cellphone. I even save my grocery list on the phone so I don't forget what to buy when I am at the store.

**Have you ever forgotten something important?**
Yes, I missed my doctor's appointment last month. I forgot to set a reminder on my phone and now have to wait another month before I can see my doctor.

## 115. Feeling bored

**Do you often feel bored?**
Yes, I get bored sometimes, especially when I am at work doing the same thing every day.

**When would you feel bored?**
I feel bored in long work meetings which are most of the time unnecessary. Sometimes, I spend more time in meetings than doing the actual job.

**What do you do when you feel bored?**
When I feel bored I like to read books, watch a movie or TV series on the TV, and talk to my friends and family.

**Do you think childhood is boring or adulthood is boring?**
I think adulthood is boring because as adults we have so many responsibilities. We get busy with our work lives and life becomes boring and monotonous. Childhood is the time we can play with friends and enjoy life without any worries.

## 116. Music

**Do a lot of people like music?**
Yes, people like music as it relaxes them and lifts their mood. Music brings out so many different emotions, motivates people, and keeps them going.

**What kind of music do you listen to?**
I mainly listen to Punjabi songs. They have good lyrics and beats. Diljit Dosanjh, Riaar Sahib and Sidhu Mosseswala are some of my favorite Punjabi singers

**Is it easy to learn music?**
I think it's easy to learn if you are consistent and committed. It requires a lot of practice.

**Did you have music lessons at school?**
I did not have music lessons at school. I wish there was an option, but my school curriculum did not include music.

## 117. Crowded place

**Is the city where you live crowded?**
No, I live in a small town and it's not very crowded. I like that I can reach any part of my town in 10-15 minutes by car.

**Is there a crowded place near where you live?**
Yes, my hometown "Phagwara" is about 40km from Ludhiana which is the biggest and most populous city in Punjab. I remember going there with my parents when I was growing up. We would always get stuck in traffic.

**Do you like crowded places?**
I don't like crowded places and avoid them if I can. I like going to my grandparents' village. It is far from the big cities and is very peaceful.

**Do most people like crowded places?**
I don't think anyone likes crowded places. There is so much traffic and pollution. I think people don't have a choice because these big, crowded cities have better jobs, schools, restaurants, hospitals, etc.

**When was the last time you were in a crowded place?**
I visited Darjeeling last summer and was surprised to see so many tourists there. It was so crowded and did not feel like a serene hill station.

## 118. Celeberity

**1. Who is your favourite celebrity in your country?**
The celebrity I like the most is Virat Kohli. He is the number one crcicketer in the world.

**2. What kind of famous people do you often see in the news?**
I often see filmstarts, politicians and sportsperson in the news.

**3. Do you pay attention to famous people in the news?**
I do not like to watch news a lot so I do not pay attention to what is happening in the life of celebrities.

**4. Do you believe that the news about famous people in the media is true?**
Since there is lot of fake news these days, I think it it is difficult to trust if the news about celebrities is authentic or not.

**5. Would you like to be a famous person in the news?**
No, I would not like to be a famous person because I do not like public attention. Morever I feel that famous people are judged for every single thing they do, so I don't want that happening to me.

## 119. Advertisement

**Is there an advertisement that made an impression on you when you were a child**
Yes, I remember a hair shampoo ad and the straight black knee-length hair of the model. I always wanted hair like hers and would tell my parents to get Sunsilk pink color shampoo for me.

**Do you see a lot of advertising on trains or other transport**
Yes, I see a lot of advertising on trains, buses, and autos. I think it is an effective way to reach a big and wide audience. I see ads for household products, cosmetics, restaurants, coaching centers, cell phones, etc.

**Do you like advertisements?**
I don't like watching too many advertisements while I am watching TV. The ads are too long and get very repetitive.

**What kind of advertising do you like?**
I like meaningful ads that go beyond just promoting the brand and address important social issues. For example, the soap brand Dove's ad shows how women are judged for their weight, complexion, height, hair, etc.

## 120. Running

**Do you go running a lot?**
Yes, I like to go running. It is my preferred form of exercise. At the end of the day, if I go running, it relieves me of all the stress, and I can forget all my troubles for some time. Running keeps me mentally and physically fit.

**Where do you usually go running?**
I prefer to run outside than running on a treadmill in a gym as I like to enjoy the scenery and fresh air. I usually go to the park near my house and do 10-15 laps around the park. Many people are walking and running there, and seeing them keeps me motivated.

**When was the last time you went running?**
I go running 4-5 days a week. The last I went running was the day before yesterday.

**What do you think of running as a sport?**
Running is an excellent sport. It is not a traditional team sport like soccer, cricket, hockey, etc. People compete in many running events like track and field, long-distance running, marathons, sprints, and relay runs. It requires a lot of hard work, discipline, and endurance and is very competitive.

## 121. Chatting

**Do you like chatting with friends?**
Yes, I like chatting with friends. I'm a very social person and have a lot of friends. I want to stay in touch with them, and if I can't meet them in person, I call them regularly.

**What do you usually chat about with friends?**
If I haven't met a friend in a while, we usually chat about what's new in our lives, what's going on with my work, family, etc. If I meet them regularly, we usually talk about sports, movies/TV series we are watching or books we are reading, etc. We also chat about politics, our families, any new hobbies we picked up and any new restaurants we tried.

**Do you prefer to chat with a group of people or with only one friend?**
I prefer to chat with a group of friends. It's more fun when there are a bunch of us. I am okay with having a one-to-one conversation, especially if discussing a serious issue or something that can't be shared with everyone.

**Do you prefer to communicate face-to-face or via social media?**
I prefer to communicate face-to-face than social media. We can show our feelings and emotions better in person. Often, on social media people can interpret your words wrong.
Also, there is no privacy, and everyone can see your conversation. You can't form deep, meaningful bonds on social media.

**Do you argue with friends?**
Yes, I often argue with my friends and think such conflicts are normal. Every person is entitled to their own opinion and should put forward their thoughts on what they believe is right or wrong. This may lead to arguments but ultimately makes friendships stronger and healthier.

## 122. Helping others

**Do you usually help people around you?**
Yes, I usually help people around me. I was fortunate to grow up in a very caring and helpful family. I have seen my parents help their relatives, friends, neighbors, and even strangers they met. I have learned the same values from them and like to help others.

**How you should how do you help people around you, such as neighbors' family, and friends?**

I help my parents at home. I am not good at cooking, but I help my mother with the prep work, like cutting vegetables. My father is an avid gardener, and I help him with gardening. I am good at mathematics and help my cousins with their math homework. Somedays, I give my neighbor's son a ride to school on my way to work.

**Do your parents teach you how to help others?**
Yes, my parents have always taught me to be compassionate and help others in times of need. They also taught me to help others without expecting anything in return.

**Did your parents help you a lot when you were young?**
Yes, my parents helped and guided me when I was young. I deeply respect them and am grateful to them for being there for me whenever I needed them.

**What have you done to help the elderly?**
I like to help the elderly by talking to them and listening to their life stories. It's common for them to feel lonely once they are retired and are at home. Talking to them and giving them your time is one way to help them. I also bring over any groceries or medicines they might need.

## 123. Maps

**Do you often use maps?**
Yes, I use maps often. I use them when I am outside my hometown, in cities I am not very familiar with. I use Google Maps and Waze. I am not very good with directions, and I get lost if I don't use a map.

**Do you use paper maps?**
I prefer to use GPS apps and don't use paper maps. I only remember using a paper map recently at Jim Corbett National Park, where we went for vacation.
The phone signal was not good, and we were given a paper map at the entrance to the park.

**How often do you use maps on your phone?**
I use it whenever I have to go to a new place or places I have visited before but don't remember all the routes. In my hometown, I hardly use it as it's a very small town, and I am familiar with most streets and roads.

**Do you have maps at home?**
No, I don't have maps at home. I do have an old Atlas in our bookshelf, but I don't use it.

## 124. Clothing

**What kind of clothes do you like to wear?**
I like to wear jeans and a T-shirt. They are both comfortable and stylish. Sometimes, I have to wear formal suits for special occasions, and although they look nice, they are never comfortable.

**Do you prefer to wear comfortable and casual clothes or smart clothes?**
I prefer to wear comfortable and casual clothes. It doesn't mean I like to wear pajamas all day. Comfortable clothes like T-shirts and jeans can be smart and can look put-together.

**Do you like wearing T-shirts?**
Yes, I love wearing T-shirts, and graphic T-shirts are my favorite. I like the ones with witty quotes on them.

**Do you spend a lot of time choosing clothes?**
No, I'm not too fond of shopping and don't spend too much time choosing clothes. I have also started to shop online. It is so much more convenient and time-saving. These days, most stores have websites, and online retailers like Amazon/Flipkart also have good clothing brands.

## 125. Musical Instruments

**Have you ever learned to play a musical instrument?**
Yes, I have always wanted to learn Piano. There were few options in my hometown when I was growing up. A couple of years ago, I found a teacher online. I take weekly lessons from him, and I am still learning.

**What musical instruments do you enjoy listening to the most?**
I enjoy listening to Piano the most. I find it very soothing, and it relaxes me. I can have it on in the background when working and doing other chores.

**Do you think children should learn to play an instrument at school?**
Yes, children should learn to play an instrument at school. It should be part of their curriculum. If they learn it at school, they are more committed to learning. They have to practice it daily as they are also graded on it. They primarily play in a group and learn to coordinate with others.

**Do you think music education is important for children?**
Yes, music has so many benefits for children. Learning to read music helps children perform better in academics. It improves their focus, gives them confidence, and makes them more disciplined.

## 126. Noise

**Do you like to stay in a place with a lot of noise?**
No, I like to stay away from noise. Noisy places give me stress, and I can't concentrate on my work.

**What kinds of noises are there in the area where you live?**
There are so many kinds of noises in our area. Traffic horns, noises from construction sites, loudspeakers, and dance events at marriages and parties are some that come to mind.

**Do you want to move to a quieter place?**
Yes, sometimes I want to move to a small village away from the big and bustling cities. But it is not practical as I have to work, and my job is in a city.

**Do you think there is too much noise in today's world?**
Yes, there is too much noise in today's world. There are too many cars on the roads, too many planes in the skies, and too many construction sites. Cities are expanding, and newer buildings and apartments are being built to accommodate the growing population.

**Is making noise one of people's rights?**

No, it is not. Excessive noise can disturb other people, and people should be mindful of their neighbors and surroundings. You have every right to complain to the authorities if people are being very noisy, especially at night.

## 127. Tea and Coffee

**Do people like tea and coffee nowadays?**
Yes, tea and coffee are very popular. Most people like to start their day with their morning cup of tea or coffee.
**Do you prefer to use tea or coffee to serve your guests?**
I usually ask the guests what they would like to have. I drink both tea and coffee and serve what my guests prefer.

**When was the last time you had a cup of coffee or tea?**
I had it this morning. I am addicted to my morning cup of tea. I can't function without it, and I am upset all day if I don't have it.

**Do you usually buy your coffee in a coffee shop?**
No, I don't go to any specialty coffee shop. I get it from our local grocery store.

## 128. Robots

Are robots important?
Yes, robots are important for various tasks and industries. They not only make our lives comfortable, but they also help reduce accidents and save human lives.

Do robots affect people's lives?
Yes, robots have the potential to significantly affect people's lives, especially in areas like heavy industries, healthcare, and defence.

Have you ever watched a movie about robots?
Yes, I have watched movies about robots, like "I, Robot" and "Wall-E."

Should we let a robot drive for us for long time?
I don't think the technology is safe and reliable enough at the moment, but in the future, it might be possible to use robots for long journeys.

What can robots do for you at home?
Robots can perform tasks like cleaning, vacuuming, and even assisting with cooking or home security.

## 129. Gifts

Have you ever sent handmade gifts to others?

Yes, I have sent handmade gifts to others on special occasions. For example, I used to make cars for my friends and parents when I was younger on their birthdays. Nowadays, I don't have time to make handmade gifts, and I normally prefer buying something that my friends or parents need.

Have you ever received a great gift?
Yes, I have received some wonderful gifts that meant a lot to me. Recently, my mother gifted me a hand-knit sweater, and it was all the more special because it took her nearly three months to make it.

What do you consider when choosing a gift?
When choosing a gift, I consider the recipient's interests, preferences, and the occasion itself. And, of course, I also consider the budget.

Do you think you are good at choosing gifts?
I believe I'm reasonably good at choosing gifts, as I try to make thoughtful selections based on the person and the event. Many times, my friends also call me and appreciate my gift selection, so I am sure I am pretty good at it.

## 130. Geography

**How do you like geography?**
I find geography quite interesting as it helps us understand the world around us.

**Do you think geography is useful?**
Yes, I believe geography is very useful as it provides knowledge about our planet, its features, and how humans interact with it.

**Have you ever learned geography?**
Yes, I have learned geography as a subject in school, and I continue to explore it out of personal interest.

**Do you want to be a geography teacher?**
While I appreciate geography, I don't have plans to become a geography teacher.

## 131. Films

**What films do you like?**
I enjoy a wide range of films, but my favourites are typically action and adventure movies.

**Did you often watch films when you were a child?**
Yes, I used to watch films quite often when I was a child, especially animated and family-oriented ones.

**Did you ever go to the cinema alone as a child?**
No, I rarely went to the cinema alone as a child; I usually went with family or friends.

**Do you often go to the cinema with your friends?**
Yes, I do go to the cinema with my friends occasionally, especially when there's a new release we're all excited about.

**Do you think going to the cinema is a good way to spend time with friends?**
Yes, I believe going to the cinema is a great way to spend quality time with friends, enjoying a good film together and discussing it afterward.

## 132. Ice Cream

1. Do you love ice cream?
Yes , it is one of my favourite desserts especially in the summers.

2. Did you often eat ice cream when you were younger?
Yes I would often love to eat ice cream as a child.

3. Are there shops selling ice cream near the place where you live?
Yes, there are many ice cream shops near my house. Also most of the grocery stores have refrigerators to store ice creams

4. Can you make ice cream yourself?
No I don't know how to make icecream, but I think it should not be too difficult because ice cream has just two ingredients that is milk and sugar.

## 133. Concentrate

Can you concentrate for a long time?
No I find it difficult to concentrate for an extended period.

Could you concentrate for a long time when you were younger?
No, my concentration was equally bad even then. I would get distracted easily.

Is it easy for you to concentrate in a noisy place?
Not at all. Loud cachophonic noise makes me irritable.

How do you stay focused?
I medidate every day in the morning.

## 134. Fixing Things

1. Do you often fix things?
Yes I do try to fix things if I feel I can do so.

2. Did you learn to fix things when you were younger?
Yes my parents would fix things if they stopped working or broke, they would encourage my brother and me to do so too rather than throwing them away.

3. What do you do when one thing is broken and cannot be fixed?
I look for someone who can still find a use for it, if not then I discard it.

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4. Do you think it is necessary for people to learn to fix things?
Yes, knowing how to repair things is a skill that everyone should possess.

## 135. HEALTH

1. How do you keep healthy?
I exercise everyday in the morning. Also, I try to eat healthy meals and avoid junk food.

2. What is your favourite sport?
My favourite sport is cricket. In fact, it is the favorite sport of most of the people in India.

3. Are there health classes in your school?
Unfortunately not. In my school more focus is given to academics.

4. Is it easy for people to exercise in your country?
Yes, the government has installed open gyms in lot of parks, so people can exercise everyday.

## 136. DREAM

1. What was your childhood dream?
My childhood dream was to become a pilot because I liked planes a lot.

2. Are you the kind of person who sticks to dreams?
Well I try to pursue my dreams although I don't think that I am successful everytime

3. What is your dream job?
I would like to become a teacher because I believe it is one of the best jobs in the world.

4. Do you think you are an ambitious person?
Yes, I have many goals in my life which I would hopefully achieve.

## 137. FRIENDS

How important are friends to you?
My friends are really important to me. I enjoy spending time with my friends.

Do you often go out with your friends?
Yes, I often go out with my friends. Mostly to the movies or shopping malls.

Where do you often meet each other?
We often meet at the playground, shopping centres or at eating joints.

What do you usually do with your friends?
Usually we spend time chit chatting or doing some activity together like watching movies

## 138. FAVOURITE DAY

Which day is your favourite day?
Sunday is my favourite day as I can relax and spend some time on entertaining myself, either by reading a book or watching a movie.

Which day is your least favourite day?
I absolutely hate Mondays. I always have Monday blues.

How do you usually spend your time?
I normally spend 6-7 hours on studying. Rest of the time I try to exercise or run some errands for my parents.

## 139. RAIN

Do you like rainy days?
Yes I do love rainy days during summers as they bring relief from scorching heat.

Does it rain much in your city?
It normally rains a lot from July to Septmember. It is also called as monsoon season in India

Would you like to live in a place that is dry or wet?
I'd prefer to live in a dry place. Although I like rains but if it rains a lot, like, for more than a week then it becomes depressing for me.

Would you change your plan if it rained?
May be, actually, it would depend on whether the plan involves indoor or outdoor activity. If it is outdoor activity like playing any sport, then I would definitely change it.

## 140. DAY OFF

1. When was the last time you had a few days off?
It was during the Diwali festival.

2. What do you usually do when you have your days off?
Usually I like to sit and relax during my days off but if it is a long holiday I like to travel.

3. Do you usually spend your days off with your parents or with your friends?
I would say it depends on my plans. Sometimes I plan outing with friends and sometimes I stay at home with parents

4. What would you like to do if you had a day off tomorrow?
I would like to go and watch a movie because I feel I deserve a break after my exam.

## 141. 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)?
5. (Similar to above) Do you have different bags for different occasions (or, different purposes)?

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

6. What do you put in these bags?

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

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

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

8. Is a bag an ideal gift?
I don't think it is a perfect gift because it's more of a personal choice, so if I decide to buy a bag for someone, I am not sure if they would have the same design preference as me.

9. Did you use a backpack when you were a child?
Yes I did have a backpack during my childhood. I used it to carry my school books.

10. What kind of bags would you use when travelling?
I prefer to use backpacks because I can put more things in them and they are more comfortable to carry as compared to sling bags,

11. Do you change your bags often?
No, my bags generally last longer as I take good care of them. So, I change my bag after 3-4 years.

## 142. WILD ANIMALS

Are there wild animals in your country?
Yes, there are many wild animals in India like lions, tigers and elephants.

Have you ever been to a zoo or a safari park?
Yes, I have been to Chatbir zoo, which is located on the outskirts of Chandigarh.

What is the animal you would like to see in the wild?
I would love to see a lion in the jungle.

Are there TV programs about wild animals in your country?
I don't watch TV programs a lot, so I cant say for sure.

1. 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.

2. What's your favourite wild animal (from your country)?
The Bengal Tiger is my favourite wild animal.

3. Do you like to watch TV programs about wild animals?
Yes, I like watching TV programs about wild animals. It is very interesting to see wild animals in their natural habitat and all that they must do to survive. One program that I saw recently is a documentary on Netflix called Our Planet.

4. Did you learn something about wild animals at school?
Yes, we were taught about wildlife in schools especially about wildlife conservation. The dangers wildlife is facing and how human actions like poaching, deforestation, etc. are leading to their extinction.

5. Where can you see wild animals?
National parks, wildlife reserves are good places to see wild animals. Jim Corbett National park in Uttarakhand has a lot of elephants, leopards, and tigers

6. In which country do you think you can see many wild animals?
Countries in Africa like Namibia, Zimbabwe have a lot of wild animals.

## 143. School

1. Where do you go to school?
I recently completed my senior secondary education, so I don't go to school anymore.

2. Do you go to a good school?
Like I mentioned before I don't go to a school now but the school I went to was the best school in my town.

3. Do you like your teachers?
Yes I loved my teachers at my previous school.

4. Do you like your current learning atmosphere?
At present I am preparing for my higher education so there is not much pressure of studies and exams.

5. What are the differences between your school and other schools?
I have hardly met students from other schools so I cant say much on how the other schools are different

6. Is there anything you want to change about your school?
Yes, I would like to add more sports facilites for students, especially for indoor sports.

Outer Space and Stars
1. Have you ever learnt about outer space and stars?
Yes, there was a chapter on the solar system in my science book. So, I read about the different planets in our solar system

2. Do you like science fiction movies? Why?
Yes, I love science fiction movies because they are a great source of entertainment. My favourite science fiction movie is Avatar.

3. Do you want to know more about outer space?
Yes, I want to know about black holes and how the universe was formed.

4. Do you want to go into outer space in the future?
Yes, I want to see how our planet looks from the space and also to experience zero gravity.

## 144. 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-airs", 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.

15. Which singer musician you would like to see in person?
I'd like to meet AR Rehman. I think he is one of the best musicians of our time.

## 145. Technology

1 What technology do you often use, computers or cellphones?
I use a computer rather than a cellphone for most purposes. I think the small screen of the cellphones stresses my eyes.

2 What electronic devices have you bought lately?
Recently, my parents bought a smart TV for me. I got really good grades in 12th standard and therefore my parents got me the TV. I use it to stream TV series and movies.

3 Is there any technology you want to buy?
Yes, I want to buy an iPhone. A lot of friends tell me that once I use it, I will never be able to use the other phones. I really want to prove them wrong.

4 Is technology important in your life?
Yes, technology is a big part of my life. I don't think I can survive without technology. Every part of life from waking up to sleeping is connected to technology. For example, I use technology for waking up, heating water, cooking, etc.

5 Is there any technology you don't like?
I don't know. There are times when I hate technology for example when my friends become glued to their mobile screens instead of spending time with us. However, there is no technology I hate as such. There are technologies I find less useful than others and there are others I find more useful.

6 What do you think are the trends in technology today compared to when you were young?
I think the main trend is that technology is changing at a very rapid pace. Earlier, it used to take time for new technologies but nowadays, every year there is a new update.

## 146. Social Media

1 Do you or your friends like using social media?
Personally, I don't use social media a lot, but my friends use it a lot. My friends are particularly crazy about Instagram and Facebook.

2 Do you think you or your friends use too much social media?
Again, I don't but my friends do spend a lot of time on social media. I have heard of my friends spending more than 2-3 hours on these websites every day and I find it absurd.

3 Do you want to work in social media? Why?

Personally, I wouldn't. I am still old-fashioned in this regard. I prefer spending time with my friends face to face rather than online.

4 What's the most popular social media in India? Why?
I think it keeps on changing with time. When I was young, there were websites like Orkut which were really popular, then it was taken over by Facebook and today is the era of Instagram and Snapchat. I am not sure why, but it is about the ease of access to these latest apps that make them popular.

## 147. Snacks

1 What snacks do you like to eat?
I love to eat both savoury and sweet snacks. My favourite is Lays Masala Magic chips. I think probably eat too much of them to be honest.

2 Did you often eat snacks when you were young?
No, my parents were really strict with me eating snacks when I was young. They made sure I only ate healthy home-cooked meals.

3 When do you usually eat snacks now?
I normally eat snacks in the evening along with tea. It is the time, we all family members sit together and enjoy tea and snacks. I also eat snacks at night after dinner when I am watching movies.

4 Do you think it is healthy for you to eat snacks?
No, it is not very healthy to eat too much of snacks. And that is the problem with snacks, they are so delicious that we tend to overeat. Nowadays, I have started eating baked chips to avoid this.

## 148. Puzzles

1 Did you do puzzles in your childhood?
Yes, I loved doing puzzles in my childhood. I used to solve a lot of jigsaw puzzles when I was young.

2 When do you do puzzles, during your trip or when you feel bored?
I think nowadays I do puzzles when I am travelling or when my younger cousins are visiting me. It is really fun to do puzzles with them.

3 Do you like doing word puzzles or number puzzles? Which is more difficult for you?
I like doing both word puzzles like Crossword puzzles and games like worldle and number puzzles like Sudoku. However, my English is weaker than my Math and so the word puzzles are much more difficult for me. Also, there is a cultural element to word puzzles sometimes and that makes it difficult for me to solve them.

4 Do you think it is good for old people to do puzzles?
I think puzzles are one of the best ways to keep the mind sharp and active. So, I think it is a great idea for old people to solve puzzles.

## 149. Public transportation

1. What kind of public transportation do you usually take?
If I am travelling locally, I normally travel by bus, but if I am travelling farther away, I travel by railways or air.

2 When do you usually take public transportation, in your everyday life, or when you are travelling?
When I was young, I used to travel by bus every day because of my studies. However, nowadays, I only use public transportation when I am especially visiting someplace. For example, after every one or two months, I visit Golden Temple in Amritsar and for that I travel by bus.

3 Do most people prefer public transportation in your country?
I think public transportation is the main mode of travel for most people in India. However, as people are becoming richer, many people have started travelling by car.

4 Did you take public transportation when you were a kid?
Yes, as I said before, in my childhood, I used to travel by bus daily because of my studies.

5 Will there be more people taking public transportation in the future?
On the contrary, I think the use of public transportation will decrease further as people are becoming richer and they care more about comfort than cost. However, if the government takes some steps in this regard, there can be a change.

## 150. 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

## 151. 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. 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. 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.

## 152. 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? ORDo 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.

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| Bangladesh (Dhaka) | Karim International – 02-9130457 |
| KERALA | • Bhadra Centre, Kunnurnpuram Junction, TVM, Ph 0471 2572010<br>• S.S. Kovil Road, Thiruvananthapuram, PH 0471 2329436<br>• Holy Angels Convent Road, Vanchiyoor, TVM, Ph : 04714579333<br>• Bishop Jerome Nagar, Kollam, Ph 0474 2765421<br>• Mill Road, Vadayattukotta, Kollam, Phone: 0474 . 27446/7, 2744678<br>• Central Junction, Pathanamthitta, Ph : 0468 2223081<br>• Mundappallil Alpha Arcade, Thiruvalla, Ph 0469 2979800<br>• C.M.S. College Road, Kottayam, Ph 0481 2304351 |

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| | • Govt. Hospital Junction, Pala, Ph: 0482 2210830<br>• Kanjiramattam By Pass Road, Thodupuzha, Ph 0486 . 2220801<br>• Palarivattom, Ernakulam, Ph : 0484 • 2344337<br>• Anand Bazar, Ernakulam, Ph : 0484 2375649<br>• S.C. Road, Ernakulam, Ph : 0484 2375563<br>• Near TDM Hall, D.H. Road, Ernakulam, Ph : 0484 2351233<br>• Valluvassery Mega Square, Kadavanthra, Ph : 0484 2203683<br>• Hill Palace Road, Thripunithura, Ph : 0484 2777137<br>• Opp. KSFE Bhavan, Mavelipuram, Kakkanad. Ph : 0484 2428664<br>• High Road, Thrissur, PH : 0487 2421462<br>• South Bazar, Thrissur. Ph 0487 2442881<br>• Round North. Kailasam Building, Thrissur. Ph : 9387073335<br>• Guruvayur Road, Kunnamkulam, Ph : 04885 222243<br>• VVadakkanchery Road, Kunnamkulam, Ph : 04885 224196<br>• Manjakkulam Road, Palakkad, Ph 0491 2526317<br>• OPP. New Bus Stand. Kozhikode, Ph : 0495 2720620<br>• Fort Road, Kannur, Ph : 0497 2706467<br>• City Centre, Near Bus Stand, Main Road, Kanhangad, Ph : 0467 . 2205285 |

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