



PRACTICE MATERIALS
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
CERTIFICATION

IELTS

SPEAKING SUCCESS

SAMPLE CUE CARDS & ANSWERS

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Audio Included

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Introduction

Welcome to this guide, designed specifically to help you succeed in the Speaking section of your IELTS test by providing you with samples of actual questions from the test and examples of answers with a perfect score.

The IELTS Speaking test is designed to assess your ability to communicate effectively in English. Over approximately 11-14 minutes, you'll engage in a one-on-one conversation with an examiner, navigating through three parts which progressively require you to talk about yourself, discuss a given topic, and engage in a more abstract discussion.

- **Part 1 - Introduction and Interview (4-5 minutes):** In this part, the examiner will ask you general questions about yourself, such as your home, family, work, studies, or interests. This is a warm-up phase to make you comfortable.
- **Part 2 - Long Turn (3-4 minutes):** The examiner will give you a cue card with a particular topic on it. You will have one minute to prepare and then you will be asked to talk about that topic for up to two minutes. The examiner may then ask you one or two questions on the same topic.
- **Part 3 - Discussion (4-5 minutes):** This is the focus of our guide. In this part, the examiner will ask further questions related to the topic in Part 2. These questions are more abstract and require you to express and justify opinions, discuss issues, and speculate about societal topics.

The second and third parts of this interview give you the chance to truly showcase your language skills, breadth of vocabulary, and ability to articulate complex ideas.

To assist you in this crucial section, this guide offers a collection of cue cards, each introducing a specific topic. Alongside each topic, we provide a detailed sample answer to give you inspiration for forming your own responses and to offer an insight into how a comprehensive and engaging answer can be structured.

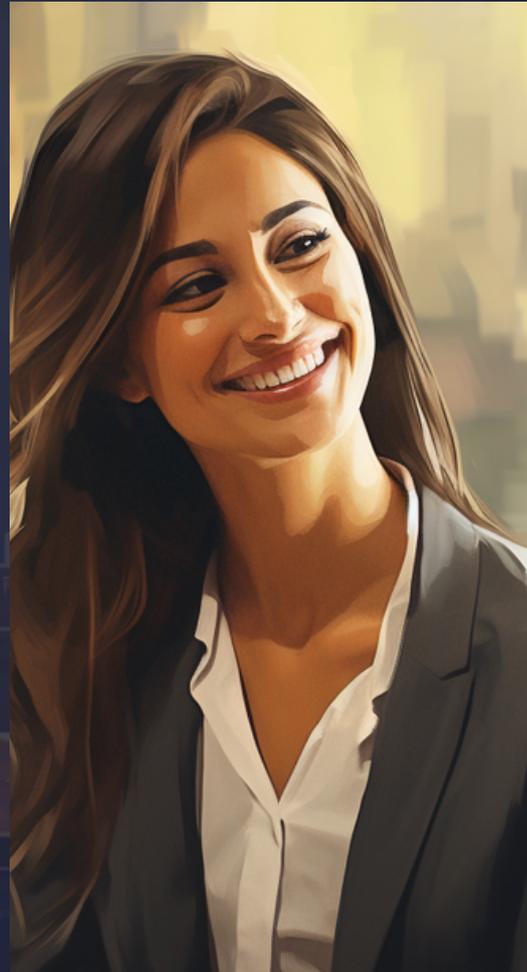
Remember, the IELTS Speaking test isn't simply about correct or incorrect responses—it's about demonstrating your language proficiency, fluency, and ability to express yourself confidently. We encourage you to practice as much as possible, rehearse your responses, and express your personality during the test. After all, this is a conversation, not an interrogation.

Let's embark on this journey to language mastery together, and always keep in mind—practice makes perfect!



Section 1: Your "Favorites"

In this section we'll explore topics that are close to your heart. We'll delve into your favorite book, teacher, movie, holiday destination, sport, hobby, dish, and music genre. Preparing answers for these prompts will not only help you express your interests and tastes in English but also make your Speaking responses more authentic and engaging. Dive in and discover how talking about your favorites can enrich your IELTS Speaking preparation!



YOUR FAVORITE BOOK

Prompt:

Describe a book that you really enjoyed reading.

- What is the name of the book and who is the author?
- What is the book about?
- Why did you choose to read this book?
- Explain why you enjoyed this book and why you would recommend it to others.

Sample Answer:



Play audio

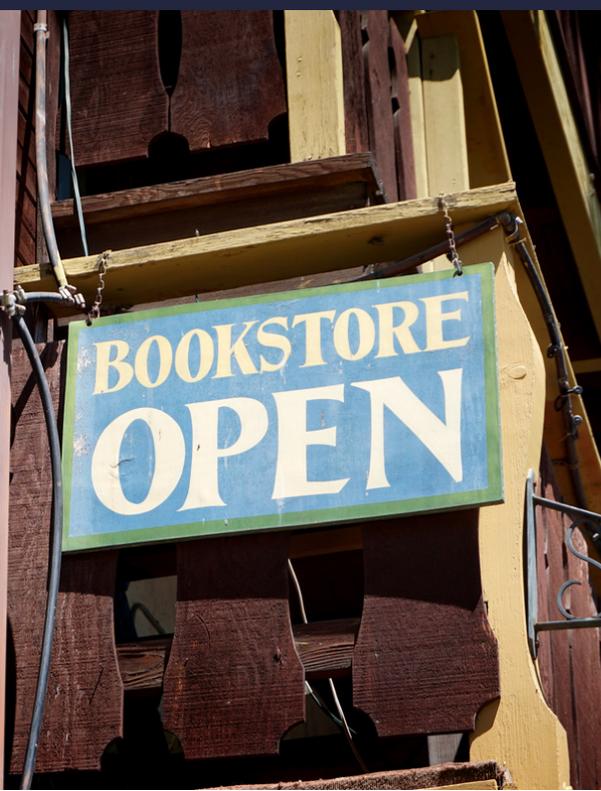
My favorite book is 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee. This novel is a classic of American literature and it's about a young girl named Scout Finch, who lives in a small town in the southern United States. The book is set in the 1930s, a time of great social unrest and racial inequality.

The story is narrated by Scout herself, and it centers around her father, Atticus Finch, who is a lawyer defending a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman. The book brilliantly explores themes of racial injustice, moral growth, and the loss of innocence through Scout's perspective.

I chose to read 'To Kill a Mockingbird' after it was recommended to me by a teacher, who said it was a book that every person should read at least once. I was immediately drawn in by Lee's evocative descriptions of the town and its inhabitants, as well as Scout's insightful and often humorous observations about the world around her.

I particularly enjoyed this book because it made me think about important societal issues and challenged my own preconceptions. It also taught me about empathy, the importance of standing up for what is right, and the fact that we should never judge others without understanding their circumstances first.

I would highly recommend 'To Kill a Mockingbird' to others because it's not just a beautifully written novel; it's also a poignant commentary on the human condition that continues to be relevant today. Reading it was a transformative experience for me, and I believe it has the power to affect others in the same way.



YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE

Prompt:

Discuss your favorite movie.

- What is the title of the movie and who directed it?
- Briefly describe the plot of the movie.
- Who are the main characters?
- What themes does the movie explore?
- Why do you like this movie?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

One of my all-time favorite movies is 'Inception', directed by the remarkable Christopher Nolan. The movie is a fantastic fusion of science fiction and thriller genres, combined with an intricate plot that always keeps me on the edge of my seat.

The film is centered around the concept of 'dream sharing' technology. It follows the story of Dom Cobb, a skilled thief played by Leonardo DiCaprio, who is hired by a Japanese businessman to implant an idea into the mind of a rival business magnate. This process, known as 'inception', involves navigating the intricate and unpredictable landscape of the human subconscious.

One of the main themes that 'Inception' explores is the blurred line between dreams and reality. It forces the audience to question what is real and what is merely a construct of the mind.

I appreciate this film for numerous reasons. Firstly, the storytelling is superb, with a multi-layered narrative that is complex yet cohesive. Additionally, the visual effects are stunning, providing a cinematic experience that is both exhilarating and captivating.

Moreover, I admire the performances of the cast, especially DiCaprio, who manages to portray a range of emotions with such subtlety and depth. The amazing soundtrack also adds to the narrative.

However, the primary reason I love 'Inception' is the way it makes me think. The film's intricate plot and philosophical themes invite viewers to engage deeply with the story, stimulating discussions and debates long after the end credits roll. In my opinion, any film that continues to provoke thought and discussion is a masterpiece, and that's why 'Inception' remains my favorite film.

YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER

Prompt:

Talk about a teacher who has significantly influenced you.

- Who was this teacher and what subject did they teach?
- What was their teaching style?
- How did they influence you?
- Why do you regard them as your favorite teacher?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite teacher is Mr. Williams, my English teacher in high school. He had a unique approach to teaching that was unlike any I had seen before. He managed to blend lessons with enjoyable activities, often incorporating literature, music, and even film into his curriculum, making the learning experience extremely engaging and memorable.

Mr. Williams was the sort of teacher who was deeply interested in ensuring that every student understood the material. He would go to great lengths to explain difficult concepts and would never dismiss any question, no matter how trivial it might seem. This made us feel valued and encouraged us to be more curious and proactive in our learning.

What particularly stood out about Mr. Williams was his passion for the subject matter. This passion was infectious and it sparked a similar love for the English language in me. It was his encouragement that led me to participate in various writing competitions, and these experiences significantly boosted my confidence and honed my writing skills.

Beyond just being an excellent educator, Mr. Williams was also a great mentor. He always had time to chat about our aspirations, and he was a strong guiding presence during my high school years. He often said, 'Education is the key to understanding the world', a statement that continues to resonate with me.

To me, Mr. Williams was more than just a teacher – he was an inspiration. The love for the English language he instilled in me continues to guide my path, as I'm now pursuing a career in English language education. He had a profound impact on my life, and that is why he is my favorite teacher.

YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Prompt:

Discuss your favorite holiday destination.

- Where is this destination located?
- What activities did you participate in during your visit?
- What unique features or attractions does this place offer?
- Why do you love this particular destination?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite holiday destination would have to be the beautiful city of Barcelona, Spain. I visited Barcelona for the first time a couple of years ago and was absolutely captivated by its unique charm.

Barcelona is located on the northeastern coast of Spain and offers a blend of rich history, vibrant culture, and stunning architecture. The city is known for its beautiful beaches, delicious food, and iconic landmarks, including the famous Sagrada Familia and Park Guell, both designed by renowned architect Antoni Gaudi.

During my visit, I took part in various activities. I enjoyed strolling around the Gothic Quarter with its narrow, winding streets full of history and character. I also loved exploring the local markets, especially La Boqueria, where I tasted some amazing local delicacies. I also visited several museums and art galleries, including the Picasso Museum, which hosts an extensive collection of Picasso's works.

What I love most about Barcelona is the city's unique blend of culture and leisure. It offers a delightful mix of historical sites, bustling city life, and tranquil beaches. The friendly locals and the vibrant atmosphere of the city also contribute to making Barcelona a truly enjoyable place to visit.

Moreover, Barcelona's food culture is simply amazing. From traditional tapas to fresh seafood, the culinary experiences I had in Barcelona were some of the best I've ever had.

Overall, Barcelona's rich culture, beautiful architecture, lively atmosphere, and fantastic food make it my favorite holiday destination. I can't wait for my next visit!

YOUR FAVORITE SPORT

Prompt:

Discuss your favorite sport.

- What sport do you enjoy the most?
- Do you prefer playing this sport, watching it, or both?
- What do you like about this sport?
- Can you describe a memorable moment related to this sport?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite sport, without a doubt, is football, known as soccer in some parts of the world. It's a game I absolutely love to both play and watch.

Football is a sport that requires a blend of physical skill, strategy, teamwork, and mental toughness, and I find this combination incredibly appealing. The thrill of scoring a goal, the camaraderie with teammates, and the intense concentration required during a game are aspects that I particularly enjoy about football.

I also love watching professional football matches. The energy, passion, and excitement that permeates a stadium during a match is infectious. I especially follow the English Premier League and my favorite team is Manchester United. Their skill and teamwork on the field are truly inspiring, and I always look forward to their matches.

A particularly memorable moment related to football was when I attended a live World Cup match in Brazil, in 2014. The electrifying atmosphere in the stadium, with fans from all around the world cheering for their teams, was an unforgettable experience. The match itself was incredibly exciting and ended with a last-minute goal that led to a dramatic victory for the team I was supporting: Germany.

In conclusion, football is my favorite sport because it not only provides physical exercise and promotes teamwork, but it also brings people together in a unique and exhilarating way. Whether I'm playing on a local field with friends or watching a professional match, football is a sport that truly brings me joy.

YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY

Prompt:

Discuss your favorite hobby.

- How did you get into this hobby?
- Why do you enjoy about it?
- What have you created?
- How does this hobby benefit you?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite hobby is knitting, a pastime I was introduced to by my grandmother when I was a child. She used to knit beautifully intricate designs and I was always fascinated by the process. One day, she sat me down, handed me a pair of knitting needles, and taught me the basic stitches. From that day on, I was hooked.

The reason I enjoy knitting so much is that it's both creative and therapeutic. Choosing the yarn, deciding on a pattern, and then seeing a piece of clothing or a decorative item come to life is incredibly rewarding. It allows me to express my creativity and bring my ideas to fruition.

Over the years, I've knitted a range of items, from scarves and mittens to blankets and even sweaters. Each creation is a labor of love, often made as a personalized gift for family and friends. It gives me great pleasure to see the joy on their faces when they receive a unique, handcrafted item.

On a personal level, knitting also has numerous benefits. It helps me to relax, and serves as a kind of meditation. The repetitive motion of the needles, the softness of the yarn, and the quiet concentration all help to soothe my mind and reduce stress. Additionally, it enhances my focus and problem-solving skills as I navigate complex patterns.

In conclusion, knitting is my favorite hobby because it brings together creativity, relaxation, and a sense of achievement. It's not just about producing something beautiful and functional; it's also about the journey of creation, which is filled with personal growth and satisfaction.

YOUR FAVORITE DISH

Prompt:

Describe your favorite dish.

- What is your favorite dish?
- How it is prepared?
- Why do you enjoy it so much?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite dish is Paella, a traditional Spanish dish that originates from the Valencia region. Paella is a rice dish that can be prepared with a variety of ingredients, but the original version is usually made with rabbit, chicken, snails, green beans, white beans, and seasonings like saffron and rosemary. Seafood versions are also popular in coastal areas.

The dish is prepared in a special wide and shallow pan, also called a 'paella'. The meats are first browned, and then the vegetables and rice are added, followed by the broth. It's simmered until the rice absorbs all the wonderful flavors.

What I love about Paella is its rich and hearty flavor. Each bite is a unique combination of the ingredients, and you can taste the freshness and richness of each one. It's also a versatile dish, as you can include whatever meats, vegetables, or seafood you like. It reminds me of social gatherings and celebrations, as it's often cooked in large quantities for feasts and parties. This makes Paella not just a dish, but also a symbol of community and festivity.



YOUR FAVORITE MUSIC GENRE

Prompt:

Discuss your favorite music genre.

- What is your favorite genre of music?
- What artist or artists within that genre do you enjoy the most?
- How does this genre of music make you feel or influence your mood?
- Has this genre influenced your lifestyle or thinking in any way?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

My favorite genre of music is jazz. There's something about the combination of complex rhythms, improvisation, and expressive melodies that captivates me.

There are several jazz artists that I particularly enjoy, but if I had to choose one, it would be Miles Davis. His album 'Kind of Blue' is a masterpiece that I can listen to over and over again. The track 'Blue in Green' is especially mesmerizing. It's a slow and emotional piece that creates a serene and introspective atmosphere. The trumpet, played by Davis, has a soothing yet melancholic tone that conveys deep emotions, making it a very moving experience.

Jazz music has a unique effect on my mood. It can be uplifting and energizing, with its fast tempos and vibrant melodies, but it can also be calming and introspective with slower, more thoughtful compositions. It's a genre that can accompany me in a wide range of emotional states and activities, from joyful moments to times when I need to focus or relax.

Moreover, jazz has influenced my way of thinking and approaching life. Just like jazz musicians improvise and adapt to the moment, I've learned to be more flexible and adaptable in my life, understanding that there's more than one way to approach a situation. And just like jazz harmonizes different instruments and melodies, I strive for balance and harmony in various aspects of my life.

In conclusion, jazz is my favorite music genre not just because of its rich sound and artistic depth, but also because of how it resonates with me on an emotional level and mirrors my approach to life.

Section 2:

Your Interests and Experiences

It's time to journey through your personal interests, experiences, achievements, and changes in life. From historical events that fascinate you to a person you admire, a cultural event you find intriguing, or a positive life change, each topic here invites you to share your unique story. Through exploring these themes, you will develop a broad range of vocabulary and become more comfortable expressing your ideas and opinions in English.



A HISTORICAL EVENT THAT INTERESTS YOU

Prompt:

Talk about a significant historical event that particularly interests you.

- What is this historical event?
- When and where did it take place?
- What happened during this event?
- Why does it interest you?
- How has it influenced the world or your understanding of history?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

The historical event that fascinates me the most is the Apollo 11 Moon landing in 1969. This significant event took place on July 20th, when the United States' NASA Apollo 11 spacecraft landed on the moon.

During this event, astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first person to step onto the lunar surface, followed by Buzz Aldrin, while Michael Collins orbited overhead in the Command Module. The astronauts collected lunar material to bring back to Earth, conducted experiments, and placed a plaque that declared: 'Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon. We came in peace for all mankind.'

The reason why this event interests me greatly is because it was a monumental achievement in human history and space exploration. The feat demonstrated the incredible capability of mankind to overcome technological and scientific barriers, and it symbolized the culmination of a space race that had been waged for over a decade during the Cold War era.

Moreover, it was a testament to human curiosity and the pursuit of knowledge. It opened up a new realm for exploration and scientific discovery, leading to invaluable insights about our moon and the broader universe.

The Apollo 11 Moon landing has greatly influenced the world, sparking a sustained interest in space exploration, leading to further missions to the moon and eventually to plans for manned missions to Mars. It also shaped my understanding of history and human achievement, reinforcing my belief in the importance of curiosity, innovation, and boldness in pushing the boundaries of what is possible.

A FAMOUS PERSON YOU ADMIRE

Prompt:

Talk about a famous person that you admire

- Who is this person?
- What are they known for?
- What are some of their achievements?
- Why do you admire them?
- How have they influenced you or your life?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

A famous person that I greatly admire is Marie Curie. Known for her significant contributions to science, she was a physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity.

Marie Curie made numerous groundbreaking discoveries in her field. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, and remarkably, she is still the only person to have won the prestigious award in two different scientific fields - Physics and Chemistry. Additionally, she was instrumental in developing the use of X-rays in surgery, especially during World War I, where she managed mobile radiography units, also known as 'Little Curies,' to help treat wounded soldiers.

I admire Marie Curie not only for her scientific achievements but also for her perseverance and dedication. During a time when women were rarely given the same opportunities as men in science, she remained steadfast in her pursuit of knowledge and discovery. Despite facing numerous hardships, including the premature death of her husband and colleague Pierre Curie, she remained committed to her work and never let adversity stand in her way.

Marie Curie's life and accomplishments have deeply influenced my own approach to challenges and learning. Her determination and passion for science inspire me to stay curious, keep learning, and never give up despite the difficulties that I may encounter.

In conclusion, Marie Curie's brilliant mind, resilient spirit, and significant contributions to society are what make her a truly admirable figure for me.

A CULTURAL FESTIVAL OR EVENT YOU CONSIDER INTERESTING

Prompt:

Talk about a cultural festival or event you find interesting.

- What is the festival or event?
- Where and when does it occur?
- What activities or traditions are involved?
- Why do you enjoy it or find it interesting?
- Have you participated in this event? If not, would you like to?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

The cultural festival that I enjoy and find extremely interesting is 'La Tomatina,' which is essentially a tomato fight festival held in Buñol, a small town in Spain. It takes place annually on the last Wednesday of August.

The main event of this festival is a massive tomato fight, where thousands of people gather in the town square and throw ripe tomatoes at each other. The tomatoes are brought in on trucks, and once a shot is fired, the tomato-throwing begins and continues for about an hour. It's an incredibly fun and messy affair!

What makes this festival so interesting to me is its sheer uniqueness and the unifying effect it has. Although it began as a spontaneous food fight among locals in 1945, it has grown into an event that draws people from all over the world, all coming together to participate in this unusual and light-hearted tradition.

I enjoy it because it's a departure from the more serious and formal cultural festivals. It's about letting loose, having fun, and embracing the joy of being human - even if that means getting a little messy!

While I haven't had the chance to participate in La Tomatina in person, I've watched it numerous times on TV and online. I would absolutely love to go to Buñol and experience the event firsthand in the future. It seems like an unforgettable experience that would make for great memories and stories to share. I hope to have the chance of attending this festival soon!

A PIECE OF TECHNOLOGY YOU USE FREQUENTLY

Prompt:

Talk about a piece of technology that you frequently use and enjoy.

- What is the piece of technology?
- How often do you use it?
- What tasks or activities does it help you with?
- Why do you enjoy using it?
- How has this technology affected your life?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

One piece of technology that I frequently use and enjoy is my smartphone. It's a device that I interact with multiple times a day, every day.

The smartphone helps me with a wide array of tasks and activities. For one, it keeps me connected with my family and friends through various social media and messaging apps. It also keeps me informed with the latest news and updates via different online platforms. Additionally, I use it for entertainment – I listen to music, watch videos, play games, and even read books on it. Moreover, it has become an invaluable tool for work, allowing me to send and receive emails, participate in video meetings, and manage my tasks and schedule.

I enjoy using my smartphone mainly because of the convenience it provides. It's like having a mini-computer that fits in my pocket. I appreciate how it allows me to perform a variety of tasks on the go, making my life more efficient and flexible.

The smartphone has undoubtedly had a significant impact on my life. It has changed the way I communicate, access information, work, and entertain myself. Despite its few drawbacks like being a distraction at times, its benefits and the enjoyment I get from using it far outweigh the negatives.

A PUBLIC PLACE IN YOUR CITY YOU OFTEN VISIT

Prompt:

Talk about a public place in your city that you often visit.

- What is this place?
- How often do you visit it?
- What activities do you do there?
- Why do you visit this place frequently?
- How does this place make you feel?



Sample Answer:



Play audio

One public place in my city that I often visit is our Metropolitan Park. It's a beautiful and spacious green area right in the middle of the city.

I usually go there at least once a week, typically on the weekends. It's an ideal spot for a range of outdoor activities. Sometimes I go there for a morning run or an evening walk. On sunny days, I might bring a picnic and relax with a book under a tree. There's also a playground where I sometimes take my nieces and nephews when they visit.

The primary reason I visit the Metropolitan Park frequently is because of its tranquil and refreshing atmosphere. Despite being in the heart of the city, it feels like a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle. I appreciate how it allows me to connect with nature without having to travel far.

The park always makes me feel relaxed and rejuvenated. Whether I'm exercising, reading, or simply sitting and watching the world go by, spending time there always lifts my spirits. It's definitely a gem in our city and I feel fortunate to have it so close by.

AN IMPORTANT PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Prompt:

talk about a personal achievement of special significance for you.

- What is the piece of technology?
- How often do you use it?
- What tasks or activities does it help you with?
- Why do you enjoy using it?
- How has this technology affected your life?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

One important personal achievement of mine is completing a half marathon last year.

I've always enjoyed running, but I'd never tackled a distance that long before. To prepare, I followed a strict training regimen for six months. This involved gradually increasing my mileage each week, eating a healthy diet, and ensuring I got enough sleep.

This achievement was significant to me for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it proved to me that I was capable of setting and achieving ambitious goals. Secondly, it demonstrated the power of perseverance and consistency, as I had to train consistently and resist the temptation to skip workouts or make unhealthy food choices.

Completing the half marathon had a profound impact on me. It increased my self-confidence, not only in my physical abilities but also in my ability to commit to a goal and see it through. It also had a positive effect on my overall wellbeing. I felt healthier, more energetic, and more at peace mentally. This experience has motivated me to set new fitness goals and continue to challenge myself in all aspects of life.



A POSITIVE CHANGE IN YOUR LIFE

Prompt:

talk about a change in your life that consider particularly positive.

- What is this change?
- When did you decide to make this change?
- How did you implement this change?
- What impact has it had on your life?
- What difficulties did you face and how did you overcome them?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

A significant positive change that I've made in my life was the decision to pursue a healthier lifestyle. This happened around two years ago when I realized that my health was deteriorating due to poor eating habits and a sedentary lifestyle.

I decided to implement this change gradually, starting with my diet. I began cooking at home more often, incorporating a lot of fresh fruits, vegetables, and lean proteins into my meals, and reducing the amount of processed food I consumed. Simultaneously, I also started a regular exercise routine. I began with light activities like walking and gradually increased the intensity, incorporating jogging, strength training, and yoga into my routine.

This change has had an immense impact on my life. Not only have I lost weight and become fitter, but I also feel more energetic, focused, and happier. My overall health has improved, and I've noticed a significant boost in my self-esteem.

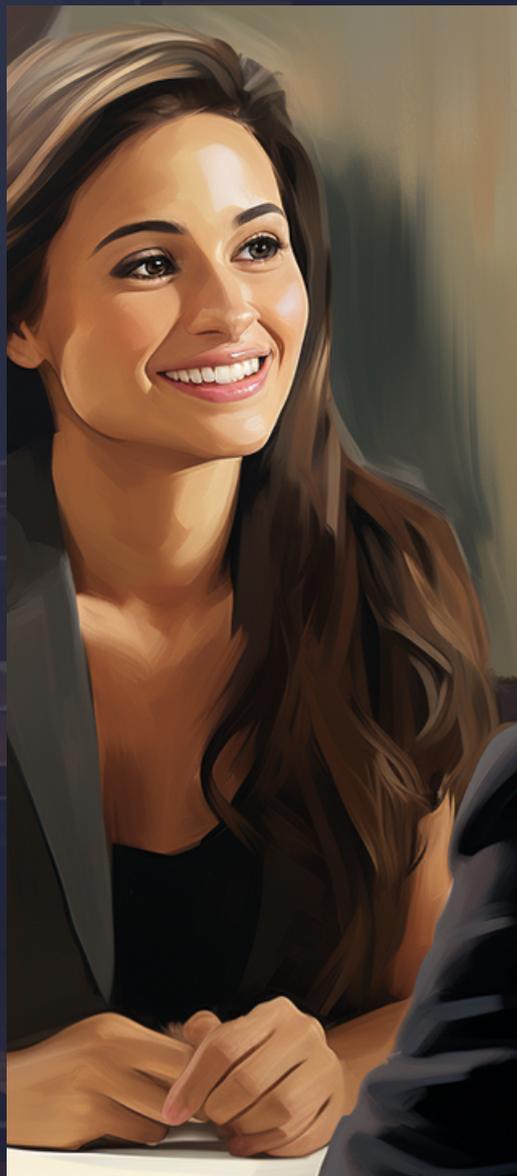
Initially, the change was challenging, especially when it came to changing my eating habits. There was always the temptation to revert to junk food. However, I overcame these difficulties by setting realistic goals, maintaining a positive mindset, and rewarding myself for achieving my targets. This change was a pivotal moment in my life, and I'm proud of the progress I've made.



Section 3:

Your views on on hot topics

In this section you'll confront some of the pressing issues of our time. What's your take on climate change? Are there any environmental issues in your hometown? What are your views on higher education and the impact of artificial intelligence on jobs? These thought-provoking topics require you to not only understand the issues at stake but also articulate your own perspectives clearly and convincingly. Through these topics, you'll build your ability to discuss complex issues and express your viewpoints, critical skills for the IELTS Speaking test.



YOUR VIEWS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Prompt:

Describe what you think about climate change.

You should say

- What is your understanding of climate change?
- Do you think it is a serious issue?
- What can individuals do to combat climate change?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

Well, to me, climate change refers to the significant shifts in weather patterns and global temperatures over a long period of time. These changes are primarily driven by human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas, which release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and lead to global warming, which corresponds to a rise in the average temperature of the planet.

I believe climate change is an extremely serious issue. We're already seeing its devastating impacts around the world, including more intense heatwaves, prolonged droughts, melting ice caps, and rising sea levels. These changes threaten not just our environment, but also our economies, our health, and our way of life.

As for what individuals can do, I think there are plenty of small but meaningful actions we can take. For starters, we can reduce our carbon footprint by using public transportation, recycling, and consuming less energy at home. We can also make a difference through our choices as consumers, by supporting companies that prioritize sustainability. Additionally, I think it's crucial to stay informed about climate issues and use our voices to advocate for policies that protect our planet. While individual actions alone won't solve the climate crisis, they can contribute to a broader societal shift towards more sustainable habits and practices.



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN YOUR HOMETOWN

Prompt:

Describe an environmental issue in your hometown.

You should say:

- What is the issue?
- How does it affect your community?
- What can be done to address this problem?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

In my hometown, one of the most pressing environmental issues we're currently facing is air pollution. This is largely due to the high amount of vehicular traffic we have, along with some local industries that unfortunately, don't comply strictly with environmental regulations.

The effects of this pollution are wide-ranging and deeply concerning. Not only does it contribute to global climate change, but it also has more immediate impacts on our community's health. For instance, on days with high pollution levels, we've seen an increase in hospital admissions for respiratory problems. Over time, exposure to this polluted air can lead to chronic health issues like asthma, heart disease, and even lung cancer.

To address this issue, I believe we need both government action and individual responsibility. On the governmental level, stricter regulations should be implemented on industries and stricter emission standards for vehicles should be enforced. Investments in public transportation and bicycle infrastructure could also reduce the number of cars on the road.

As individuals, we can make a difference by being mindful of our transportation choices, reducing our energy consumption, and advocating for cleaner practices within our community. It's a challenging issue, but with concerted efforts, I believe we can work towards a healthier and more sustainable environment for our town.



YOUR VIEWS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Prompt:

Do you think everyone should attend university?

You should say:

- What are your personal views on this matter?
- What are the benefits of attending university?
- Are there any drawbacks or alternatives?

Sample Answer:



Play audio

In my opinion, while attending university offers significant benefits, it may not be the right path for everyone. Higher education can provide students with the opportunity to explore their interests, gain specialized knowledge in a specific field, and prepare for a professional career. Furthermore, the university experience often promotes personal growth, fostering skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, and independence.

However, university is not the only route to success or fulfillment. For one, it can be quite expensive and may result in significant student debt. Additionally, some individuals may be more inclined towards practical or hands-on work, which might be better served through vocational training or apprenticeships. Other talented individuals might excel in artistic fields, entrepreneurship, or other areas that may not require a traditional university education.

Moreover, the rise of online learning platforms has revolutionized the way we acquire knowledge, providing affordable and flexible alternatives to traditional education.

So, while I believe that university education is invaluable, I also think that it's essential to recognize that different paths cater to different talents, interests, and career goals. It's crucial to respect these diverse routes and to ensure that everyone has access to the resources and guidance they need to reach their potential, whether that includes university or not.



YOUR VIEWS ON A.I. AND AUTOMATION

Prompt:

What are your views on artificial intelligence and robots potentially replacing human jobs?

You should say:

- What you understand by this issue.
- Possible implications of this change.
- Your personal perspective on this matter.



Sample Answer:



Play audio

The rise of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation in today's world has sparked a significant discussion about the potential displacement of human jobs.

When we talk about AI and robots replacing human jobs, we are discussing the possibility of machines and software performing tasks traditionally carried out by humans. This could range from automated machines in manufacturing plants to AI-powered software that can analyze data and perform complex tasks in various industries.

The implications of this change could be both positive and negative. On the positive side, automation can lead to increased efficiency and accuracy in many fields, potentially leading to economic growth and technological advancements. It could also relieve humans from performing mundane or dangerous tasks.

However, on the flip side, there is a significant concern about job loss, particularly in sectors that are highly susceptible to automation. This could lead to social and economic inequality and require a significant shift in job skills and education.

Personally, I believe that we cannot halt the progress of technology, and AI and robots will indeed play an increasingly larger role in our workplaces. However, it is crucial for society and governments to anticipate these changes and prepare for them. This could involve re-skilling and up-skilling programs, changes in education curriculums to focus more on creative and critical thinking skills, and perhaps even policy changes like universal basic income to help mitigate the negative impact.

So, while the prospect of AI and robots replacing human jobs is indeed concerning, I believe that with proper planning and preparation, we can navigate this transition and use these advancements for the benefit of humanity.

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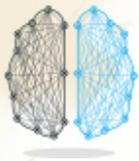
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Meet Your Instructor:



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Alejandro is an experienced English as a foreign language instructor specializing in technology-assisted language acquisition. As a pioneer in teaching English in Virtual Reality environments, he brings a unique and innovative approach to language education. When he's not teaching, Alejandro enjoys reading science fiction novels and expressing his creativity through drawing.



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