

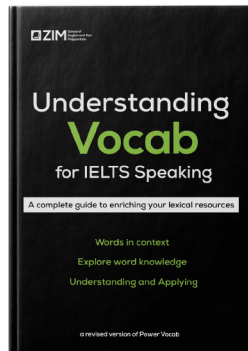
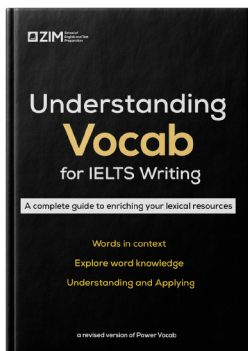
IELTS SPEAKING 2019

REVIEW



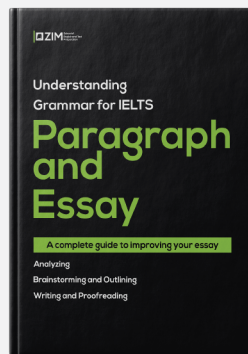
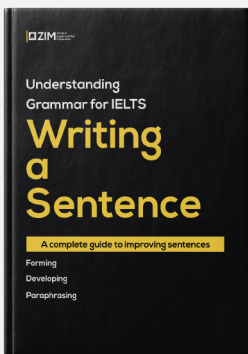
ZIM School of English and
Test Preparation

Tủ sách luyện thi IELTS



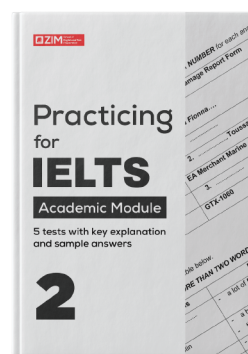
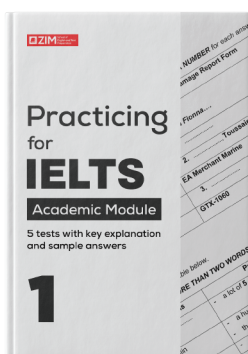
Understanding Vocab for IELTS Writing and Speaking

Bộ sách Understanding Vocab do ZIM biên soạn giúp bạn học thêm từ và cụm từ hiệu quả, sử dụng đúng ngữ cảnh và giúp người học nhớ lâu, có thể áp dụng cho nhiều bài thi IELTS khác nhau.



Understanding Grammar for IELTS – From Sentence to Essay

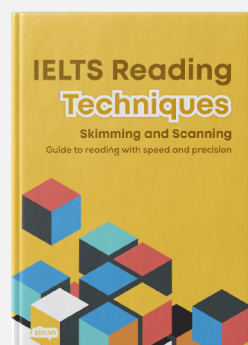
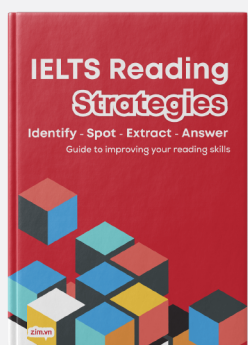
Hướng dẫn kỹ thuật luyện IELTS Writing Task 1 và Task 2 từ thành phần cơ bản đến một bài Essay hoàn thiện và đạt điểm số tối ưu.



Practicing for IELTS – Đề thi thử chất lượng cao của ZIM

Mỗi tập gồm 5 bài thi thử có độ khó mô phỏng lại đề thi IELTS thực tế trong những năm gần đây (2018 – 2019 – 2020).

Mỗi đề thi đều được giải thích chi tiết đáp án và bài mẫu tham khảo, như cuốn Giải Cambridge IELTS ở trên.



IELTS Reading Strategies & Techniques

Hướng dẫn kỹ thuật và chiến lược làm bài hiệu quả giúp người học nâng cao tốc độ và độ chính xác khi làm bài thi IELTS Reading.



Online 500.000đ

- * Voucher áp dụng cho các chương trình học online tại ZIM, không quy đổi thành tiền mặt.
- * Thời hạn áp dụng trong năm 2020.
- * Không áp dụng đồng thời với các ưu đãi khác.



Offline 1.000.000đ

- * Voucher áp dụng cho các chương trình học offline tại ZIM, không quy đổi thành tiền mặt.
- * Thời hạn áp dụng trong năm 2020.
- * Không áp dụng đồng thời với các ưu đãi khác.

**Tham gia group hỗ trợ
giải đáp khi sử dụng tài liệu**



Giới thiệu

IELTS Speaking 2019 Review là ấn phẩm được đội ngũ chuyên gia luyện thi IELTS tại Anh Ngữ ZIM biên soạn với mục đích giúp người học có cái nhìn vừa tổng quan vừa chi tiết về độ khó của đề thi IELTS Speaking trong cả năm 2019. Đồng thời, tài liệu cũng cung cấp phương án xử lý các đề thi cụ thể qua việc cung cấp gợi ý và câu trả lời tham khảo và liên hệ mở rộng các chủ đề liên quan. Nội dung chính của sách bao gồm:

- *Tổng hợp đề thi thật IELTS Speaking trong năm 2019*
- *Câu trả lời tham khảo Band điểm 7+*
- *Gợi ý các hướng triển khai câu trả lời*
- *Phân tích từ vựng hay*
- *Liên hệ mở rộng các chủ đề liên quan*

IELTS Speaking 2019 Review là sản phẩm trí tuệ của đội ngũ chuyên gia đại Anh Ngữ ZIM. Các hành vi sao chép dưới mọi hình thức mà không có sự đồng ý bằng văn bản từ phía Anh Ngữ ZIM đều là những hành vi vi phạm bản quyền và luật sở hữu trí tuệ.

Hướng dẫn sử dụng sách

Để sử dụng tài liệu đạt hiệu quả cao nhất, người đọc nên tuân theo các bước sau:

BƯỚC 1

Đọc đề bài và viết đầy đủ câu trả lời của mình ra vở bài tập.



BƯỚC 2

Đọc bài mẫu để tự điều chỉnh lại câu trả lời của mình.



BƯỚC 3

Tập đọc câu trả lời sau đó tập nói mà không nhìn vào câu trả lời mình viết trước đó.



BƯỚC 4

Viết các chủ đề/câu hỏi ra các mẫu giấy nhỏ và bốc bất kì để luyện tập trả lời khi không được biết trước chủ đề/câu hỏi.

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IELTS

Speaking Part 1



Work/Study

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are you a student or do you work?



I'm a student at Foreign Trade University, which is located on Chua Lang street. My school is about 5 kilometers away from where I live.

2 Do you enjoy what you study?



Not really. I don't think what I'm learning is practical and there is always a lot of homework and deadlines. But my friends at school are really nice. They are the main reason that I go to class.

Mở rộng

Chủ đề đầu tiên trong bài thi nói IELTS thường được lựa chọn từ những chủ đề *Work/Study*, *Accommodation* và *Hometown*.

Ví dụ:

Accommodation

- Do you live in a house or an apartment?
- What do you like the most about your house or apartment?

Hometown

- Can you describe your hometown?
- What would you like to change about your hometown?



Accommodation

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are you living in a house or a flat?



Currently I'm renting a flat on Phao Dai Lang Street. It's not so far from my workplace, only about 2 kilometers.

2 How long have you been living there?



Less than a year. Before I moved to this flat, I was living with my parents but it's too far from my workplace and the traffic there was always terrible. It took me a long time to find this place but I'm pretty happy with it now.

3 If you could change something about your neighborhood, what would it be?



Hmm... That's an interesting question. Actually I've never thought of this before. My neighborhood is pretty good I think. It's quite **civilized**, and the location is convenient for me to travel to work. I don't think I would change anything.

Từ vựng

- **Civilized:** văn minh

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Concerts, Festivals, Street markets.*

Một câu hỏi đặc trưng thường được hỏi trong 3 chủ đề này là về *Future plans*.

Dưới đây là một vài ví dụ:

What do you want to do in the next 5 years/after you graduate? (*Work/Study*)

Do you want to live here for a long time/in the near future? (*Accommodation and Hometown*)



Holiday

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are there a lot of holidays in Vietnam?



Let me see...quite a lot. I mean, there're holidays almost every month, and sometimes these holidays are to celebrate the most **ridiculous** things. But I'm fine with that, you know, I have more days off from work!

2 What do Vietnamese people like to do during their holidays?



I think most Vietnamese people want to stay at home to relax and recover from their busy schedules at work and school. I also notice that some families in the city often go on a picnic during these days.

Từ vựng

- **Ridiculous**: nực cười, vô lý

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Music, Sleep, Cinema.*

Đặc điểm chung về các chủ đề này đó là nhiều người thường nghe nhạc/ngủ/đi xem phim/tham gia các kỳ nghỉ lễ để xả hơi. Ý tưởng này có thể được sử dụng để trả lời nhiều câu hỏi khác nhau.

Ví dụ:

Do you like listening to music?

Absolutely. Listening to music is one of my favorite activities to destress. I often listen to jazz or pop music after a long day at work.

How often do you sleep every day?

About 8-10 hours. Sleeping is an excellent way to relieve stress. I always feel refreshed and full of energy after a long, deep sleep.



Patience

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are you a patient person?



Yes I am. But I used to be a very hot-tempered kid who always got annoyed if someone kept me waiting even for 10 minutes.

2 Have you ever lost your patience?



I sometimes lose my patience when I'm stuck in traffic for hours after a hard day's work or I'm constantly interrupted by my family members while working in my room.

3 When do you need patience the most?



Well, being impatient can cause undesirable results, for example, when studying English, you need to build up your knowledge day by day, but sometimes you have to take some rest. So, I think I need to be patient when learning a new language.

Colour

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What is your favourite colour?



When I was growing up, I guess blue was my favourite colour. I don't know why, but I always really liked things that were dark blue. These days though, I tend to have a preference for green things. So I suppose green and blue are the colours that I like most.

2 Did you like that colour when you were small?



As I mentioned, I always liked dark blue when I was young, but green is something that I started to like just couple of years ago.

3 Is the colour of your car or motorbike important? Why?



Yes, and no. I mean, I don't really care what colour it is; however, I wouldn't really like to have a pink motorbike. Pink is a little bit too **feminine** for me. These days I have a black motorbike, which I think is a good colour for it.

Từ vựng

- Feminine: nữ tính

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Clothes, Shoes, Sunglasses.*

Một câu hỏi đặc trưng của những chủ đề này đó là: “*What type of clothes/shoes/sunglasses do you often buy?*” Các ý tưởng về chủ đề *Colors* trong những câu trả lời mẫu ở trên có thể được dùng để trả lời dạng câu hỏi này:

Ví dụ:

What kind of clothes do you often buy?

I like buying clothes that are comfortable, not necessarily fashionable. More importantly, I always choose dark-colored clothes, like blue.



Morning routine

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What do you do in the morning?

So normally I like to wake up around 7am, have **a light breakfast**, and do some **household chores**, like wash the dishes or sweep the floor, or something like that. Then I usually do some exercise for an hour or two and have a second breakfast at about 9.30. After that, I have some spare time to do other things, like my hobbies, or some other things that I need to get done.

2 Have you ever changed your routine?

Of course. I mean, my routine depends on my work. These days I work as an English teacher which requires me to work in the afternoon and evening, so I have plenty of free time in the morning. But in the past I used to have **a nine-to-five job**, so my routine was completely different then.

3 Do you often have breakfast?

Yeah, every day. My brain can't function properly without a good breakfast. In fact, as I mentioned before, I usually have two breakfasts, **a light breakfast** when I wake up, and then a bigger breakfast around 9 or 10am. I don't know how people live without breakfast.

Từ vựng

- **A light breakfast:** bữa sáng nhẹ
- **Household chores (wash the dishes, sweep the floor):** việc nhà
- **Nine-to-five job:** công việc truyền thống (làm từ sáng đến chiều)



Festivals

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What is your favorite festival?



I have to say, Mid-Autumn Festival would be my favourite festival. Like the name suggests, this festival **takes place** in the middle of Autumn, which is August 15th according to the Lunar Calendar. I love all the special treats during this holiday, especially moon cakes.

2 What is the most popular Vietnamese festival?



Well, the most popular Festival in Vietnam is the Lunar New Year Festival. It's the time for **family reunions** as people who work far away from home can get to spend some **valuable time** with their loved ones after a long year of being separated.

3 Do you like western festivals?



Honestly, I only know a little about western festivals, but I guess the one I find most interesting would be Halloween. You know, it's just a lot of fun to see people **dressing up** in many different creative costumes. If I had a chance, I would definitely want to celebrate it in other countries to see what it's like.

Từ vựng

- **Takes place:** diễn ra
- **Family reunion:** buổi sum họp gia đình
- **Valuable time:** khoảng thời gian quý giá
- **Dressing up:** hoá trang

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Concerts*.

Concerts, *Crowded places* và *Festivals* thường được những người hướng ngoại ưa thích; tuy vậy, người hướng nội lại không thích những nơi này. Chính vì vậy, một cách dễ dàng để mở rộng câu trả lời là đề cập đến việc mình là người hướng nội hay hướng ngoại.

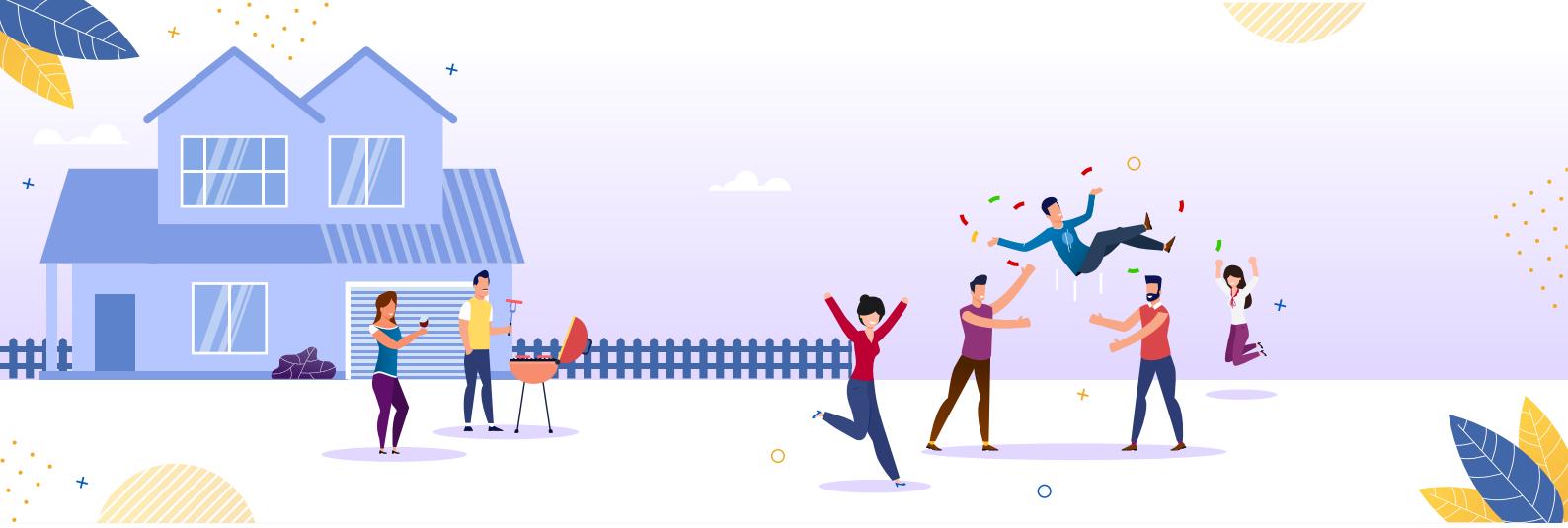
- Yes: I am an extrovert who enjoys the exciting ambience a crowd brings.
- No: I am an introvert who hates social interactions.

Đưa ra ví dụ cá nhân để làm câu trả lời thêm phần thuyết phục.

Ví dụ:

Do you like going to concerts?

Yes. I am an extrovert who enjoy the exciting ambience a crowd brings. Last year I visited Coachella for 3 days and had the time of my life.



Neighborhood

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Tell me about the place you are living in.



Well currently I live in an apartment in downtown Hanoi. It's quite a **bustling** area with a lot of shops, offices and quite a big park just around the corner from my house. You can also find people **from all walks of life** around the area.

2 Do you know a lot of people there?



No, not really. I know just a couple of people who live in my building, but otherwise I don't really know anyone.

3 Do you like your neighbours?



Sure. I mean we don't meet each other very often or anything but they all seem to be nice, friendly people.

Từ vựng

- **Bustling:** bận rộn
- **People from all walks of life:** người đến từ nhiều nền văn hóa khác nhau với phong cách sống khác nhau

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Being alone, Friends.*

Chúng ta có thể dùng ý tưởng “*I’m busy*” để trả lời các câu hỏi liên quan đến các chủ đề này.

Hai cấu trúc có thể dùng cho ý tưởng này.

- I have a lot on my plate.
- I have a tight schedule.

Ví dụ:

When was the last time you were alone?

I honestly can’t remember. I have a tight schedule, so if I’m not at school, I’ll be at work so there are always people around, my students or colleagues.

How often do you meet your friends?

Once or twice a week, I’d like to see them more often, but I have a lot on my plate right now.



Water

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How often do you drink water?



I drink a lot of water every day. Probably I drink between 2-3 litres a day, depending on how hot it is, or how much exercise I have done.

2 Do you often drink bottled water or tap water?



Well, unfortunately tap water is full of chemicals that are **harmful to your health**, so I never drink it. I only drink filtered water that comes in big plastic containers.

Từ vựng

- **Harmful to your health:** có hại cho sức khỏe



Gardens/Parks

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you have a garden where you live?



Well, I'm currently living in an apartment in a **condo** near the heart of Hanoi, so as you can imagine, there is no space for a garden in there. However, I do have a lovely garden in my parents' house where I grow all kinds of flowers and plants.

2 Is there a park near your house?



Fortunately yes, my house is located near a large park with a wide variety of flowers and big trees, so it is an ideal place for me to **stroll around** and **blow off some steam** every weekend.

3 Would you like to change anything about the park?



The park itself is really nice, but it would be better if there were more lights around the park to make it slightly brighter. To be honest, I find it a bit scary when jogging there at night, so I only go there during the day.



Sleep

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How many hours do you sleep every day?



I have to admit that I haven't been sleeping much recently, just about 5 hours a day. I'm currently working and studying at the same time, so I have to deal with tons of schoolwork as well as **the overwhelming workload** at my workplace. And, as a result, this does not allow me to have much time to sleep in a day.

2 Do you like to take a nap every day?



Absolutely. I think napping is a great way to recharge my batteries and refresh my mind. For me, taking a nap after lunch is like **hitting the restart button** in my brain.

3 Do old people sleep a lot? Why?



I don't think so. Most of the elderly I know suffer from **insomnia**, which is a sleep disorder that people can get when they reach old age. Therefore, they can hardly sleep at all.

Từ vựng

- **The overwhelming workload:** khối lượng công việc khổng lồ
- **Hit the restart button:** nhấn nút khởi động lại
- **Insomnia (n):** bệnh mất ngủ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Dream*

Đây là 2 topic đều liên quan đến giấc ngủ nên có 2 cách trả lời chung. Tôi ngủ say, sâu và không hay mơ hoặc tôi thường ngủ không yên và hay nhớ được các giấc mơ. Đây là 2 cách diễn đạt ý:

- I often sleep very deeply.
- I often have uneasy sleep and I usually remember my dreams when I wake up.

How many hours do you sleep every day?

8 hours → I often sleep very deeply.

Do you often remember your dreams?

Yes → I often have uneasy sleep and I usually remember my dreams when I wake up.



Names

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Who gave you your name?



When it came to choosing my name, it was my dad who **had the final word**. Actually, most of my family members including my mom and my grandparents agreed with the name as well.

2 Does your name have any particular (or, special) meaning?



Yeah, it does. My name means being **dutiful** towards parents. I think this name is very popular in my country because there were always at least two people with the same name as me in every class that I went to.

3 Do you have any special traditions about naming children?



I think in Vietnam, meanings of names are very important and are believed to **determine a child's destiny**. Therefore, most Vietnamese people will give a nice sounding and meaningful name, reflecting the hope of a bright future for their child.

Từ vựng

- **Have the final word:** đưa ra quyết định
- **Dutiful (a):** hiếu thảo
- **Determine one's destiny:** quyết định số mệnh của ai đó

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Future plan*

Cái tên và những kế hoạch trong tương lai là những thứ mà nhiều khi bố mẹ mới là người quyết định → bố mẹ tôi là người có tiếng nói cuối cùng là một cách diễn đạt chung cho các chủ đề này.

- My mom is the one who calls the final shot.

What do you want to do after your study?

I will listen to my parents → they call the final shot.



Hometown

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Where is your hometown?

My hometown is HCM City which is the largest **financial and commercial center** in Vietnam. I have been living here for more than 20 years now.

2 What's the most interesting part of your hometown?

Well, hundreds of things come to mind because I'm **in love with** everything here. But if I have to pick one, the food I guess. Living in **a melting pot** like HCM City means you have the opportunity to **be exposed to** different **culinary cultures** from around the world.

3 Would you say it is a good place to live? Why?

It depends. If you enjoy **a fast-paced lifestyle**, HCM city is the perfect choice for you. But if all the noises and pollution annoy you, living here will be torture.

4 What changes would you like to make to your hometown?

As I mentioned, HCM city **is notorious for** its constant noises and heavily polluted air. So if I had a chance, I would build more **open green spaces** in central areas so that residents would have places to relax.

Từ vựng

- **Financial and commercial center:** trung tâm tài chính và thương mại
- **Fall in love with sth:** yêu cái gì đó
- **Melting pot:** một nơi mà có nhiều chủng tộc, nền văn hoá khác nhau
- **Get exposed to:** tiếp xúc với
- **Culinary culture:** nền văn hoá ẩm thực
- **Fast-paced lifestyle:** lối sống nhanh, hối hả
- **Be notorious for:** có tiếng xấu về điều gì
- **Open green space:** không gian xanh, khu vực trồng nhiều cây (công viên, etc)

Từ vựng

- **Have somebody do something:** nhờ ai đó làm việc gì
- **Stand + N:** chịu đựng cái gì đó
- **As soon as possible:** càng nhanh càng tốt
- **An awful lot of:** nhiều 1 cách khủng khiếp (a lot of + awful)

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Concert, Festival, Hometown*

Cả 3 đều là những địa điểm đông đúc → phát triển idea bằng cách nói mình thích/ghét không khí náo nhiệt và ồn ào của những nơi đông đúc.

- I love the exciting atmosphere of crowded places.
- I don't enjoy the noisy atmosphere of crowded places.

Do you like going to festivals?

Yes → love the exciting atmosphere of people dancing and having fun.

Do you like going to concerts?

No → hate the noisy atmosphere of people yelling and singing.

What do you like/dislike about your hometown?

I don't like the fact that HCM is a crowded place → It has a very noisy atmosphere



Work

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Where are you working now?



My current job is the manager of the customer service department in a logistics company in HCM city. I have been doing this job for more than 2 years now.

2 Why did you choose that job?



I was majoring in International Business Management when I was in university. After graduation, I sent my CV and cover letter out to a number of organizations. Luckily, I got hired by KMTC, one of the leading firms in this industry.

3 Do you have a lot of friends where you are working?



Yes I do. I kinda get along well with everyone in my workplace. I was impressed by their enthusiasm and professionalism **right from the start**. After that, I realized that they are all very understanding of me and **willingly** give me a hand when I am in need.

4 Is there anything you would like change in your workplace?



Well let me see. I think I love my company so much that I am satisfied with nearly everything about it. Maybe it would be great if there were more plants inside the office for more green space as well as decoration, like **indoor pot plants** put near the window or on our desks, you know.

Từ vựng

- **Right from the start:** ngay từ đầu
- **Willingly:** sẵn lòng
- **Indoor pot plants:** chậu cây trong nhà

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Plan*

Cách phát triển idea chung cho 2 chủ đề Plan và Work là nói về việc bạn là một người thích/không thích lên kế hoạch rồi ví dụ vào công việc hiện tại của bạn.

- I plan everything thing in my life in advance, from study to work.
- I like to go with the flow and do not prepare anything for the future.

Why did you choose that job?

I planned everything in advance → I chose the job when I was still in university.

Are you good at making plans?

No → I like to go with the flow → can't even decide what I want to do tonight.



Study

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 **Where are you studying now?**

I am currently studying at the University of Finance and Marketing and majoring in International Business administration. I am a sophomore.

2 **Why did you choose that school?**

I didn't actually choose it. You know, this school was actually one of the highly recommended universities that my parents believed would **suit** me most. That's why they told me to apply for it and I did.

3 **What is your favorite subject at school?**

I love attending soft skill classes which are compulsory subjects in the **curriculum**. These skills, like public speaking or time management, are very fun and useful subjects and I really love their **practicality**.

4 **Is there anything you would like to improve in your school?**

Despite its modern facilities and beautifully designed buildings, my school really needs to provide more green space for students on campus. You know, more trees will provide more shade and cool air for us to study more efficiently.

Từ vựng

- **Curriculum:** chương trình học
- **Suit:** phù hợp với
- **Practicality:** tính thực tế

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Work, public facilities*

Khi được hỏi về bạn có muốn thay đổi gì về trường, nơi làm việc, cơ sở hạ tầng công cộng, 1 idea để phát triển chung là tất cả những nơi này cần thêm nhiều không gian xanh hơn. Một vài cách phát triển:

- _____ need(s) a lot more green spaces.
- _____ need(s) to plant more trees.

Is there anything you want to improve in your school?

Yes → more green spaces.

Is there anything you would like change in your workplace?

Yes → plant more trees.



Shoes

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How often do you buy shoes?



I am not a big fan of shoes so I only buy them when they are **worn out**. It's been around 1 year ever since the last time I bought a pair of shoes.

2 Have you ever bought shoes online?



No I haven't ever done that simply because I **have a very negative view of** online shopping. I hate receiving a product that isn't as good as advertised I prefer going to the store to check the quality before **making a purchase**.

3 Do you prefer comfortable shoes or good-looking shoes?



I prefer shoes that are more **comfy** and convenient. Because I have to go out frequently to see customers and friends, I need comfortable shoes that are soft and light in order not to have sore feet after a long day.

Từ vựng

- **Be worn out:** bị mòn, bị cũ, bị phai
- **Have a very negative view of:** có cái nhìn rất tiêu cực về
- **Make a purchase:** mua hàng
- **Comfy:** thoải mái

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Book*

Book và shoes là 2 thứ có thể mua online hoặc offline → cách phát triển idea chung là nói về việc bạn thích mua online hơn hay offline hơn.

- I like order things online and have my _____ delivered straight to my door (thích online hơn)
- I have to check the _____ I want to buy in person before buying it. (thích offline hơn)

Have you ever bought shoes online?

No → have to check quality in person.

Do you have many books at home?

Yes → often buy books online.



Sky

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like to look at the sky at night?



Well just occasionally. I mean the sky is beautiful as long as it isn't rainy or too sunny. Yet, we are told not to **gaze** directly **at** the sun as it may cause harm to our eyesight.

2 Do you prefer the sky in the morning or the sky at night?



At night, definitely; while the daytime sky is rather boring, the starry night sky, especially in the countryside, is so amazing that I was entranced the first time I saw it many years ago. It isn't like anything you can find in cities nowadays.

3 Can you see the moon and stars at night where you live?



Due to light pollution, the stars are too **faint** to be seen in Ho Chi Minh City, but we can easily **catch sight of** the moon. Once a month, from here we can see the full moon which is incredibly beautiful.

Từ vựng

- **Gaze at:** nhìn chăm chăm vào
- **Faint (a):** mờ nhạt
- **Catch sight of:** bắt gặp

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Weather*

Mọi người thường nhìn bầu trời để đoán thời tiết → dự báo thời tiết bằng cách nhìn lên trời là cách phát triển chung cho 2 chủ đề này.

- Looking at the sky might sometimes help predict the weather.
→ cloudy → it is about to rain.
→ no cloud → fine weather.

How often do you look at the sky?

Quite often → to predict future changes in weather.

What kind of weather do you like/dislike?

Hate rainy days → can predict and avoid by looking at the sky.



Handwriting

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Can people read your hand-writing easily?



I'm afraid not. I envy those who have clear hand-writing, you know. Having neat handwriting **has a wide variety of uses**. Not only does it gain you some "bragging right" with friends but it might also help increase your IELTS writing score, am I right?

2 Do you think you can know something about a person from their handwriting?



Sure. And I'm not saying having terrible hand-writing means you are an awful person. It just means you might be a bit more careless and **hot-tempered** than people who have nicer handwriting.

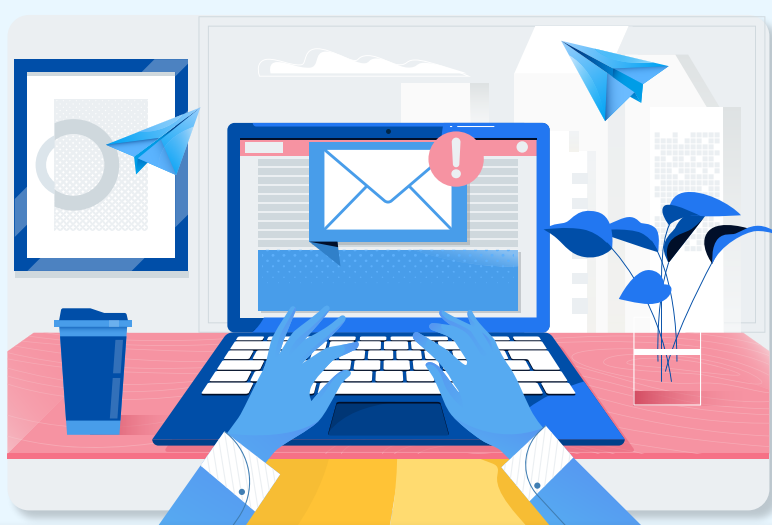
3 Do you like to receive hand-written cards or emails?



I receive emails every day and hand-written cards on only special occasions like birthdays or anniversaries so of course I treasure these cards more. They feel much more personal than emails, too.

Từ vựng

- **Has a wide variety of uses:** có rất nhiều công dụng
- **Hot-tempered:** nóng tính



Email

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How often do you receive emails?



Quite often. I mean email is extremely multi-functional, no doubt. I have three separate emails for different uses: one for personal purposes, one for my work and one for my study.

2 Do you think people should reply to an email instantly?



Yes I think it's basic **etiquette**, you know. Responding to emails immediately after receiving them is a way to show respect to the senders.

3 Do you prefer to receive emails or texts?



I don't know. Probably texts because I don't have to log in to any account to answer messages.

Từ vựng

- **Etiquette:** phép lịch sự

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Shoes, Means of transport*

Các chủ đề về *Emails, Hand-writing, Shoes and Means of transport* đều có một điểm chung là mọi người đều sử dụng chúng cho nhiều mục đích khác nhau. Chính vì vậy, một cách để phát triển câu trả lời đó là đưa ra những ứng dụng, mục đích khác nhau của chúng. Một số cụm từ có thể sử dụng:

- To be multi-functional/versatile.
- Has a wide variety of uses.

Ví dụ:

What's your favorite kind of shoes?

Sneakers → school, work, gym, formal events.

What's the most common means of transport in Vietnam?

Motorbike → both short and long trips.



Pets

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Did you have a pet when you were younger?



Well, I used to have two cats and a dog when I was in kindergarten. I always love having pets around because I enjoy their company, and... honestly, I'm a bit scared to be alone in my house.

2 What kinds of animals do people like to have as a pet?



I believe it depends on personal preference. For me, I must say I am a hundred percent **a cat person**. It is almost impossible for me **to go a day without** seeing my cat. But some of my friends really prefer dogs since dogs are loyal and cheerful.

3 Do you think the city is a suitable place to keep pets?



Yes, I mean why not. So far my cat's been more than okay living in my apartment; he's clean, well-fed and very healthy. But of course, it would be more enjoyable for animals to live in the countryside since the air is cleaner and there is a lot more space for them to run around.

Từ vựng

- **A cat person:** người thích nuôi mèo
- **To go a day without:** không thể sống thiếu cái gì



Being alone

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like being alone?

Oh, sometimes I do but again, all of us do once in a while, right? But honestly, most of the time, I would prefer not to be alone, which is why I have pets. They never fail to make me feel warm and welcome, sometimes even more than my friends.

2 Is it important to have some alone time occasionally?

As I said before, yes, definitely. I always find it hard to concentrate when there are people around, so whenever I need to work, I have to **be on my own**. Other than that, spending some “me” time watching films or dancing along to your favorite songs can be quite relaxing.

3 What do you like to do when you are alone?

Let me see... I like listening to music when I am alone, because I always tend to sing along, which is quite embarrassing if someone's around. Also, I enjoy spending time finishing my personal tasks because I work most effectively when I'm alone.

Từ vựng

- **Be on one's own:** một mình

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Crowded places, Concert, Festival*

Các chủ đề về *Pets* and *Crowded places* or *Concerts* đều có một điểm chung là mọi người đều ghét/thích chúng vì họ ghét/thích ở một mình. Một số cụm từ hữu dụng có thể dùng cho các chủ đề trên là:

- I love being alone.
- I hate being on my own.
- I enjoy being by myself.

Do you like going to crowded places?

Yes → hate being alone.

Do you like concerts?

No → enjoy being on my own.



Photos

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How often do you take photographs?



All the time, actually. I **have a lifelong passion for** taking pictures, not like selfies but pictures of different scenery. I guess it can really help enhance my creativity. I take pictures of almost everywhere I go, whenever I feel like it.

2 Do you prefer to take pictures of people or scenery?



As I said before, I prefer taking pictures of the scenery and I do it all the time with my camera. I would say that I **have a good eye**, many people have told me that my pictures bring out an emotional response from them.

3 Do you ever frame any of your photos?



Yes, I did frame one of my favorite photos once and hung it in my bedroom. It is a picture of my family in Thailand. It is not a masterpiece or anything, but it really **evokes** good memories whenever I look at it.

Từ vựng

- **Have a lifelong passion for:** có niềm đam mê mãnh liệt về cái gì
- **Have a good eye:** có con mắt nghệ thuật
- **Evokes:** đem lại



Drawing/Paintings

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like drawing (or painting)?



No, not really. I don't like drawing very much. Maybe because I am not an artistic person and I don't really have a good eye.

2 What are the benefits of teaching children how to draw or paint?



It helps children become more creative. You know Vietnamese children are forced to learn a lot of science subjects like math and Chemistry and are in desperate need of a more well-rounded education, you know.

3 What is the difference between an adult and a child learning how to draw?



It's harder for adults to learn something new, especially something as creative as drawing. I believe children will **have an edge** when it comes to learning how to draw.

Từ vựng

- **Have an edge:** có lợi thế

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Music, Dancing*

Các chủ đề về *Photos, Drawing/Paintings, Music and Dancing* đều là các hình thái khác nhau của nghệ thuật. Một số ý tưởng chung có thể sử dụng cho các chủ đề này là:

- Yes: I want to express myself through my pictures/music/poems or it can enhance my creativity.
- No: I am not an artistic person/ I don't have any artistic talent.

Do you like music?

Yes → can express feeling through songs (sadness, joy).

Do you like dancing?

No → do not have artistic talent.

Từ vựng

- **Charisma:** Sức hút

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Friends*

Các chủ đề về *Friends* đều liên quan đến chủ đề *Sharing*. Chính vì vậy, một cách để phát triển câu trả lời là đưa ra quan điểm liên quan đến điều gì có thể được chia sẻ.

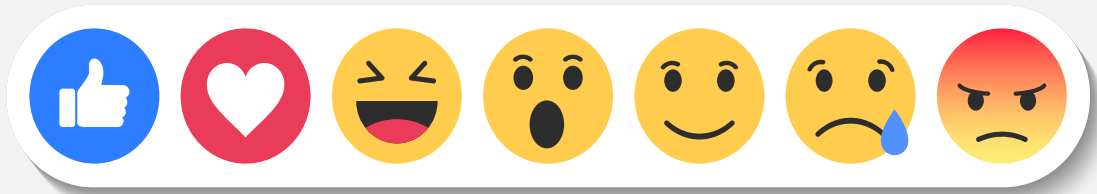
- Sharing is my thing/not my thing
- Sharing is caring

Do you like music?

Yes → share with them about daily life's stories → grades, crushes.

Do you want to be a movie star?

No → sharing is not my thing → do not want to share details of my personal life.



Social networking sites

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often use social networking sites?



Yes, absolutely. I mean, who doesn't? I use many platforms like Facebook, Zalo and Instagram. I think the main reason I use social media is to **stay in touch with** others and to **stay updated on** what is going on in the world around me.

2 Do social networking sites have disadvantages?



Sure. The most obvious one, for me, is that it is really time consuming. I know social networks are supposed to be fun, but the fact is I am wasting my precious time **logging in** to such sites. And if I cannot manage my time well, my study and work will be badly affected too.

3 Do you think it is good to make friends online?



Well, I think whether it is **labeled** good or bad will depend on what people expect from a friend. If we just wish to share your thoughts, online friends can really help. But if you need something like “a friend in need is a friend indeed”, then it may not be a good idea because online friends cannot offer you any **emotional support**.

Từ vựng

- **Stay in touch with someone:** giữ liên lạc với ai
- **Stay updated on something:** cập nhật cái gì
- **Log in (ph.v):** đăng nhập, dùng
- **Be labeled:** được xem như là
- **Emotional support:** chỗ dựa tình cảm



Perfume

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like perfume?



I used to hate it a lot when I was younger as I could not stand **strong fragrance**. But as I grew older, I realised that a girl should have something called a “**signature scent**”. That’s the reason why I started to wear perfume almost every day.

2 How many bottles of perfume do you have?



Despite the fact that I love different scents of perfume, I only own one bottle. Actually, this is my most favorite ever and I always **stay true to** it no matter what.

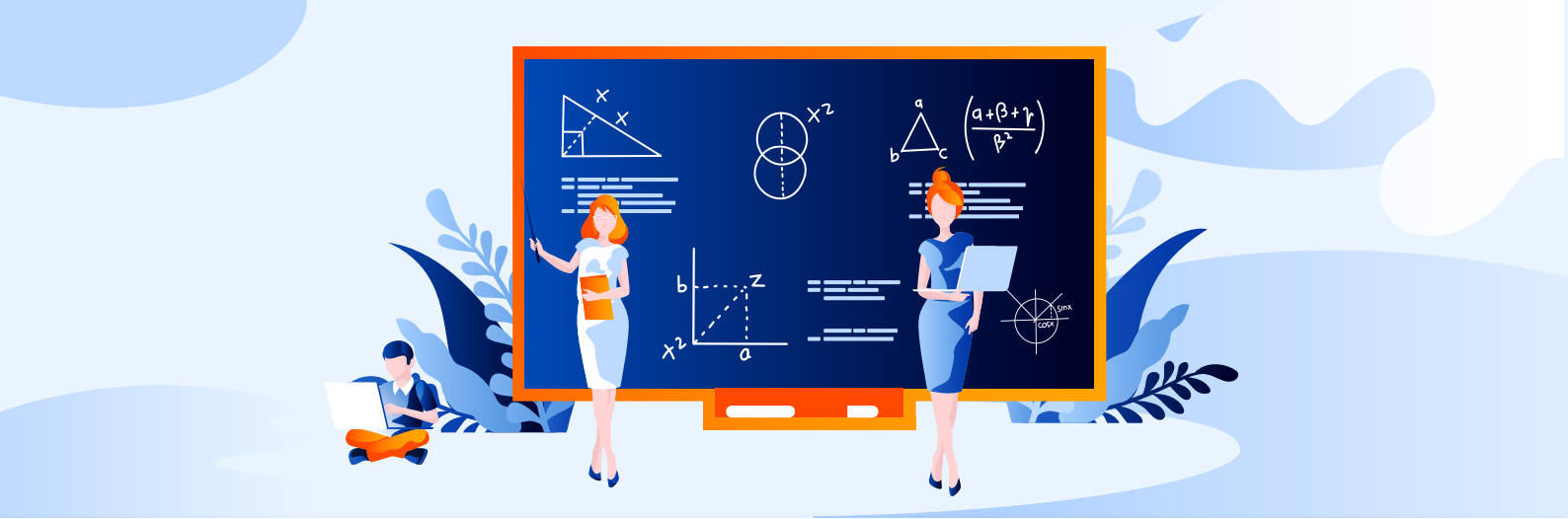
3 What scent of perfume do you like the most?



This is absolutely the scent that I’ve just told you about. It is a refreshing blend of **citrus and lemon aroma**, which gives you the feeling of the wind blowing through a fruit tree in the summer. I have to say that I’m so into this scent that I’ve owned 5 bottles of it.

Từ vựng

- **Strong fragrance:** mùi hương nồng
- **Signature scent:** mùi hương đặc trưng
- **Stay true to something:** trung thành với
- **Citrus and lemon aroma:** hương cam chanh



Math

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like Math?



Definitely. It was one of my favorite subjects at high school. I'm not **boasting about** anything but actually I was the most **quick-witted** student on this subject in my class at that time. Though I'm now working as an English teacher, I am still interested in numbers and figures.

2 Do you think it is easier to use a calculator to solve Math questions?



Of course. I mean, we all know that a calculator is used for making calculations much easier. As it performs a variety of functions including **addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**, students can save a huge amount of time when dealing with Math problems by using this tool.

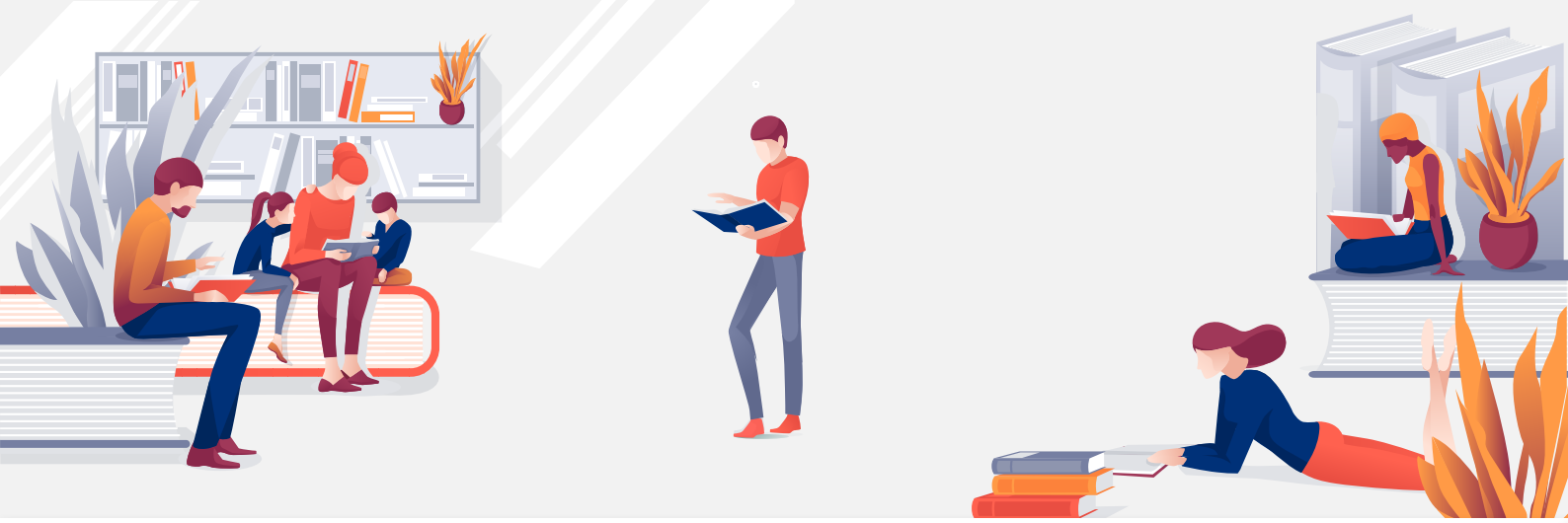
3 Do you prefer to do Math by hands or with a calculators?



I would go for a calculator. With high speed and accuracy, they are absolutely a big help to solve mathematical problems correctly. Actually, for me, calculators are what make Math classes less **tedious**.

Từ vựng

- **Boast about something:** khoe khoang
- **Quick-witted (a):** nhanh nhẹn
- **Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division:** cộng, trừ, nhân, chia
- **Tedious (a):** nhàm chán



Books

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you have many books at home?



As I am an **avid reader**, I have spent all my savings on books. That is why you can easily find a large book collection arranged neatly in the book case in the living room of my house.

2 How often do you read books?



Reading has become my habit, and I read books on a daily basis. A book of any kind is a must-have item in my bag when I go somewhere as it can be a good activity to make good use of waiting time. Also, it is hard to imagine a day without something to read before bedtime.

3 What was your favourite type of books as a child?



Just like other kids, comic books were my favorite when I was a little girl. I still remember how excited I was when I flipped through the colorful pages and got lost in the world of my favorite comic characters.

Từ vựng

- **Avid reader:** người thích đọc sách



Weather/Climate

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you think the climate is changing too quickly?



I think it is. Let's take a look at the **extreme weather** in recent days. HCMC has experienced the highest temperature ever recorded. It's been **scorching hot** and unbearable outside in this heat.

2 What kind of weather do you like best?



The weather in Autumn is my favourite. After the intense heat of the summer, it can be a relief when it finally starts to **cool down**. Autumn often **ushers in** cooler **weather** that allows me to keep my windows open.

3 Do you prefer hot weather or cold weather?



I would pick cold weather. On a cold winter's day, there is nothing more comforting than a mug of steaming hot chocolate while **curling up** on the sofa and being wrapped up in a soft, thick blanket.

Từ vựng

- **Extreme weather:** thời tiết khắc nghiệt
- **Scorching hot:** cực kì nóng
- **Cool down:** dịu đi, mát mẻ (nhiệt độ)
- **Usher in:** làm cái gì bắt đầu
- **Curl up:** nằm cuộn tròn



Art

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like art?



I am a big fan of paintings. For me, they have an **aesthetic** appeal that is hard to resist. I am especially interested in abstract paintings as they always **trigger** my curiosity. If possible, I want to hang as many of them as possible in my house.

2 Do you think art classes are necessary? Why?



It depends. If one decides to pursue art as a career, attending art classes is a must in order to learn about **artistry**. However, if drawing or painting is just **a leisure pursuit**, people can learn by themselves by accessing some tutorial clips available in the Internet. That helps save lots of money.

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



Art classes are very meaningful to help develop children's critical thinking and strengthen their creativity. In fact, many parents have realized their children's **potential** through these art classes.

Từ vựng

- **Aesthetic**: thuộc thẩm mỹ
- **Trigger**: khởi sự, gây ra
- **Artistry**: kỹ năng mỹ thuật
- **A leisure pursuit**: niềm đam mê mà ai theo đuổi khi có thời gian rảnh rỗi
- **Potential**: tiềm năng



Rubbish

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Have you ever littered?



Never in my entire life, not even a small piece of candy wrapper. I know how such a small action can have a big impact on the environment. That is why my bag or jacket pockets are always full of litter after getting back home from being out somewhere.

2 Why do people litter?



Without hesitation, they may throw things like plastic bottles or cups in public places if a trash bin cannot be found. However, some may even litter right next to a bin, so I believe littering has become a habit of many people.

3 How do you feel about that?



I often get very furious. I still remember a time seeing a man throwing a plastic cup of milk tea on the ground. At that time, I wish I could have had enough courage to tell him pick it up and put it in the bin. There is no reason to damage the environment with such a lack of awareness



Dreams

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you remember your dreams when you wake up?



No, for most of the time. That is why there were mornings I got up with pity for forgetting all the beautiful dreams I had the night before. However, sometimes I have nightmares too, and it is a good idea not to remember them at all.

2 Do you like hearing about other people's dreams?



Yes, most of the dreams I have heard from others are funny stories, so they are quite entertaining. Being chased by a cow or flying after a helicopter are some of my little brother's dreams that used to bring me a good laugh.

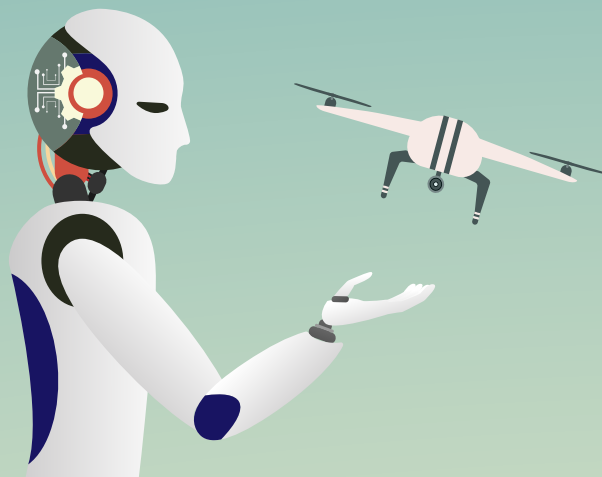
3 Do you think dreams affect our life?



Sweet dreams do no harm, but nightmares do. Nightmares often make people feel worried in case they are predictions of a future **scenario**. That may affect people's **productivity** in work and study.

Từ vựng

- **Scenario**: viễn cảnh
- **Productivity**: năng suất công việc



Robots

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are you interested in robots?



Yes, for sure. I'm a **techie**, so robots were one of my favorite toys growing up. I'm really excited about the development of artificial intelligence and robots these days.

2 What can robots do for humans?



Robots are versatile. They have **domestic uses** like cleaning the house and they can do dangerous tasks like rescue missions or space exploration as well. Robots can also be used in the process of manufacturing cars.

3 Would you like to ride in a car driven by a robot?



I'm totally okay to be inside a **driverless car**. I mean, I won't have to deal with traffic jams or other silly drivers, and just let the robots **do all the hard work**. **Sounds like a good deal!**

Từ vựng

- **Techie:** người thích công nghệ
- **Domestic uses:** giá trị sử dụng trong hộ ra đình
- **Driverless car:** xe tự lái
- **Sound like good deal:** nghe rất tuyệt!



Watching TV

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often watch TV?



Yes. I've always been a **technology enthusiast** since **day one**. I remember going crazy over the color TV my parents bought 20 years ago, and throughout my childhood, watching TV was a hobby that I did **on a daily basis**. These days, TV has lost its popularity, but I still watch it a few times a month. It reminds me of my childhood.

2 What types of TV programs are popular in your country?



I guess it depends on gender and age. Kids love watching cartoons, men like the news and sports programs, while perhaps women are more interested in reality shows.

3 What (types of) programs did you watch as a child?



Nothing other than cartoons. "Cartoon Network" and "Disney Channel" used to be my favorites. I still remember many of the theme songs from Disney movies. My mom hated seeing me in front of the screen, but I believe foreign cartoons help kids like me **cultivate our language skills** and learn about other cultures.

Từ vựng

- **Technology enthusiast:** fan đồ công nghệ
- **Day one:** những ngày đầu tiên
- **On a daily basis:** hàng ngày
- **Cultivate language skill:** phát triển kỹ năng ngôn ngữ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Hobby*

Những chủ đề trên có thể dùng cách diễn đạt chung là *tôi là fan của những tiến bộ về công nghệ*:

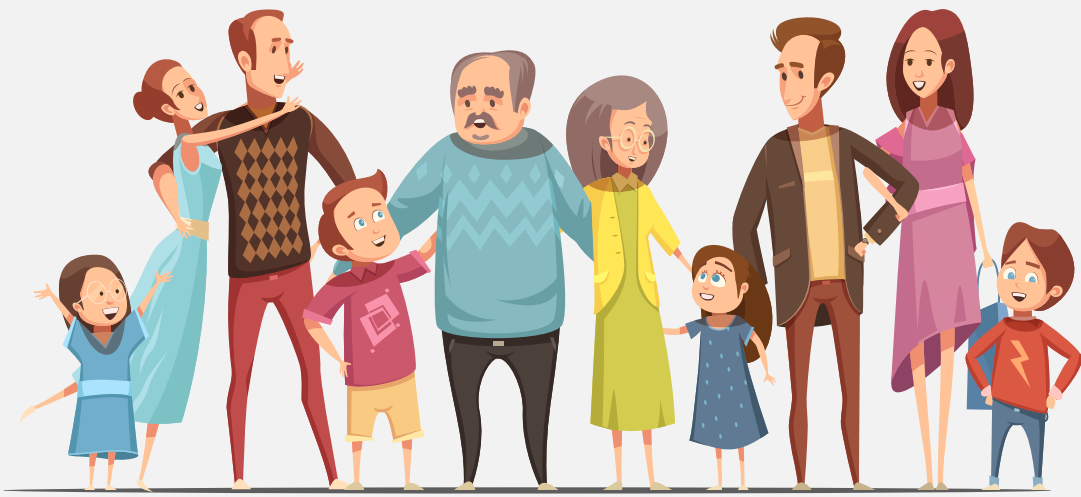
- I'm a techie person.
- I'm a technology enthusiast.
- I'm a fan of technological advances.

Tell me about your hobby?

I'm a fan of technological advances.

Do you often use computers?

Yes. I'm a technology enthusiast.



Visiting relatives

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often visit your relatives?



Once in a while. My parents do not have many siblings, so I don't have a lot of cousins to visit. Also, owing to my busy schedule, I can only pay a visit to my relatives every two to three months.

2 What do you do when you visit your relatives?



Mostly talking about what's going on in our lives and **keeping each other in the loop**. I am often asked to talk about my grades, future career or sometimes even my girlfriends, which can be uncomfortable at times.

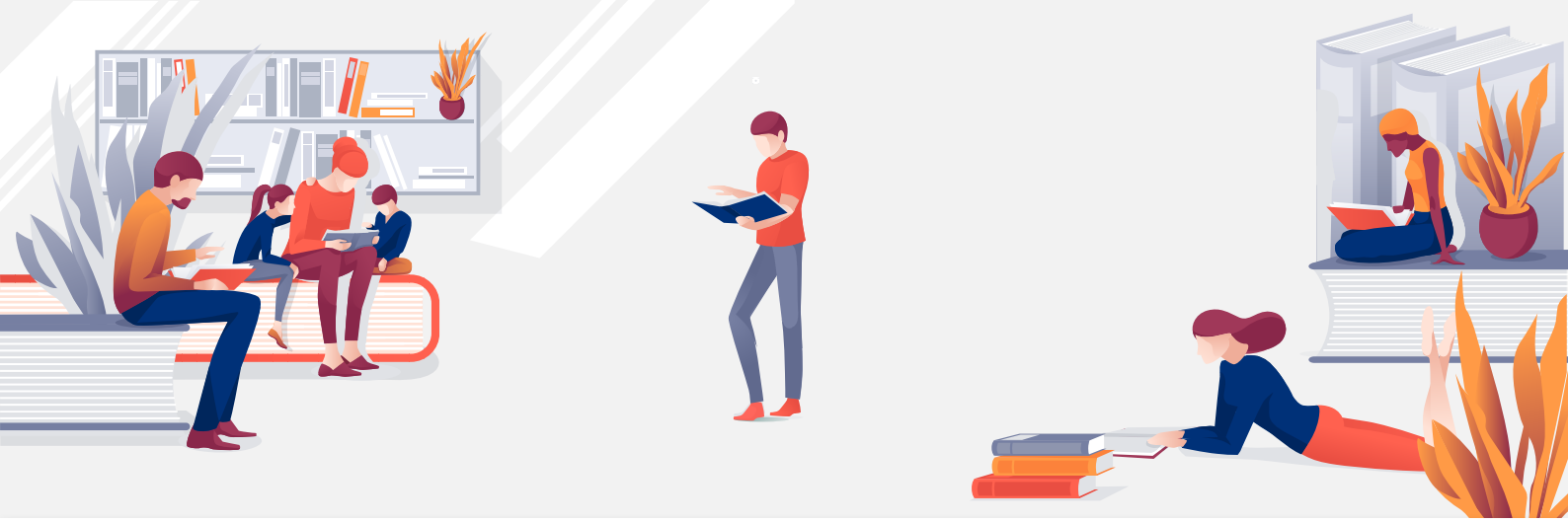
3 Is it important to visit relatives regularly?



Yes, **having some bonding time** with relatives is important, especially in an Asian country like Vietnam where people are **collectivists** and have a strong sense of community. It is also a way to show respect to older generations.

Từ vựng

- **Once in a while:** thi thoảng, không thường xuyên
- **Keep sb in the loop:** cập nhật thông tin cho ai
- **Have some bonding time:** có khoảng thời gian gắn kết
- **Collectivists:** những người có lối sống cộng đồng



Reading

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like reading?



Yes. I used to read a lot as a child, but now my tight schedule rarely gives me any **breathing space** for any pastime.

2 What kinds of books do you like to read?



When I was young, I was a huge fan of foreign comic books like Spider Man or Naruto. As I got older, I grew more interested in famous fiction novels like “Harry Potter” or the “The Hunger Games”.

3 Will you read books when you get older?



I hope so. I intend to **take up** reading again when I have more spare time. Reading **broadens the mind** and it is also an excellent **stress reliever**.

Từ vựng

- **Breathing space:** khoảng thời gian nghỉ
- **Take up:** bắt đầu thói quen
- **Broaden the mind:** mở rộng trí óc
- **Stress reliever:** công cụ xả stress



Planning

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you make plans everyday?



Yes. I like to have a fixed daily plan and rarely do anything **spontaneous**. Unfortunately, my schedule now is really **hectic**, so I have little time for any leisure activities.

2 What is the latest plan you made?



A specific plan, you mean? I'm making a travel plan for my trip to Thailand over the next two weeks. I must calculate living expenses, note down metro numbers and pack food and clothes **in advance**.

3 What is the hardest part of making plans?



I believe it is deciding which tasks are more important and should be **prioritized**. I often spend a lot of time deciding whether I should spend more time at the gym or at work.

Từ vựng

- **Spontaneous:** phát sinh, tự phát
- **Hectic:** bận rộn
- **In advance:** trước đó
- **Prioritized:** ưu tiên

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Sleep, Sport, Visit relatives*

Những chủ đề trên có thể dùng cách diễn đạt chung là lịch trình của tôi rất rảnh/bận nên không/có thời gian cho việc này:

- My tight schedule rarely gives me any breathing space for_____.
- My schedule is hectic >< flexible, so I have really little >< lots of time for_____.

How often do you sleep?

Not a lot → My tight schedule rarely gives me any breathing space for sleeping.

How often do you visit relatives?

Quite often → My schedule is flexible, so I have lots of time for visiting relatives.



Pollution

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Is the city you live in polluted



Severely. The dust and smoke that I must endure on my way to work everyday often makes my head spin. Air pollution is one of many pressing issues my city is facing. According to the US Embassy, the level of air pollution in Hanoi in March has **reached an alarming rate**, which was equal to that of Beijing.

2 What are the causes of pollution?



I believe there are two main reasons . First it is because of the **lightning fast** construction of many factories leading to a higher amount of toxic gases released in to the atmosphere. Another contributor to air pollution is the rising level of **exhaust fumes** coming from motor vehicles like cars or motorbikes.

3 Have you ever done anything to help to protect the environment?



To be frank, I don't do much, mostly because I do not pay enough attention to **environmental preservation**. I use plastic bags on a daily basis and sometimes I still throw garbage on the street. **Mother Earth** must be really mad at me.

Từ vựng

- **Reach an alarming rate:** đạt ngưỡng báo động
- **Lightning fast:** rất nhanh
- **Exhaust fumes:** khí thải ống bô
- **Environmental preservation:** bảo vệ môi trường
- **Mother Earth:** mẹ trái đất



Noise

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you mind noise?



Yes. Loud noise **gives me headache**. Noise pollution is one of the most bothersome problems of Hanoi at the moment.

2 Is there any kind of noise you like?



I do love hearing the “ding” sound my iPhone makes when my salary is transferred. Other than that, I can’t think of anything else.

3 Are cities becoming noisier?



Sadly, yes. If the number of motor vehicles keeps increasing, I might have to think about **relocating to the outskirts** to escape all of the **honking** and **vrooming**.

Từ vựng

- **Give sb headache:** làm ai đó khó chịu, đau đầu
- **Relocating to the outskirts:** chuyển ra ngoại thành
- **Honking:** tiếng còi (xe)
- **Vrooming:** tiếng động cơ (xe)

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Math, Science*

Những chủ đề hay làm người khác đau đầu và có thể phát triển idea chung bằng một số cách:

- _____ makes my head spin.
- _____ gives me headache.

Do you like math?

No → makes my head spin.

Do you like science?

No → gives me headache.



Time Management/Being Punctual

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 How do you organize your time?



To be honest, I'm terrible at managing my time. I often wait **until the last minute** before finishing important tasks. Sleeping usually **takes up** most of my free time.

2 Do you think it is important to be on time?



Yes. Not only is being punctual a good habit, it's also a sign of respect towards others. However, Vietnamese people tend to have a **laid-back** attitude towards appointments, schedules and deadlines, and therefore they're not always on time.

3 How do you feel when others are late?



I usually feel sympathetic. I often have to apologize to my bosses or co-workers for my **tardiness**, so I know how it feels. But if someone is really late, I'll be pretty **peevied**.

Từ vựng

- **Until the last minute:** đến phút cuối cùng/ngay trước khi trễ
- **Take up:** chiếm hầu hết (thời gian)
- **Laid-back:** vô tư, không quan tâm
- **Tardiness:** sự trễ giờ
- **Peeved:** tức tối



Transport

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What is the most popular means of transport in your hometown?



Definitely motorbikes. Due to constant **traffic congestion**, travelling **from point A to point B** in Hanoi is so time-consuming. Motorbikes are the best option to get through the traffic as quickly as possible.

2 How often do you take buses?



I used to travel by bus quite regularly as a student. However, I don't take buses anymore, as I hate having to follow a fixed schedule.

3 What will be the most popular means of transport in Vietnam in the future?



Hopefully cars. But honestly Vietnamese people will only give up their motorbikes for cars when the **road system** is more developed, and when the prices of cars are cheaper. The good news is that we now have our first domestic **car manufacturer**, Vinfast.

Từ vựng

- **Congestion:** tắc đường
- **From point A to point B:** từ điểm này đến điểm khác
- **Road system:** hệ thống đường xá
- **Car manufacturer:** nhà sản xuất ô tô

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Social networking, Visit relatives, Reading*

Những chủ đề trên có thể dùng cách diễn đạt chung là việc này tốn/chiếm rất nhiều thời gian

- _____ take(s) up lots of time.
- _____ is really time-consuming.

Do you like social networking websites?

No -> take up lots of my time

Do you like reading?

No -> time-consuming

Do you often visit relatives?

No -> time-consuming.



Sport

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like sports?



Yes, I'm really into sport. The sports I enjoy playing include football, badminton and table tennis. I also watch sports sometimes if I have time, like the big matches of my country's national football team. Vietnamese people **excel at** football. We've done really well in a few competitions in South East Asia recently, so it's been really exciting to watch, **to say the least**.

2 Do you prefer team sports or individual sports?



I do like playing a few individual sports, but I would say I prefer team sports. This is because I have played football for over 10 years now and enjoy playing it more than any other sport that I've ever played or **tried out** in the past.

3 Would you like to be a professional sportsman?



In the past, I wanted to become an athlete, but that dream **faded away** after I realized I was probably only of **above average ability**.

Từ vựng

- **To excel at:** giỏi
- **To say the least:** không phóng đại
- **Try out:** thử nghiệm
- **Fade away:** mờ / xa dần
- **Above average ability:** trên mức trung bình



Science

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are you interested in science?



I wouldn't say that I really like science. When the word science **comes to mind**, I just think about scientific inventions like the lightbulb or science subjects like chemistry or physics that I had to study a lot during high school. Vietnamese students are **unrivalled** when it comes to exam results in these subjects.

2 Do you often watch TV programs about science?



No, I don't. I mean, off the top of my head I can remember a show from the BBC channel that I watched in the past about our solar system. I can only recall that it was quite interesting to observe how our solar system works. And, as I remember, the presenter was really suitable for the role and has become a bit of a **trendy figure** in the scientific world.

3 Is your work/study related to science?



No, I can't say that it's really related to science. I'm an IELTS teacher, so I try to **follow principles of teaching** for students to improve their speaking skills for the IELTS exam. But I believe that some general **scientific knowledge** is required for some of the speaking questions in part 3 of the exam.

Từ vựng

- **Something comes to mind:** nghĩ đến cái gì đó
- **Unrivalled:** không có đối thủ.
- **Trendy figure:** người nổi tiếng.
- **Follow principles of teaching:** áp dụng phương pháp giảng dạy.
- **Scientific knowledge:** kiến thức khoa học.

Mở rộng

Chủ đề tương tự: *Math*

Các chủ đề này đều có một cách phát triển ý tưởng chung: người Việt Nam rất giỏi lĩnh vực này. Một vài cách diễn đạt:

- Vietnamese excel at _____
- Vietnamese are unrivalled when it comes to _____

Do you like math?

No, although Vietnamese are unrivalled when it comes to math.



Swimming

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Can you swim?



Certainly. My mom let me learn swimming at a very young age as she said it is a basic **survival skill**. Swimming is not a difficult skill to **pick up**, so it only took me a summer to be able to swim for about 25 meters continuously.

2 Why do many people like swimming?



I guess this is because it benefits our health a lot. I mean swimming is like a **full-body workout**. when you swim, you burn calories and exercise both your arms and leg muscles. Or sometimes I swim just to destress and relax after a long day at work.

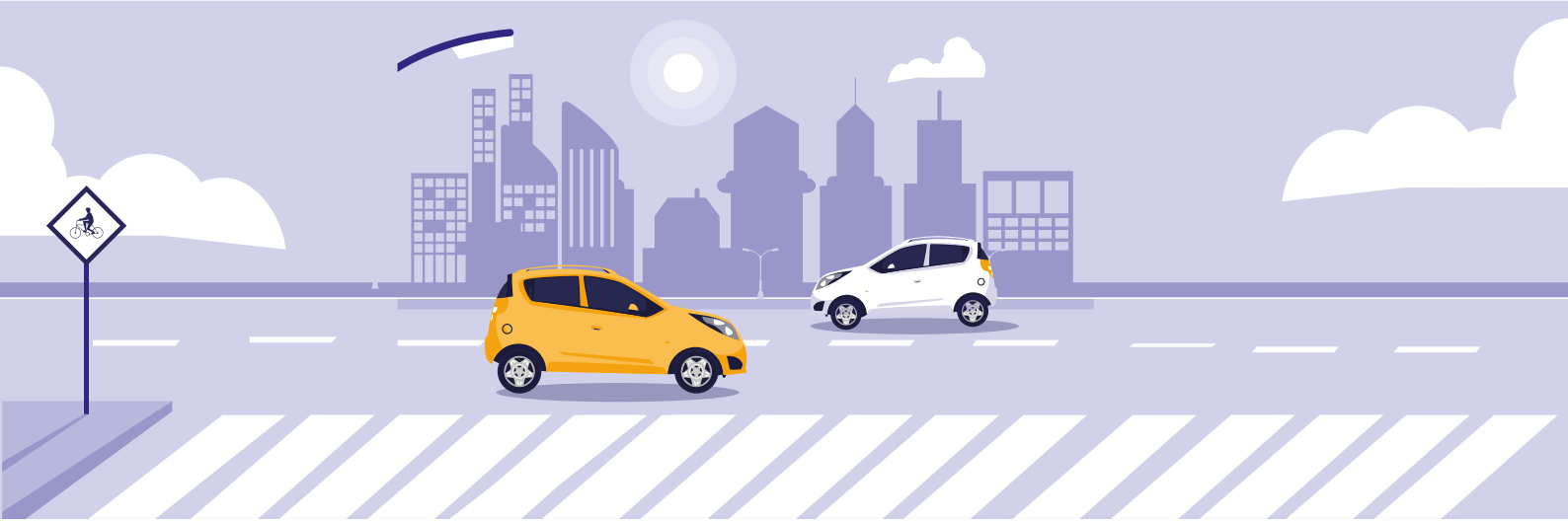
3 Are there many swimming places near you?



Yeah it's not too hard to find a swimming pool around Hanoi, but you must be careful because many of them are often **overcrowded**, especially in the summer. This is because swimming is a favorite activity of many young children. We all love playing with water as a kid, right?

Từ vựng

- **Basic survival skills:** kỹ năng sinh tồn cơ bản
- **Pick up:** học được kỹ năng gì đó
- **Full-body workout:** vận động, thể dục toàn thân
- **Overcrowded:** quá đông đúc



Driving

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you drive often?



Yes, I ride my motorbike to work everyday. I believe driving yourself is much more convenient and **economical** than taking a taxi or a grab.

2 Do you think everyone should get a driver's license?



Definitely. I think everyone should know how to drive, as it is an important skill, especially in the case of long-distance travel. Also, if you travel without a driver's license in Vietnam, you might get a five hundred thousand VND **fine** if caught by the police.

3 When was the last time you travelled by taxi?



The last time I took a cab was two weeks ago during my summer holiday in Thailand. The ride was nice except for the fact that there was an **awkward silence** most of the time since our driver could not speak English.

Từ vựng

- **Economical:** kinh tế
- **Fine:** hình phạt tài chính
- **Awkward silence:** sự im lặng ngại ngùng

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Cooking, Patience, Planning.*

Những chủ đề trên có thể dùng cách diễn đạt chung là chúng đều là các kỹ năng sinh tồn quan trọng, cơ bản và cần thiết trong cuộc sống.

- _____ is a basic survival skill.
- _____ is a useful skill in life

Do you know how to cook?

Yes -> Basic survival skills.

Are you a patient person?

No -> although it is a useful skill.

Do you often make plans?

Yes -> useful skill to have.



Dancing

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like dancing?



I don't know much about dancing, to be honest. I think it is a **challenging skill** to master. Some of the dancers that I know told me that they had to practice from a young age, and one must have **innate talent** to be able to dance.

2 Why do some people like dancing?



It depends. Some people are passionate about dancing. For example, one of my friends said that she can fully express herself while dancing. Others might spend a lot of time learning how to dance to **socialize** when they meet new people since having a talent usually leaves a good first impression.

3 Do you like to watch other people dance?



Yes. Watching dancers naturally move their bodies to the **beat and rhythm** is always fascinating. Some of my favorite types of dancing are modern dance and hip-hop.

Từ vựng

- **Socialize:** làm quen, mở rộng quan hệ
- **Challenging skill:** kỹ năng đầy thử thách
- **Innate talent:** tài năng bẩm sinh
- **Beat and rhythm:** beat và nhịp điệu



Smiling

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 When do people usually smile at each other?



There are hundreds of moments that can make somebody smile, like when you receive a “thank you” from someone, watch a funny video, or to create a good first impression. The last time I smiled was when I saw a random cat video on Facebook yesterday.

2 Do you smile when people take a photo of you?



Normally yes. I consider myself a **photogenic** person, so I’m not afraid to smile as bright as possible whenever a camera is pointed at me. I think the key to having a beautiful smile is confidence in your appearance no matter what.

3 Can you tell when someone’s smile is fake?



Sometimes. I remember watching Mark Zuckerberg giving a speech and noticed his **ingenuine** smile because his smile always ended **abruptly**. I guess that’s one way to identify a fake smile.

Từ vựng

- **Photogenic:** ăn ảnh
- **Ingenuine:** không thật lòng
- **Abruptly:** đột ngột

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Perfume, Drawing*

Các chủ đề này đều có một cách phát triển ý tưởng chung là *giúp tôi để lại ấn tượng ban đầu, thứ mà sẽ còn tồn tại rất lâu.*

- ____ helps me leave/create a good first impression,

Do you like perfume?

Yes -> leave a good first impression, which often is the most lasting.

Do you like drawing?

Yes -> create a good first impression, which often is the most lasting.



Travelling

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Where do you like to travel to?



It depends on the weather. If it's hot I would love to go to the beach but if it's cold then I prefer going for a picnic in the countryside.

2 Do you prefer to travel alone or in a group?



In a group, definitely. This is because it's much more fun. I love having my family as my travel partners so I could **spend some quality time** with them. I never enjoy travelling solo.

3 Is Vietnam a good destination for tourists?



Yes and No. Vietnam is a beautiful nation with so many historical buildings and **breath-taking** natural landscapes across the country, which are definitely worth visiting. However, there are also many **tourist traps** and scams for foreigners.

Từ vựng

- **Spend some quality time:** có khoảng thời gian quý báu với ai
- **Breath-taking:** đẹp đến ngạt thở
- **Tourist traps:** bẫy lừa đảo (khi đi du lịch)

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Sport, Swimming, Sleep*

Rất nhiều chủ đề có thể sử dụng phương án trả lời chung là “*nó còn tùy vào thời tiết*”. Một số cụm điển đạt:

- *It depends on the weather.*
- *Weather strongly affects what I do*

How often do you swim?

Yes → Depends on the weather → more during summer.

How often do you sleep?

Weather strongly affects how much I sleep → more during winter months.



Tea and Coffee

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you prefer drinking tea or coffee?



Well, drinking tea or coffee is a daily habit of many Vietnamese people, and tea and coffee shops can be found **every corner of** big cities such as Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. However my preference is definitely coffee because it tastes better and I think it's more popular among young people.

2 Do you like drinking coffee(or tea) at home or at a cafe?



I normally want to drink coffee in a coffee shop with my friends. A coffee shop is the perfect place to hang out and **chit-chat**. However, when the weather is too cold or rainy, I prefer enjoying a hot cup of coffee at home.

3 Why do some people dislike coffee (tea)?



In my opinion, coffee contains a lot of caffeine, which makes people stay awake at night. Besides, using **stimulants** like tea and coffee can have bad effects on our **digestive system**. A lot of people have suffered from severe stomachaches due to drinking too much coffee.

Từ vựng

- **Every corner of:** ở mọi góc ngách của
- **Chit-chat:** nói chuyện phiếm với
- **Stimulant (n):** chất kích thích
- **Digestive system (n):** hệ tiêu hóa



Street Markets

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Are there many street markets in Vietnam?



Well, street markets are a Vietnamese “thing” and can be found on every corner of both villages and cities across the country, especially in the northern regions.

2 What are the difference between street markets and supermarkets?



There are some noticeable differences between **open-air markets** and supermarkets. First, the prices in street markets are often flexible. I mean buyers can **haggle over the price** to **get a bargain** while goods are always sold at a fixed price in a supermarket. In addition, sellers in a supermarket are often more friendly and helpful to their customers.

3 Do you often go to supermarkets?



To be honest, I just go to a supermarket about once a month. There's only one supermarket in my neighborhood but it's a bit far from my house, so I prefer to go to some street markets which are **within walking distance**.

Từ vựng

- **Open-air market (n):** chợ trời
- **Haggle over the price (v):** mặc cả
- **A bargain (n):** một món hàng
- **Within walking distance (n):** trong khoảng cách có thể đi bộ được

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề chung: *Visiting relatives, Being punctual, Rubbish*

Các chủ đề này có thể có cách phát triển chung cho câu hỏi đầu tiên là những thứ này rất phổ biến và quen thuộc (hoặc không) với người Việt Nam.

- _____ is a daily habit of many Vietnamese people.
- _____ is a Vietnamese "thing".

Why do people litter?

-> *To be honest, littering has become a daily habit of many Vietnamese.*

Do you often visit your relatives?

-> *Well, visiting my loved ones is a normality in my life.*

Are you a punctual person?

No -> *being punctual not a Vietnamese thing.*



Movies

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like watching movie?



I must say I'm a true **film fanatic**. My favorite genre is superhero movies, especially those made by American movie producers. These movies help me enhance my English and expand my **vocabulary bank**.

2 Do you prefer watching films at home or at the cinema?



I would rather watch films at the cinema because of better sound quality and **visual effects**, I can also eat popcorn while enjoying the movie. Also, the cinema is an ideal place for **dating**, as it's quite romantic to watch films with boyfriends or girlfriends.

3 Would you like to be in a movie?



Although many people say that I'm so gorgeous that I should become an actress, I don't think I want to appear in a movie since I **have a fear of cameras**. On top of that, my acting skills are terrible, so I'm not confident to be filmed at all.

Từ vựng

- **Film fanatic (n):** người cuồng phim ảnh
- **Vocabulary bank (n):** vốn từ vựng
- **Visual effects (n):** hiệu ứng hình ảnh
- **Dating (n):** sự hẹn hò
- **Have a fear of cameras (v):** sợ camera

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Music, Watch TV*

Rất nhiều chủ đề có thể sử dụng phương án trả lời chung là nó giúp tôi học ngoại ngữ (tiếng Anh, tiếng Trung).

- *It helps to enhance my language skills.*
- *It helps to expand my vocab bank.*

Do you like math?

Yes → enhance my language skills.

Do you like science?

Quite often → expand my vocabulary bank.



Jeans

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you wear jeans?



Gợi ý:

- Yes: *durable (bền), not easily stretch out (không dễ bị giãn), not be worn out (không bị cũ)*
- No: *don't bring a sense of comfort (không mang lại cảm giác thoải mái), prefer breathable fabrics (thích những loại vải thấm hút tốt hơn).*



Yes, I have many pairs of jeans in my wardrobe because they are very **durable**. Like the once I am wearing, they **haven't yet stretched out**, although I have washed them many times.

2 How often do you wear jeans?



Gợi ý:

- Thường xuyên: *On a daily basis (mỗi ngày), wear jeans with short-sleeved T-shirt (mặc jeans với áo thun tay ngắn), denim jacket (áo khoác bò)*
- Không thường xuyên: *Uniforms (phải mặc đồng phục), formal attire (đồ trang trọng)*



I wear them **on a daily basis**. I mean, I am sick of **formal attire** like shirts and trousers that I have to wear in my workplace. That's why I always choose a pair of jeans, mixed with a **short-sleeved** T-shirt and a **denim jacket** when I go out.

3

Do people in your country like wearing jeans, why?



Gợi ý:

- Yes: *flare jeans* (ngày xưa mặc quần ống loe), *the clothing of choice* (quần áo ưa thích), *skinny jeans*, *ripped jeans* (ngày nay thích jeans ôm hoặc jeans rách)
- No, *trousers* (thích quần tây hơn), *skirts* (thích váy hơn), *look feminine* (để trông nữ tính hơn)



Yes, jeans are **the clothing of choice** for the majority of Vietnamese people, especially the youth, as they are very easy to mix and match. In the past 2 decades, people in my country loved wearing **flare jeans**, but skinny jeans are now **the trend**.



Concentration

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 When do you need to focus?



Gợi ý:

- *At all times (lúc nào cũng vậy), an easily distracted individual (một người dễ bị phân tâm)*
- *In the exam room (trong phòng kiểm tra), my mind often wanders (đầu óc đi lang thang)*



At all times, I guess. I find it necessary to stay focused while driving, doing assignments and so on, but I consider myself as **an easily distracted individual**. I mean, **my mind often wanders** while I am driving, doing homework or doing something repetitive.

2 What may distract you when you are trying to stay focused?



Gợi ý:

- *Notification bell (Thông báo facebook), social networking sites (mạng xã hội)*
- *TV, people's gossip (hoặc tiếng mọi người nói chuyện)*



There are a variety of distractions around me, like **the notification bell** of Facebook and similar social networking sites. Yeah, it's embarrassing to say that I am a **Facebook addict**, so I can hardly concentrate while using it. Besides, I can also lose my concentration when other people gossip near my desk at work.

3 What do you do to help you concentrate?



Gợi ý:

- *Yoga, meditation (thiền), on a regular basis (thường xuyên)*
- *Hit the gym (đi tập gym), have a healthy mind (tinh thần khoẻ mạnh)*



The best way to **improve my concentration** is by doing yoga. I've just participated in this activity for a few weeks, and I can feel that I have a healthier mind day by day. One of my friends advised me to **take up mediation** next summer as this also helps me focus better on my work, so I think I will **give it a shot**.

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *People, Study*

Từ những từ vựng về thời trang, quần áo, người nói có thể áp dụng khi mô tả ngoại hình và thói quen ăn mặc của người mà mình đang muốn nói về, ví dụ *Teachers, Neighbors, ...* Tương tự, chủ đề Tập trung có thể áp dụng tốt trong các chủ đề về *Subjects, Study, School, ...*

- My favorite teacher is Mr. Toan, an English teacher who often wears a short-sleeved shirt mixed with ripped jeans in class.
- I hate history because when I was a high school student, my mind often wandered in history classes, so I can't remember anything.



Sunshine

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like sunshine?



Gợi ý:

- No: *get sunburnt (bị cháy nắng), be exposed to (tiếp xúc với), put up with the heat (chịu đựng nhiệt độ)*
- Yes: *the bright sky (bầu trời sáng sủa), take part in outdoor activities (tham gia các hoạt động ngoài trời)*



No, I don't. I can **get sunburnt** very easily if **I am exposed to** the sun for long periods of time. I prefer rainy days when the temperature is much cooler. A windy day or a cloudy day is also great as I **can't put up with** the terrible heat from the sun.

2 What do you do on sunny days?



Gợi ý:

- *Well air-conditioned room (phòng có điều hoà), sweat like a pig (đổ mồ hôi như tằm - idiom)*
- *Take a shower (đi tắm), to beat the heat from the sun (đẩy lùi cái nóng)*



I love to stay indoors because sunny days in Vietnam or other tropical countries are often very hot. I mean, a **well air-conditioned** room would be an excellent choice for a day with lots of sunshine. I try not to go out on such days; otherwise, **I'll sweat like a pig.**

3

Have you ever used sunscreen?



Gợi ý:

- *Speed up the skin aging (tăng tốc độ lão hoá da), prone to skin cancer (dễ bị ung thư da)*
- *Every now and then (thỉnh thoảng), time-consuming (tốn thời gian)*



Yes, I use it on a daily basis. Scientifically speaking, ultraviolet rays from the sun can **speed up skin aging**, which makes us look less attractive or even makes us more **prone to skin cancer**. That's why I think it's necessary to protect our skin by using sunscreen.



Islands

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Have you ever been to an island?



Gợi ý:

- *Set foot in/on (đặt chân lên), off the coast of (nằm ở ngoài khơi bờ biển phía đông), put up a tent (dựng một cái lều), starry night sky (bầu trời đêm đầy sao)*
- *Never in my life have I came there (chưa bao giờ trong đời tôi tới đó), seasick (bị say sóng), get on a boat (bước lên tàu)*



Yes, I have visited Phu Quoc and Binh Ba, which are famous islands in Vietnam. More interestingly, my friends and I also had a chance to **set foot on** an isolated island **off the coast of** my country, named Diep Son. Then, we **put up a tent** on the beach, and spent the whole night singing and talking **under the starry night sky**.

2 How many islands are there in your country?



Gợi ý:

- *Geography is not my forte (địa lý không phải điểm mạnh của tôi), to the best of my knowledge (theo những gì tôi biết), off the beaten track (ít người lui tới)*
- *If my memory serves me well (nếu tôi nhớ không lầm thì), deserted island (đảo hoang), uninhabitable island (đảo không thể sinh sống)*



There are thousands of them, but to be honest, **geography isn't my forte**, so I don't remember the precise number. To the best of my knowledge, maybe roughly 2000, I guess. Some of them are well-known destinations, while others are **quite off the beaten track**.

3

Would you like to live on an island if you have a chance?



Gợi ý:

- Yes, *a faraway island (hòn đảo xa xôi), from dusk till dawn (từ hoàng hôn tới bình minh), the rhythm of the waves (tiếng sóng biển)*
- No, *monotonous (đơn điệu, nhàm chán), lack of freshwater supply (thiếu nguồn nước ngọt)*



Yes, I always dream of buying a house on **a faraway island**, living on my pension when I retire. The main reason is because I love walking along the beach while watching the sunset. **From dusk till dawn**, I can sleep soundly with **the rhythm of the waves** being a peaceful lullaby.

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Trip, Sky*

Từ những từ vựng về phong cảnh, bầu trời, biển đảo nói có thể áp dụng khi mô tả các chuyến du lịch, hoặc bầu trời đêm.

- *I prefer the night sky to the morning sky because I love the feeling of spending my whole night by the sea, under the starry sky with my friends and listening to the rhythm of the waves.*
- *The last time I had a trip was 3 month ago. That was the first time I set foot on an island. I put up a tent on the beach and enjoy grilled seafood.*



Haircut

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What is your favorite hairstyle?



Gợi ý:

- *chin-length hairstyle* (kiểu tóc dài ngang cằm), *cropped hair* (tóc cắt ngắn đối với nam giới, hoặc như nam giới), *look masculine* (trông nam tính)
- *undercut style* (kiểu tóc undercut), *be compatible with* (hợp với), *barber* (người hớt tóc)



I don't actually have a favorite hairstyle these days. But in the past, I used to be a big fan of the **undercut** style which **was compatible with** my face shape. However, I don't really care much these days, so I just let the **barber** do whatever he wants.

2 How often do you have your hair cut?



Gợi ý:

- *on a monthly basis* (mỗi tháng), *have my beard shaved* (đi cạo râu), *have my hair dyed* (đi nhuộm tóc)
- *hair goes grey* (tóc bị bạc), *barbershop* (tiệm hớt tóc), *have my hair cut* (đi hớt tóc)



Once a month or once every two months I suppose. Because **my hair goes grey** very fast, I have to go to a **barbershop** to **have it dyed** as a way to look younger, and I usually **have my hair cut** as well.

3

How much do you usually spend on your haircut?



Gợi ý:

- *do multiple things at the same time (làm nhiều thứ cùng lúc), get a facial massage (mát xa mặt), the cost can amount to (chi phí có thể lên tới)*
- *It depends (điều đó còn tùy), Just a few dongs (một vài đồng thôi), in a matter of minutes (chỉ trong vài phút), get my hair straightened or curly, (uống tóc hoặc nhuộm tóc)*



As I mentioned, I **do multiple things at the same time**, so the cost of my haircut is quite high. Every now and then, I often **get a facial massage** and shampoo also, so the cost can sometimes **amount** to a hundred VND in total.



Tiredness

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 What things make you tired?



Gợi ý:

- *caffeinated drinks* (thức uống có cafein), *my energy gets drained* (cạn hết năng lượng), *be stressed out* (bị stress)
- *heavy workload* (khối lượng công việc nặng nề), *exhausting exam seasons* (những mùa thi cử căng thẳng)



There are many things that make me tired. For example, after consuming too much alcohol or **caffeinated drinks**, I will be exhausted for days after. Besides, **my energy gets drained** if I am continually **stressed out** and lacking sleep.

2 What do you do when you feel tired?



Gợi ý:

- *Combat fatigue* (đẩy lùi sự mệt mỏi), *mattress* (cái nệm), *keep my skin hydrated* (giữ cho da không bị mất nước)
- *Grasp a quick nap* (tranh thủ ngủ), *put on a face mask* (đắp mặt nạ)



In order to **combat fatigue**, I choose to lie on my comfortable **mattress** and enjoy some music. While doing this, I also put on a face mask to **keep my skin hydrated** and my mind relaxed.

3 Who do you prefer to talk to when you feel mentally tired, your friends or your family?



Gợi ý:

- *Drama* (thị phi), *pressure* (khiến cho ai bị áp lực), *academic progress* (sự tiến bộ trong học tập)
- *Frustrated* (chán nản, tức giận), *down in the dumps* (rất không vui), *confide in* (tâm sự với)



That depends on what troubles I am facing. Like, if I'm feeling stressed about school or my friends' **drama**, I will talk to my mother or father. However, when my parents are **pressuring** me about **academic progress**, my buddies will be the ones who understand me the most.

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự: *Clothes, Fashion*

Từ những từ vựng về kiểu tóc, thời trang, chúng ta có thể áp dụng khi mô tả các món đồ thời trang như quần áo, giày dép, túi xách. Ngoài ra từ vựng của chủ đề mệt mỏi (*Tiredness*) cũng có thể được áp dụng cho chủ đề tea or coffee

- *I love wearing a handbag when I go out. I often choose a small one which is compatible with my style. I don't wear packback because it makes me look more masculine.*
- *I don't like caffeinated drinks because it makes me feel tired. Instead, I prefer having a cup of hot tea whenever I feel stressed out so that I can stay calm and relaxed.*



Trust

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Who do you trust the most?



Gợi ý:

- *have my back* (ở bên cạnh giúp đỡ), *Throughout the ups and downs of my life* (qua những thăng trầm trong cuộc sống)
- *mentally and financially support somebody* (giúp đỡ về mặt tinh thần lẫn tài chính), *stand by my side when I am in need* (ở bên cạnh tôi mỗi khi tôi gặp khó khăn)



Absolutely my mother. She was my very first best friend in life and always **has my back** and keeps my secrets. **Throughout the ups and downs of my life**, my mother has always stood by my side, and given me support whenever I have been in need.

2 Have you ever lost trust in someone?



Gợi ý:

- *closest confidant* (bạn thân nhất), *get intimate with* (thân mật với), *had deep affection for* (rất có cảm tình với), *drift apart* (không còn chơi thân với nhau), *came to a halt* (đi đến kết thúc), *strikes up a conversation with* (bắt chuyện với)
- *Once in a blue moon* (rất hiếm khi), *loyal and trustworthy friends* (những người bạn trung thành và đáng tin cậy)



Yes, my best friend Jack, who used to be my closest confidant until I saw him getting intimate with my crush, even though he knew that had deep affection for her. Then, we drifted apart and our friendship came to a halt. After that, frustrating and unpleasant memories about a bad friend in the past obsess me whenever somebody strikes up a conversation with me.

3 What kind of people do you trust?



Gợi ý:

- *wholeheartedly* (chân thành, bằng cả trái tim), *put faith in* (đặt niềm tin vào), *confide in* (tâm sự, tin tưởng)
- *betray* (phản bội), *lose faith in humanity* (mất niềm tin vào nhân loại)



I guess only our family members are trustworthy and willing to help us wholeheartedly. After being betrayed by my best friend, I can hardly put faith in anybody else. I am afraid that when I confide in someone, he or she may share my secrets with others.



Eating

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you eat a lot?



Gợi ý:

- *is prone to weight gain* (dễ bị tăng cân), *refrain myself from* (kiềm chế bản thân), *an insatiable appetite* (một đam mê, sự thèm ăn không thể thoả mãn)
- *a fussy eater* (một người kén ăn), *maintain a healthy diet* (duy trì chế độ ăn lành mạnh)



→ No, I'm trying to **maintain a healthy diet**. As a person who **is prone to weight gain**, I have to **refrain myself** from eating my favorite foods, especially after 7PM. In the past, I used to be an obese person with **an insatiable appetite** for food, so I avoid eating too much now.

2 Do you like eating healthy food?



Gợi ý:

- *well-being* (sức khoẻ), *stay physically fit* (giữ dáng), *avoid cardiovascular diseases* (tránh các bệnh tim mạch),
- *junk food* (thực phẩm có hại cho sức khoẻ), *scrumptious* (ngon lành), *mouth-watering* (ngon mắt), *binge eating* (ăn ngấu nghiến)



I love it. Healthy food like veggies or fruits is highly beneficial to my health as it helps me to **stay physically fit** and **avoid cardiovascular diseases**. Besides, this kind of food is **scrumptious** when used as ingredients for mouth-watering salads.

3 Do you eat out a lot?



Gợi ý:

- *be wary of* (thận trọng, quan ngại), *sanitary conditions* (điều kiện vệ sinh), *food establishments* (cơ sở kinh doanh thức ăn), *hygienic* (hợp vệ sinh)
- *lead a hectic lifestyle* (có 1 lối sống rất bận rộn), *dine out* (ăn tiệm, ăn ngoài), *on a frequent basis* (thường xuyên)



No, I **am wary of** the **sanitary conditions** of most **food establishments** in my neighborhood, so I always try to arrange time to prepare my own meals. I believe my homemade dishes, despite not being tasty, are way more **hygienic** than those served in restaurants.

Mở rộng

Từ những từ vựng về niềm tin, ta có thể áp dụng vào chủ đề về gia đình, bạn bè, hàng xóm, nói chung là về các mối quan hệ trong xã hội. Từ vựng về chủ đề ăn uống, ta áp dụng được vào chủ đề về thể thao, sức khỏe.

- *My neighbor is a very nice person that I can confide in. He is also trustworthy and has my back when I am in trouble*
- *Playing sports is very beneficial to my well-being, because it helps me stay physically fit and avoid cardiovascular diseases*



Bags

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often use bags?



Gợi ý: Yes: **must-have item** (vật phải có).



Of course. I'm a student, so a bag is a **must-have item** for me whenever I go to school. But, to be honest, I can't say I love or like bags, I just use them because I need to.

2 What types of bags do you like?



Gợi ý: Canvas backpack (ba lô vải), opt for (lựa chọn): cheap and durable (bền), considered myself as a fashionable person (đánh giá bản thân là một người thời trang).



A **canvas backpack** is the only type that I own. Honestly speaking, I've never **considered myself as a fashionable person**, so I totally have no idea about any other kinds of bags out there. And as a student, I just **opt for** a bag which is cheap and **durable**.

3 Do you usually carry a bag when you go out?



Gợi ý: Yes: carry daily necessities and belongings (đồ cần thiết hàng ngày và tài sản), carry both light and heavy stuff (mang cả đồ nặng và đồ nhẹ), backpack (ba lô).



I think most of the time I do. As I told you before, I always wear a **backpack** to school to carry my **daily necessities and belongings**. It's very convenient as I can store everything in it, from **light stuff to heavy stuff**, like tissues, my mobile phone, and even my laptop.

4 Do you have different bags for different occasions?



Gợi ý: No: cost a fortune (tốn rất nhiều tiền, cả gia tài)



I'm afraid not. Apart from carrying bags to school, I rarely use them for any other occasion. And the fact is that it would cost me a fortune if I bought bags for every different occasion.

Mở rộng

Chủ đề tương tự của "Bags": *Jeans, Perfume:*

Jeans

Is there any jean brands you prefer?

→ Only own one brand in the wardrobe, opt for the one which is cheap and durable.

Do you often wear jeans?

→ Must-have items, wear jeans to school.

Perfume

Do you use different types of perfume for different occasions?

→ No: cost a fortune.

Chủ đề tương tự của "Voice": Languages

Languages

What are ways to learn English?

→ Record voice and listen to it: Check pronunciation, flow and speed.



Voice

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Is your voice different to when you were young?



Gợi ý: No: always high-pitched voice (giọng cao), sound “mature” (giọng người lớn).



I’m not sure but I don’t think there have been any significant changes in my voice. Since I was a small girl, I’ve always had this **high-pitched** and soft voice. To be honest, I don’t like my voice because it doesn’t sound “mature” at all.

2 Is your voice similar to that of a family member?



Gợi ý: No: Parents – heavy local accents (nặng giọng địa phương), my parents’ voices are much thicker than mine (giọng bố mẹ trầm hơn nhiều giọng tôi).



I don’t think so. My parents have **heavy local accents** from central Vietnam, while I don’t. I guess it’s because I was born and raised in the south. Not to mention that **my parents’ voices are much thicker than mine.**

3 Do you enjoy recording your voice and listening to it?



Gợi ý: before: awkward (kì cục), now: become more fluent (đạt được sự lưu loát), check pronunciation (kiểm tra phát âm).



I used to feel quite **awkward** when recording and listening to my own voice, but now, I really enjoy it. Actually, it’s the thing I do every day to **become more fluent** at speaking English. By listening to my voice, I can easily check my pronunciation, fluency and intonation.

4 Does everyone have the same voice?



Gợi ý: No: *vary from person to person* (khác biệt giữa người này với người khác).



Absolutely not. I have never met two people with the same voice, let alone everyone. Voices **vary from person to person** and it will be different in pitch, volume or tone.



Walking

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often walk?



Gợi ý: No. Do wonders for health (tốt cho sức khỏe), step out of my house (bước ra khỏi nhà), go in for a walk (đi bộ)



I'm afraid not. I normally travel around by my motorbike since my workplace and my school are not really near my apartment. Though I know walking regularly can do **wonders for our health**, I am still too lazy to **step out of my house** and **go for a walk**.

2 Where do you often go to walk?



Gợi ý: wander around (đi thả bộ), scorching hot days (cực kì nóng), hardly go further (khó mà đi xa được).



As I said before, I rarely walk. If I can spare some time for it, I think I would just **wander around** my apartment but probably wouldn't go any further, especially during **scorching hot** days in the city.

3 Do you prefer to walk alone or with others?



Gợi ý: *extrovert* (người hướng nội), *walk with a companion* (bạn đồng hành); *deep conversations* (những cuộc tâm sự), *enjoyable experience* (trải nghiệm thích thú).



Well, as an **extrovert**, I think having a walking **companion** sounds much more appealing than walking on my own. I love to have deep conversations with my friends, so I guess walking while chatting can turn into a really enjoyable experience.

4 Do people walk more nowadays compared to the past?



Gợi ý: *No. means of transport* (phương tiện giao thông), *there is no point in walking* (không có lí do gì để đi bộ); *a tight schedule* (lịch trình bận rộn), *leisure time for walking* (thời gian rảnh rỗi để đi bộ).



I don't think so. There are tons of different **means of transport** to assist people in travelling these days, so **there is no point in walking** anywhere. That's not to mention people nowadays have such a **tight schedule** that they hardly have any leisure time for such physical activity.

Mở rộng

Chủ đề tương tự của "Walking": *Sports, Travelling.*

Sports

How often do you play sport?

→ *Although playing sports can do wonders for health, I am too lazy to step out of my house to do any.*

Travelling

Do you prefer to travel alone or with other people?

→ *Yes: an extrovert -> having a travelling companion is fascinating -> travelling and chatting can be an enjoyable experience.*



Sharing things

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you like sharing things?



Gợi ý: Yes. Share petty things (đồ lặt vặt, không quan trọng), feel a sense of enjoyment (cảm thấy sự thích thú).



Sure. You know, sharing is a good way to show that you care about others. I never mind sharing my **petty things** like clothes, books or food. It's hard to explain but I always **feel a sense of enjoyment** when I share something.

2 What kinds of things do you like to share?



Gợi ý: personal stuff (đồ cá nhân), works on our bond of long-lasting friendship (tăng gắn kết tình bạn lâu dài).



Apart from some **personal stuff** that I just mentioned, I particularly like sharing my everyday stories at work or school with my besties. I've kept this habit of sharing for years and it really **works on our bond of long-lasting friendship**.

3 What kinds of things are not suitable for sharing?



Gợi ý: confidential information (thông tin mật), even with trusted friend (người bạn đáng tin): a no-no (việc làm không thể chấp nhận), leaked (tiết lộ).



To be perfectly honest, sharing **confidential information** like bank account details or email passwords, even with your most **trusted friend**, is definitely a **no-no**. You know how important those things are to you, so once they are **leaked**, you could be in real trouble.

4 Did your parents teach you to share when you were a child?



Gợi ý: Yes. sharing is caring (chia sẻ là quan tâm) an endearing habit (một thói quen đáng quý), parents set good examples (làm gương tốt).



They did, sure. I was taught that “**sharing is caring**” and it is **an endearing habit**. I learnt a lot from my parents’ behavior as well. They always **set good examples** by giving away my old toys and clothes to poor kids.



Makeup

Câu trả lời tham khảo

1 Do you often wear makeup?



Gợi ý trả lời: *put on lipstick every day to look fresh* (dùng son để trông trẻ hơn), *natural lip color* (màu môi tự nhiên), *beauty products* (sản phẩm làm đẹp).



Not really, but every day when I go to work or school, I just **put on some lipstick to make me look fresh** because to be honest, my **natural lip color** is just so dark. Apart from that, I hardly use any other kinds of **beauty products**.

2 What does wearing makeup mean to you?



Gợi ý trả lời: *self-confidence* (sự tự tin), *boost confidence* (tăng sự tự tin), *the slightest bit of makeup* (trang điểm nhẹ nhất), *a more "perfect" version of myself* (phiên bản hoàn hảo hơn của bản thân).



I think it's all about **self-confidence**. Putting on makeup can really **boost my confidence** and make me feel more in control. I only wear lipstick, as I said, but even the **slightest bit of makeup** can help create a **more "perfect" version of myself**.

3 Do you give makeup as gifts?



Gợi ý trả lời: No: cosmetics cost an arm and a leg (rất đắt) >< live on a shoestring (sống tiết kiệm); different tastes (sở thích khác nhau).



Not at all. You know, as cosmetics normally **cost an arm and a leg**, I don't think it's suitable to give as gifts, especially for a student **living on a shoestring** like me. That's not to mention that everyone has **different tastes in** makeup, so it's hard to decide what to give.

4 What do you think when you see a man wearing makeup?



Gợi ý trả lời: There's nothing wrong (không có gì là sai), everyone is free (mọi người đều được tự do).



I think there's nothing wrong with that. Everyone is free to make themselves look good. That's why if men want to wear makeup, then they should do so.

Mở rộng

Chủ đề tương tự của "Makeup": *Perfume*

Perfume:

What does perfume mean to you?

→ *Boost my self-confidence, feel more in control, even the slightest scent can create a more "perfect" version of myself.*

Do you give perfume to others as presents?

→ *No: cost an arm and a leg >< live on a shoestring; everyone has different taste in perfume.*

IELTS

Speaking Part 2 & 3



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time someone gave you money as a gift.

- When you received money
- Who the person was
- Why he/she gave you money

And how did you feel about the gift..



Let me tell you about the time my parents gave me some money as a present.

So you know during Tet holiday, adults often give children red envelopes with paper money inside. Traditionally, these notes are blessing for a new year of good health, luck and happiness. However, this custom has become something ugly as many children do not understand such gestures and think of these gifts as nothing more than some extra **pocket money**. I was no exception.

For years, my parents have always been the most generous people when it comes to the amount of money I received in these red envelopes. Sometimes they gave me a million VND, which was like a fortune to a kid at the time. However, about five to six years ago, when I received a two dollar note, which was about 40 thousand VND, from my parent's envelope, I was super disappointed. No further explanations were given for the loss of **the lion share of** my "income" during Tet that year.

Once I had to start giving out money, I began to understand what my parents were trying to teach me. Kids need to realize that lucky money is only meant for good luck. I hate to see that the first thing many kids do after receiving my envelopes is to immediately check how much they have earned. My future kids, therefore, should not expect a thick envelope from me during Tet.

Từ vựng

- **Pocket money:** tiền tiêu vặt
- **The lion share of something:** phần lớn nhất và tuyệt vời nhất của một thứ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe something given to you that you really need:** Receiving money from parents during Tet holiday taught me a lesson I really need.
- **Describe a time you taught something new to a younger person:** when I have kids, I will tell my kids about the meaning of “lucky money”.
- **Describe a present you received which was made by hand:** the money my parents gave me was not “hand-made”, but it was my parent’s blood, sweat and tear → understand its value even more.

Speaking Part 3

1 Do you think money management skills are important?



Gợi ý: tránh gặp vấn đề tài chính, tiết kiệm tiền (save money), kiểm soát tiền bạc (manage money).



Absolutely. Knowing how to manage money properly is an essential **life skill**, you know. It helps us avoid having **financial issues** in the future. For example, many people cannot stop themselves from purchasing unnecessary items, you know. A person who has great money management skills, on the other hand, will **save up** some money in case of emergencies.

2 Do you think cash will be replaced by credit cards in the future?



Gợi ý:

- Có: *credit card tiện lợi hơn, rất nhiều quốc gia hiện nay không dùng tiền mặt.*
- Không: *giáo dục hành vi người dân (educate people's behavior) rất khó mà mất thời gian, ví dụ người Việt Nam vẫn quen với việc dùng tiền mặt hơn là dùng thẻ và trong nhiều trường hợp sử dụng tiền mặt sẽ tiện hơn.*



I believe payment by cash will be **a thing of the past**. Most developed nations have managed to establish **cashless societies** where credit cards and mobile payments are more commonly used than cash. Cashless payment needs a boost in Vietnam since most Vietnamese people are still used to carrying a lot of money at all times.

Từ vựng

- **Life skill:** kỹ năng sống
- **Financial issues:** vấn đề tài chính
- **Save up (money):** tiết kiệm tiền
- **A thing of the past:** lỗi thời, hết thời
- **Cashless society:** xã hội không dùng tiền mặt



Speaking Part 2

Describe an important historical event

- What event it is
- When it happened
- Who or what was involved in it

And explain why you think it is an important historical event.



I would like to tell you about one of the most important past events in my country. That is the time when President Ho Chi Minh read the Declaration of Independence, establishing the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

History lessons at school in Vietnam might be boring, and not so many students pay attention to their teachers' words in history classes, but I'm sure there's one thing about history that all students in Vietnam remember. That is the date of the day marking our freedom. September 2nd 1945 was a **glorious** day. Thousands of people gathered at the Ba Dinh Square to listen to the Declaration of Independence.

You know, in the past, our country was invaded and colonized for a very long time by different nations, but we never forgot our traditions and customs, and always tried to fight the enemies to **reclaim our independence**. France colonized us for almost 100 years, feasting on our people's blood and sweat. Most Vietnamese people back then were farmers. They were uneducated and had to bow to their **inhumane** land lords. Despite the great disadvantages, they were still able to unite and keep fighting bravely. Millions of them died, but their heroic actions live forever. And as you can guess, we finally took back our freedom.

From that day up until now, every Vietnamese person has the right to proudly say that he or she is free. I mean, I'm truly grateful to all the soldiers who overcame great hardships and fought with their lives so that I can enjoy a better life now.

Từ vựng

- **Glorious:** huy hoàng
- **Reclaim independence:** giành lại độc lập
- **Inhumane:** vô nhân đạo, dã man

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you enjoy an activity:** I read some history books about the Vietnam war during my free time and I was really interested in this event.
- **Describe a subject you used to dislike but now are interested in:** I used to hate history but after finding out about the Vietnam war, I changed my mind.
- **Describe a person you haven't met but would like to know more about:** Ho Chi Minh, or Uncle Ho, one of our greatest leaders in history who gave a declaration of independence speech, is someone I really want to know more about.

Speaking Part 3

1 How is history taught in Vietnam?



Gợi ý: Đọc và chép, ít hình ảnh, thiếu lời cuốn, học sinh buồn ngủ, không nhớ được gì...



During all my years at school, my history teachers' job was to read the whole text out loud and make sure that their students write everything down in their notebook. It's really boring and tiresome!

2 Is there any difference between teaching history through books and movies?



Gợi ý:

- *Dạy qua sách: Nhiều chữ, không hấp dẫn đối với trẻ em.*
- *Dạy qua phim: Sống động, nhiều màu sắc, dễ tiếp thu hơn.*



I'm glad you mentioned that. I've always dreamed of one day when history in my country is taught via movies and video documentaries. That way students might feel more excited and finally be able to pay attention to the knowledge they are learning in class. By presenting history in the form of images and videos, I believe history classes can achieve their original purpose – to teach history instead of lulling students to sleep.

3 Why are there many children who do not like to learn history?



Gợi ý: Sách lịch sử thiếu những câu chuyện hấp dẫn, quá nhiều chữ, ít hình ảnh. Cách dạy nhàm chán, đọc chép, không lời cuốn.



There are two reasons in my opinion. The first reason is that most of them are not mature enough to feel interested in battles and wars that happened in the past. I mean, they are too young and are more keen on animated movies and video games. The second reason is the way that history is taught in most countries nowadays. I hold a strong belief that if schools change the way they teach history, things will be a lot different.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a good law in your country

- What the law is
- How you first learned about the law
- Who the law affects

And explain why it is a good law. (what would happen without it?)



Today I'm going to talk about a law that I find very effective in my country. It is a law that bans people from throwing garbage in public places.

A few days ago, I heard the news broadcast on channel VTV1 that this law had been enacted after the Environmental Protection Conference last month. It says that no one is allowed to litter in public sites, especially tourist attractions. If anyone is caught throwing rubbish in such places, he or she must pay a **fine** of about 1 million to 5 million VND, which is a huge amount of money. In case a person is reported to have **broken the law**, the one who reported may receive a bonus of 5 million, of course, with proper evidence only.

After this law **came into force** and some people were reported. The strict punishment and strong criticism from the media as well have discouraged citizens from throwing rubbish anywhere they want. Also, the stunning views and **natural landscapes** of some famous tourist attractions in Vietnam have been protected. There are also fewer complaints from tourists about so much litter such as used cans and bottles appearing on the beach. And the most important thing is that the citizens' **awareness of protecting the environment** has greatly improved.

That's all I want to share!

Từ vựng

- **Fine:** khoản tiền phạt
- **Break the law:** phạm luật
- **Come into force:** có hiệu lực
- **Natural landscapes:** phong cảnh thiên nhiên
- **Awareness of protecting the environment:** ý thức bảo vệ môi trường

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a film or TV program that makes you happy:** After watching the program about our planet, I feel really happy because the environment will be better protected thanks to this program.
- **Describe a piece of good news you heard from TV or the Internet:** I heard about a new environmental law on TV.
- **Describe a person who helps protect the environment:** I don't know about any particular individual, but the Vietnamese government has made a lot of progress lately to protect the environment.

Speaking Part 3

1 What are the necessary qualities for someone to become a judge?



Gợi ý: Thông thạo luật lệ, có tư duy phản biện, có lòng vị tha (altruism).



I think there are many essential characteristics of a good judge. First, a judge should be fair. Because he is **the representative of justice**, I suppose fairness is the first quality that matters. Besides, he needs to be wise to apply the laws properly and suitably according to different cases. Sometimes, it's important that the judge understands the real story behind what is told.

2 What are the necessary qualities for someone to become a lawyer?



Gợi ý: Thông thạo luật lệ, có tư duy phản biện, có tài ăn nói và đối chắp, có khả năng thuyết phục đám đông.



In my opinion, a lawyer needs to be honest and have a deep understanding of the laws. To be more specific, a lawyer should always provide the exact information on their clients' situation, then give them the best advice on what they should do. A lawyer also needs to understand the law thoroughly so that he can protect his clients' rights or reduce the severity of their sentences.

3 Are there any circumstances that the law should be broken?



Gợi ý: Đối với những tình huống khẩn cấp liên quan đến mạng người hoặc đối với những người có hoàn cảnh khó khăn và không may phạm luật lần đầu.



I think in some cases, the law can be broken. For example, in my country, it is against the law to **run a red light**, but ambulances are allowed to do so. So I think that it is necessary to violate the traffic laws if a person is carrying a patient whose life is in danger.

Từ vựng

- **The representative of justice:** đại diện của công lý
- **To run a red light:** vượt đèn đỏ



Speaking Part 2

Describe an interesting old person

- Who the person was
- How you met that person
- Where you met him or her

And explain why you find them interesting.



The old person that I find interesting that I would like to tell you about is my grandma. Actually, she died a few years ago but she was a very inspiring person. My **earliest memories** of her are probably from when I was about 5 or 6 years old, because before that I didn't live with my grandparents so I didn't see them very often.

There are many reasons why I think she was very interesting. Firstly, she grew up in Australia during a time when men and women did not have **equal rights**, especially in terms of salary, and she used to work in a leather factory and she knew that she was good at her job, better than a lot of the men in the factory. So one day, she demanded that her boss pay her the same wage as her male colleagues because she was better than a lot of them. This was a brave thing to do and her boss gave her a raise. I think this is a good example of her personality actually. She was an honest and fair person, she worked hard and she expected to be paid fairly.

She always really loved to live in old houses in the countryside and filled them with all sorts of antiques and lots of interesting gadgets, so it was quite fascinating for me and my brothers to visit her house when we were young. Secondly, my grandmother **was a real individual**. She loved to play video games even when she was 60 years old, and she used to ride a big motorcycle and she had some tattoos on her arms, which was very uncommon for a woman her age. But my brothers and I thought she was really cool. She was also a very talented artist as well. She painted many beautiful paintings, and learnt to play the piano when she was about 65. And because of these things, my grandmother is someone I really admired.

Từ vựng

- **Earliest memories:** những kỉ niệm đầu tiên
- **Equal rights:** quyền bình đẳng
- **To be a real individual:** độc đáo không giống ai

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề quen thuộc:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được dùng để phát triển các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe someone you want to become in the future:** I want to become someone as cool as my grandma in the future.
- **Describe someone you would like to work or study with:** My grandma is an excellent co-worker who are willing to fight for fairness in the workplace.
- **Describe an intelligent person you know:** My grandma is intelligent (because of the cool gadgets and antiques).

Speaking Part 3

1 Can old and young people share the same interests?



Gợi ý:

Có → nhưng *interest không yêu cầu nhiều thể lực (physically-demanding): thể thao trí tuệ (cờ vua), đọc sách (reading), chụp ảnh (photography).*

Không → *clubbing, thể thao nặng về thể lực (soccer), công nghệ (technology).*



Yes of course. There are many interests that young and old people share. For example, many young and old people like to play the same sports, such as badminton, or the same games, like chess. It really just depends on each person's personalities.

2 What can old people teach the youth?



Gợi ý: *trải nghiệm sống/bài học cuộc sống → cách vượt qua khó khăn → câu chuyện chiến tranh, thiếu tiền, thiếu thức ăn.*

Một vài kỹ năng nhất định: thêu (sewing), trồng cây (planting).



Well, I suppose there are plenty of things the older generations can teach the youth. For example, older people usually have a lot of **life experience** and have learnt a lot of **important life lessons** which they can teach younger people about. In Vietnam, most older people experienced a lot of hardships in their lives when they were young, because the country was involved in a lot of wars, and many people didn't have jobs or money or even food, so they had to learn to survive and overcome those difficult times. Most kids these days don't have to deal with anything like that, so there are many things they could learn from their elders.

3 What can young people teach the old?



Gợi ý: những thứ liên quan đến công nghệ (how to use mobile phone or computer), cởi mở hơn (open-minded), hoạt động năng động hơn (active activities).



Well, I guess the first thing that **springs to mind** is about how to use technology. Many older people tend to be living **behind the times** so they tend to **have a hard time** learning how to use modern computers and other devices, like smartphones and so on, so that's one thing they can learn from the youth. Also, I guess many older people still hold on to some **traditional beliefs and customs**, some of which are a bit **out-dated**, while the youth are usually **in the know** when it comes to modern ways of living and more modern views and opinions about certain aspects of life. So I guess both generations have something to learn from each other.

Từ vựng

- **Life experience:** trải nghiệm sống
- **Important life lessons:** bài học cuộc sống quan trọng
- **Springs to mind:** nảy ra trong đầu
- **Behind the times:** lạc hậu
- **Have a hard time:** gặp khó khăn
- **Traditional beliefs and customs:** niềm tin và phong tục truyền thống
- **Out-dated:** lạc hậu, lỗi thời
- **In the know:** hiểu biết về điều gì đó



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time when you had a problem with a piece of equipment

- What equipment it was
- What problem you had
- When you had the problem

And explain how you fixed the problem.



I would like to tell you the story about the time I had some technical problems with my mother's phone.

I cannot remember exactly when it happened, probably a couple of years back when I was still a high-school student. Anyway, **back in the day**, smart phones were not as popular as they are now, and owning one was actually something **to be jealous of**.

On my mom's birthday that year, my dad surprised her with a brand new iPhone 4, which was one of the most **technically advanced** phones on the market at the time. Although I knew it was mom's, I just loved it so much, all I wanted to do was take it to school to show my friends. Then one day, I **made up an excuse** that I needed her phone for some projects at school and she actually believed me.

I remember the next morning; I **couldn't help smiling** all the way to school with the phone in my pocket. Needless to say, my friends adored it, and for me, I just loved being **the center of attention**. As we were playing with the phone, testing all of its functions, my teacher walked in, which **took me by surprise**. Next thing I knew, my mom's phone slipped out of my hand and fell onto the hard floor. **My heart skipped a beat** as I picked it up, there was no screen crack but the flash-light just kept flashing non-stop. I thought to myself: "That's it, this is the end of the world for me."

Later that day, I brought the phone home and confessed with my mom. She was furious with me. But it turned out that all I had to do was hit the reset button!

This is one of the memory that I will never forget.

Từ vựng

- **Back in the day:** trong quá khứ
- **To be jealous of:** đố kỵ với cái gì
- **Make an excuse:** bịa ra lời bào biện
- **Couldn't help smiling:** không thể nhịn cười
- **The center of attention:** trung tâm của sự chú ý
- **Take somebody by surprise:** làm ai đó giật mình
- **My heart skipped a beat:** đột ngột cảm thấy sợ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time when you were scared:** I was really afraid to confess to my mom about the broken phone.
- **Describe a time you borrowed something from your family or friend:** the time I borrowed my mom's phone.
- **Describe a time when you didn't tell someone the whole truth:** I did not tell my mother about the real reason I borrowed her phone.

Speaking Part 3

1 What are the most common household appliances that every family has?



Gợi ý: đồ gia dụng nhà bếp – thiết bị giải trí, ích lợi của nó.



Hmm... I think every family would have some basic household appliances like a refrigerators, washing machine and Television. Those are the types of appliances that offer people a lot of benefits and can help save a lot of time.

2 What can people do to protect their equipment from being broken?



Gợi ý: giữ đồ cẩn thận, nêu ví dụ một đồ gia dụng nào đó.



Of course if you want to keep anything new, or at least not broken, you have to treat it carefully. For example, if you want to keep a refrigerator in its best condition for the longest time possible, you should clean it regularly, and have it repaired right away if any problems occur.

3 If a piece of equipment is broken, do you prefer to fix it or buy a new one?



Gợi ý: tùy thuộc vào độ hư hỏng → hỏng vừa thì sửa, hỏng nhiều thì thay; Hoặc tùy thuộc vào giá trị tinh thần (sentimental value) của đồ đó.



This should depend on how broken it is. If there is still a chance that it would function normally again after being repaired, I would definitely try and fix it. But on the other hand, if chances are it can't be fixed or the repairing process could **cost me a fortune**, then I would buy a new one.

4

Do you think modern technology makes people lazier?



Gợi ý:

Có, bởi tiện lợi quá mọi người không phải di chuyển nữa;

Không, bởi nhiều công việc vẫn phải do con người làm, nhất là việc trí óc, công nghệ chỉ đóng vai trò hỗ trợ.



Yes, I think so. Everything is so convenient these days that people no longer have to make much of an effort anymore. Online shopping or delivery services are **a prime example**. Back in the day, to buy something, people had no choice but to travel to the store and make the purchase in person. But now, as these online services are always available, anything can be bought **with just a click**. This does make people lazier, but at the same time helps people save tons of time.

Từ vựng

- **Cost me a fortune:** rất đắt
- **A prime example:** ví dụ điển hình
- **With just a click:** chỉ với một click



Speaking Part 2

Describe a skill that takes a long time to learn.

- What skill it is
- How and where you can learn it
- Why it takes a long time to learn

And explain how is it beneficial for the future.



I'm going to tell you about a skill that takes a long time to learn, and that is playing a musical instrument, or more specifically, playing the guitar. There are many ways you can learn to play the guitar but I guess the most common way is to get guitar lessons from a guitar teacher. I think you can find a guitar teacher in just about any town or city because it's probably one of the most popular musical instruments to learn. And if you can't find a teacher nearby where you live, then there are tons of **online learning resources** that you can learn from. Personally, I think learning with a teacher in a **face to face lesson** is probably the most effective but expensive method. But if you can't afford private lessons, there are many cheap or even free websites to learn from.

Learning to play the guitar is something that takes a long time because there are many aspects involved. For example, you must learn some basic music theories about notes, chords, and rhythm, among many other things. Then you must learn how to apply that knowledge to the guitar, for example, you must know where all the notes are on the guitar and what notes to play when you want to play a specific chord. And lastly, you must be able to actually physically play those notes and chords, with rhythm. Playing the guitar involves both your hands doing different things at the same time, which can be very difficult to become good at and takes a lot of practise. Actually, at first it is very difficult to play something on the guitar that actually sounds good, and many people **give up** quickly because they **lose motivation** when they can't see any improvement in a short period of time. But, like any skill worth knowing, you must understand that practice makes perfect.

I guess some people would say that this skill isn't really beneficial for the future, but I would say that music is an important part of most people's lives. So, whether you can play the guitar, or if you simply love to listen to music, then probably sometimes in the future, your guitar or someone else's guitar is going to have some kind of positive affect on your and other people's mood or emotions.

Từ vựng

- **Online learning resources:** nguồn tài liệu online
- **Face to face lesson:** lớp học trực tiếp
- **Give up:** từ bỏ
- **Lose motivation:** mất động lực

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a language you want to learn:** I really want to learn music, "the universal language" by learning to play the guitar.
- **Describe an item you bought but do not often use:** I bought a guitar for myself but hardly use it because it takes a long time to learn.
- **Describe a thing you do to help you study or work:** I play the guitar to destress and recharge energy after a long day at work or school.

Speaking Part 3

1 Why does it take a lot of time to learn a skill?



Gợi ý: một vài kĩ năng rất khó → bộ não và cơ thể cần thời gian để thích nghi. Những lúc khó khăn sẽ rất dễ nản và mất động lực (lose motivation), từ bỏ (give up).



Well, I think it normally takes a long time to learn a new skill simply because it takes time for our brains and our bodies **to adapt** to the new skill we are trying to learn. For example, when you want to learn how to play the guitar, it takes quite a long time before the muscles in your hands and fingers are developed enough to be able to move quickly and precisely in order for you to be able to press the correct strings in the correct place to play the sounds you want the guitar to make. So, basically it just takes time because our brains and bodies need time to adapt to the new skill, but some people can adapt faster than others at different skills.

2 Is it important to learn a new skill?



Gợi ý: Có, thử thách bản thân, làm mới cuộc sống, có nhiều tài lẻ hơn (special talent). Không, tập trung vào việc học, công việc/ngại mất nhiều thời gian (time-consuming).



Definitely. I think life is about learning. So, if you are not learning and practising a new skill then probably you are not **challenging yourself**, and you might even find life a little boring. I think in order to have a **fulfilling life**, it is important to learn new skills all the time.

3 What do people feel when they have to wait?



Gợi ý: rất dễ mất kiên nhẫn (impatient) và nản lòng (frustrated) → tìm hành động để giết thời gian (kill the time) hoặc nổi cáu.



Well, everyone is different I guess. Some people have more patience than others, so probably they feel fine when they have to wait, while some people can be very **impatient** and probably get very **frustrated** when they have to wait for a long time. I guess it just depends on what they are waiting for and how long they have to wait.

4

What do young people and old people do while waiting?



Gợi ý: người trẻ: dính vào điện thoại, nổi cáu; Người già: thư giãn, đọc báo.



Well, I suppose that most young people just spend time staring at their smartphone when they have to wait for something, scrolling through their Facebook newsfeed, while elderly people probably tend to have a conversation with each other, talk about the weather, or read the news. Actually I really don't have any idea what old people do while waiting for something.

Từ vựng

- **To adapt:** thích nghi
- **Challenging yourself:** thử thách bản thân
- **A fulfilling life:** một cuộc sống có ý nghĩa
- **Impatient:** mất kiên nhẫn
- **Frustrated:** nản lòng



Speaking Part 2

Describe a book you have recently read

- What kind of book it is
- What it is about
- What sort of people would enjoy it

And explain why you liked it.



I consider myself as a **bookworm** so when it comes to describing a book I read, I am really confused since I don't know which one to choose, but I will tell you about the book that I have just finished most recently – Angels and Demons – a bestselling mystery-thriller novel written by Dan Brown.

The whole story revolves around the **protagonist** named Robert Langdon who is on a quest to rescue the Pope and discover the underlying mysteries of the Catholic church. Though the book involves a lot of religious issues, it can **cater to** all kinds of readers as there aren't many technical terms. From my point of view, it is a true **masterpiece**, enchanting and captivating, filled with conspiracies and plot twists that really **send shivers down my spine**. I was so fascinated by the book that I had to find the **film adaptation** online to watch afterwards, and it did not let me down at all. The movie was so action-packed that it **kept me on the edge of my seat**.

What I especially like about the book is that it is very thought-provoking and it kept me thinking for a very long time after I had finished reading. I appreciate the **moral lessons** of the book. The story, though may sound distant to our lives, conveys meanings that are relatable to readers, and I am grateful that I learnt something from the book.

All in all, it is an outstanding book that I would definitely recommend to my friends.

Từ vựng

- **Bookworm:** mọt sách
- **Protagonist:** nhân vật chính/nhân vật chính diện
- **To cater to:** phục vụ/làm hài lòng ai
- **Masterpiece:** siêu phẩm
- **To send shiver down one's spine:** làm ai rùng mình
- **Film adaptation:** bản chuyển thể thành phim
- **To keep sb on the edge of one's seat:** làm ai đó vô cùng hồi hộp (thường cho phim, biểu diễn, ...)
- **Moral lessons:** bài học cuộc sống

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a book you want to write:** I want to write some as meaningful and provoking as "Angel and Demon".
- **Describe an activity you would do when you are alone in your free time:** I like reading books and I hate being bothered while reading books, especially good ones like "Angel and Demon".
- **Describe a time you enjoyed your free time:** I was too focused on reading this book that I didn't realize I'd spent 3 hours of my free time enjoying each page.

Speaking Part 3

1 What kind of books do children like?



Gợi ý: *chuyện cổ tích/ ngụ ngôn → nhân vật gần gũi/ nội dung trong sáng thú vị; Chuyện anh hùng/ tiểu thuyết/ ...*



I'm not sure, but I guess they enjoy **fairy tales** and **folk stories** since the plots are usually quite bright. For example, most kids read Cinderella and love the book very much. I guess it is because it has beautiful characters and a happy ending.

2 What should parents do to encourage their children to read books?



Gợi ý: *dạy trẻ từ bé/ mua sách phù hợp với lứa tuổi/ cho con cái tham gia các câu lạc bộ đọc sách (reading club) hay trao đổi sách.*



It is necessary that parents **encourage their children's reading activities** at an early age. This can help kids develop a habit of reading for pleasure. Also, parents should not be too controlling over the books their children read letting them read what they love will keep them more interested in reading.

3 Why do adults still have to read books?



Gợi ý: *để giải trí, giải tỏa đầu óc (destress) sau khi làm việc/ để học hỏi thêm kiến thức.*



I think because people can learn a lot from reading books, as books not only are stress-relieving but also **enrich one's soul** and **enhance one's knowledge**, and learning is a process of a lifetime. For that reason, people of all ages still read books.

4

Why do adults still have to read books?



Gợi ý: trở nên tiện lợi hơn với các thiết bị điện tử/ tất cả trẻ em sẽ dễ dàng đọc được sách nhờ vào phát triển kỹ thuật/ sách điện tử (audio books) sẽ được ưa chuộng hơn đọc sách.



Owing to the development of technology, paper books may be **a thing of the past** as digital books are taking over. Online reading through devices such as laptop, mobile phones and kindles are now favored since it is much more convenient. However, I can't really tell because many of my friends still enjoy the feeling of having a book in their hands.

Từ vựng

- **Fairy tales:** truyện cổ tích
- **Folk stories:** truyện ngụ ngôn
- **Encourage children's reading activities:** khuyến khích các hoạt động đọc sách
- **Enrich one's soul:** làm giàu tâm hồn
- **Enhance one's knowledge:** mở rộng tri thức
- **A thing of the past:** một thứ lỗi thời



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time you helped someone.

- Who you helped and why
- How you helped this person
- What the result was

and explain how you felt about helping this person.



Alright let me tell you about the time that I helped my girlfriend study for her IELTS test.

So this happened about a couple of months ago when she was about to retake her IELTS test after an **unsuccessful attempt** earlier. She failed at speaking (only 6.5), so she asked me to communicate in English for a week prior to her exam to practice. I thought it was silly at first, but went along anyway.

I struggled a lot during our first conversations as talking in another language makes me feel distant, even though I'm an English teacher. How ironic! Finally, I **came to my senses** and decided to treat her as one of my students. Things started to get better and I was able to detect her biggest issue in speaking: her fluency. Similar to other Vietnamese English teachers, she focuses too much on perfecting her speech: adding "big" words and avoiding grammatical mistakes, which eventually leads to a loss of fluency. I gave her few tips, one of which was to stop worrying about just saying the first thing that comes to mind, because speaking is a test of your communication skills, not your vocabulary bank. Fortunately, she began to speak more fluently and achieved 8.5 in her speaking test.

I feel pretty proud of myself as a teacher and also pretty happy for my girlfriend as she was able to **speak her mind** and got the score she deserved!

Từ vựng

- **An unsuccessful attempt:** một lần cố gắng không thành công
- **To come to my senses:** suy nghĩ thấu đáo hơn
- **To speak my mind:** diễn đạt cảm xúc trực tiếp

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time when you taught something to a younger person:** I taught speaking skills to my girlfriend who is two months younger than me.
- **Describe someone you would like to study or work with:** my girlfriend as I love having some more bonding time with her.
- **Describe an intelligent person I know:** my girlfriend is really smart as she realized her mistakes and fixed them really quickly.

Speaking Part 3

1 Is it necessary to ask for advice?



Gợi ý: giúp giải quyết vấn đề nhanh hơn và đưa ra các quyết định đúng đắn hơn cho những sự kiện quan trọng.



Yes, we are not **Mr. Know-it-all**, I mean, there are always limits to our knowledge and experience in life, so I think it's really vital for us to ask for advice from other people when we're going to experience something new, like **taking up a new hobby**, for example.

2 Do young people nowadays like to receive advice?



Gợi ý: những người trẻ tuổi thường thích chứng tỏ mình trưởng thành và do đó, từ chối lời khuyên.



It's hard to tell, to be honest, I mean, it really depends. Some of them are very **open to advice** but some aren't. They think they are always right and refuse all kinds of help from others.

3 Do they always follow the advice they receive?



Gợi ý: tôi thực sự không biết, nhưng tôi đoán là có, đa số người trẻ tôi gặp đều như vậy.



Well, again it really depends. For instance, if they find the advice valuable, they will definitely act on it, but if they consider it to be something wrong, they will not follow it. Still there are some cases when they pretend to take the advice to **please** others but then never follow it.

4

Should people ask for advice only on their personal matters or even important decisions?



Gợi ý: nên hỏi bất cứ khi nào cảm thấy khó khăn, bế tắc, những người có kinh nghiệm sẽ giúp ta tìm ra giải pháp tốt hơn.



I think it doesn't matter what the problem is, the important thing is whether they can sort it out themselves or not. If they can't think of any solution then I think they definitely need advice.

Từ vựng

- **Mr. Know-it-all:** ngài biết tất cả mọi thứ
- **Take up a new hobby:** có một sở thích mới
- **Open to something:** tư tưởng mở, dễ tiếp nhận điều gì đó
- **Please sb:** làm hài lòng ai đó



Speaking Part 2

Describe an intelligent person

- Who the person is
 - What he or she does
 - Why you think he or she is intelligent
- and explain how you feel about him or her



Today, I'll take this chance to talk about Hoang, one of the smartest friends that I have ever had. Back in high school, we used to hang out a lot until he went abroad for **further education**.

Hoang was my classmate at high school and we **got on quite well** with each other as we shared a big interest - music. However, when it came to studying, everything turned out to be absolutely different. While I was doing really badly at Physics, he was considered as the smartest student in this subject at my school. He always **stood first** in all of the exams and no other students could **come close to** him. Every time the teacher asked us to solve a Physics question, it never took him more than 3 minutes to do the task. As he was **quick on the uptake** and understood the subject so well, Hoang was always **in the teachers' good books**.

Not only did he perform well in Physics but he also did brilliantly at other science subjects because of his **intellectual ability**. He was also **a great companion** during my high school time. Thanks to his helpful guidance, I finally managed to get better grades in Physics as well.

That is all I want to share.

Từ vựng

- **Further education (n):** đại học
- **Get on well with (ph.v):** có mối quan hệ tốt với
- **Stand first:** đứng đầu, dẫn đầu
- **Come close to:** (sánh) bằng với
- **Quick on the uptake:** hiểu nhanh
- **Be in one's good books:** làm ai hài lòng
- **Intellectual ability:** năng lực trí tuệ
- **A great companion:** một người bạn đồng hành tuyệt vời

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe someone you would like to study or work with:** My best friend is really brilliant and helpful, so I always count on him to help me with my study.
- **Describe a person who encouraged you to achieve a goal:** Thanks to my best friend's help and encouragement, I always passed my Physics final exams with fairly good grades.
- **Describe a subject you used to dislike but now have interest in:** I used to hate Physics but now I love it thanks to Hoang.

Speaking Part 3

1 What could parents do to help their children to become smarter?



Gợi ý: Khuyến khích (encourage) trẻ em đọc nhiều sách, cho nghe nhạc không lời (instrumental music) mỗi tối, nuôi con bằng sữa mẹ, ...



Well I'm not quite sure, but scientifically speaking, if children are **breastfed** during their first years, it is very likely that they will grow up more intelligent than those drinking powdered milk. We all know a mother's milk is **highly nutritious** for infants, so I guess this is a wise choice.

2 What kind of job do you think requires workers to be very intelligent?



Gợi ý: Bác sĩ hoặc giáo viên vì phải có nhiều kiến thức (knowledgeable), trí nhớ tốt, học giỏi.



Personally, I would say being a doctor requires people to be incredibly intelligent. You know, I really admire those who have studied tons of medical theories and know precisely how to deal with a variety of their patients' ailments. Intelligence and **prodigious memory** are highly necessary for this occupation.

3 Do you think artificial intelligence will take over humans in the future?



Gợi ý: Có vì robot ngày càng trở nên thông minh hơn (increasingly intelligent) giống như trong các bộ phim science fiction. Không vì loài người (human beings) thông minh hơn những gì họ sáng chế ra (inventions).



No I don't think so. As we can see in sci-fi movies, there will be a day when AI gain control over our civilization. I mean, basically, we can predict such an **undesirable prospect** so we can totally prevent it from happening. I guess scientists are **smart enough not to be** controlled by what they have devised.

4 Does technology make our life become better or worse?



Gợi ý: Tốt hơn bởi vì giúp con người sống thoải mái hơn với máy lạnh, tủ lạnh hoặc thay thế con người ở các môi trường làm việc nguy hiểm (*hazardous working environment*). Xấu hơn bởi vì con người bị lệ thuộc vào công nghệ và trở lên lười biếng (*lead a sedentary lifestyle*).



Well, **there're two sides to every coin**. I think **cutting edge technology** provides human beings with better living standards like modern air-conditioners or eco-friendly solar vehicles. Yet, we are also suffering its negative effects, such as our addictions to social media and over-reliance on smartphones.

5 Is it easy to teach old people to learn how to use modern technology?



Gợi ý: Công nghệ hiện đại (*are not used to + Ving*). For example, my grandmother...



Not quite. Most of the elderly face memory loss due to **aging** and they may become **absent-minded** and hardly remember any of the teaching. Also, teaching them to use modern technological devices is hard because they can be seen as inaccessible. You know, there weren't any such things back in their time.

Từ vựng

- **Breastfeed - Breastfed - Breastfed (v)**: nuôi con bằng sữa mẹ
- **Highly nutritious**: rất giàu dinh dưỡng
- **Prodigious memory**: trí nhớ phi thường
- **Undesirable prospect**: viễn cảnh không mong đợi
- **Be smart enough not to + be**: đủ thông minh để không bị...
- **There are two sides to every coin (idiom)**: mọi thứ đều có hai mặt
- **Cutting edge technology**: công nghệ hiện đại
- **Aging (n)**: sự lão hóa
- **Absent-minded (adj)**: đãng trí



Speaking Part 2

Describe a success your friend has achieved

- What it was
- When it happened
- Why your friend chose this area of activity and explain why you thought this was a success.



I'm going to share with you a story about one of my friend's successes that happened 3 years ago. After graduating from a small college located in the suburb of Dong Nai Province, Sumail decided to pursue his own ambition instead of **following in his family's footsteps**, something that **drove his parents crazy**. Whereas his friends were **squandering** money on gambling or preparing to **tie the knot**, he started his career as an amateur Youtuber with nearly nothing to his name. During the very first part of his career path, due to the lack of **financial support**, he had to take lots of jobs in order to **make ends meet**. He was **busy as a bee**, doing part-time jobs in the daytime and **burning the midnight oil** night after night. After 1 year of hard work, he eventually managed to buy his first computer and then opened his own studio in a small dorm room. With his unique creativity and good sense of humour, his career began to **take off**. Now he is one of the most popular youtubers in the world with more than 100 million subscribers. He has his own seaside villa, a number of supercars and an **ideal family**. We still talk about the old days as well as his achievements every time we meet.

Từ vựng

- **Follow family's footsteps:** nối nghiệp gia đình
- **Drive sb crazy:** làm ai đó tức điên lên
- **Squander:** phung phí
- **Tie the knot:** kết hôn
- **Financial support:** sự hỗ trợ về tài chính
- **Make ends meet:** làm đủ tiền để sống
- **Busy as a bee:** rất bận rộn
- **Burn the midnight oil:** làm việc đến tận khuya
- **Take off (career):** sự nghiệp thăng tiến, phát triển
- **Ideal family:** gia đình lý tưởng

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a piece of good news on TV or the Internet:** A couple of days ago I saw some of my friends' video on my YouTube suggested list and that reminds me of his success story.
- **Describe a time you gave advice to others:** When Sumail was about at the lowest point of his life, we met once to have a chat. That was when Youtube was becoming a sensation, so I suggested that perhaps he could start his own YouTube channel.

Speaking Part 3

1 What qualities do you think are necessary for success in life?



Gợi ý: Kiên nhẫn, chăm chỉ (hard work), sự quyết đoán (decisiveness). Ví dụ một số nghề cần phải kiên nhẫn như giáo viên, bác sĩ.



To become a successful person in life, we are required to have a great number of qualities, but the most important one is certainly patience. I mean, nobody can succeed without experiencing failures. We need to persevere until the time is right, and our efforts will pay off.

2 Do you think having a lot of money can be seen as an achievement?



Gợi ý: Có vì có tiền sẽ mua được nhiều thứ, nhiều người dành cả đời để kiếm tiền. Không vì có nhiều thứ quan trọng hơn các giá trị vật chất (material values), ví dụ như gia đình, hôn nhân hoặc niềm vui trong cuộc sống.



Yes, to some extent. All of us all try to earn as much money as possible as we all know it is terrible to live in poverty. Therefore, having a lot of money may **mean the world to** somebody and they **are entitled to** feel satisfied when achieving this as long as he or she doesn't forget other values in life like family or love.

3 Is it good or bad for a person to be successful when he is still young?



Gợi ý: Xấu vì lúc đó họ chưa trưởng thành (not mature enough) nên dễ bị cám dỗ. Ví dụ một số người nổi tiếng thành công khi còn trẻ, không nhiều người có cuộc sống hạnh phúc.



It is more of a negative trend in my mind, simply because they will very likely **be tempted by fame or wealth** and fail to pursue other goals that are more precious like their career or a happy marriage. Public figures, for example Justin Bieber, who became internationally well-known way too early, are living a life **fraught with** scandals.

4 Do you think you are a person that feels happy easily?



Gợi ý: Có vì luôn là người tích cực và lạc quan, dễ cười và dễ tha thứ (tolerant). Không là bởi vì thường xuyên bị stress (suffer constant stress at work) và hơi khó tính.



Yes, probably. I consider myself as an optimistic and easygoing individual as I can smile even when my mood is low. I mean, I always try to **look for the silver lining** to stay positive in even the darkest moments in life. I often also **burst out laughing** when talking to someone humorous, even in a time of crisis.

5 Do rich people or poor people often feel happier?



Gợi ý: Có vì giàu sẽ có nhiều tiền đi học, đi chơi, có công việc tốt thì cảm thấy hạnh phúc hơn. Không vì ai cũng có vấn đề riêng của họ, ví dụ như Mr. Vũ, the founder of Trung Nguyen coffee và scandal về hôn nhân gia đình của ông.



It is quite difficult to say for sure. I guess the rich are more likely to feel happy as we all know material possessions can provide us with better education and entertainment. Therefore, we can more easily find jobs, enjoy a better living standard and afford activities that amuse us unlike those who are **destitute**.

Từ vựng

- **Mean the world to:** có ý nghĩa to lớn đối với
- **Be tempted by fame or wealth:** bị cám dỗ bởi sự nổi tiếng và tiền bạc
- **Be fraught with:** đầy rẫy
- **Look for the silver lining:** tìm ra mặt tích cực của 1 vấn đề
- **Burst out laughing:** bật cười
- **Destitute:** khốn khó, khốn cùng



Speaking Part 2

Describe a person who is handsome or beautiful

- Who the person is
- How beautiful or handsome he/she is
- How often you meet him/her

and explain how you feel about him or her



I'd like to tell you about my crush, who is probably the most handsome guy on earth that I know. We used to study in the same high school, but now he is **pursuing his medical career** in Hanoi, while I am specializing in education in HCMC. Though we are working in two separate parts of the country, I still **have a deep crush** on him.

Back in my high school days, he was a **total catch** and every girl showed their affection for him, and of course, I was not the exception. The thing which made me into him so much was definitely his bright smile. Whenever my crush smiled, he always looked cuter, more charming and more lovable. And **it is no exaggeration to say that** his genuine smile could really lighten up my day. What's more, the way he **spoke in gentle tones** with me truly melted my heart. He seemed to **have a good sense of style** and was able to **express his individuality** through everything he wore, from his shoes to his jacket. His clothes were not expensive, I guess, but they looked perfectly **appropriate for his body type**.

Because of the long distance, I don't get to see him face-to-face regularly. Actually, we only meet once a year during the annual alumni reunion festival at my high school. However, we still **keep in touch** with each other via Facebook Messenger.

That is all I want to share.

Từ vựng

- **Pursuit a career:** theo đuổi sự nghiệp
- **Have a deep crush on someone:** rất thích ai đó (tình cảm nam nữ)
- **A total catch:** (người) rất tốt nên được yêu thích, mến mộ
- **It is no exaggeration to say that:** không quá khi nói rằng
- **Speak in gentle tones:** nói năng nhẹ nhàng
- **Express individuality:** thể hiện tính cách cá nhân
- **Have a good sense of style:** biết cách mặc đồ đẹp
- **Appropriate for the body type:** phù hợp với thân hình
- **Keep in touch:** giữ liên lạc

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a teenager you know:** My crush and I met in high school.
- **Describe a person you would like to work and study with:** I want to study with him because he is intelligent and handsome.

Speaking Part 3

1 What kinds of job require the workers to be good-looking?



Gợi ý: những nghề mà phải tiếp xúc trực tiếp với khách hàng, là đại diện cho hình ảnh của chỗ làm việc (tiếp tân khách sạn, tiếp viên hàng không...).



Well, I think **beauty and physical appearance** matter in jobs where you have to directly communicate with your clients. Now let's take airline hostesses for example. They are usually the most attractive staff members of an airline company because they are supposed to **represent the image** of the company, and, the hospitality as well. Therefore, hostesses must always be look their best at all times.

2 How important do you think appearance is to a man in society today?



Gợi ý: rất quan trọng, vì nó ảnh hưởng đến cách người khác đánh giá mình, đặc biệt là trong chuyện kinh doanh làm ăn.



Hmm, I have to say that appearance is **of great importance** for men these days. Undoubtedly, looking good boosts self-confidence and **self-esteem**. It is the most **natural human instinct** that people would associate themselves with those who look good. And this does help a man a lot in his business. If he can give himself a very **masculine and healthy look**, other people will want to work with him and learn from him.

3 Do you think women are wasting their time and money for their appearance?



Gợi ý: : Không. Vì phụ nữ làm đẹp là chuyện quá bình thường cho thấy họ có ý thức với việc chăm sóc thể mạnh của bản thân (nhan sắc).



I don't think so, honestly. **It is common knowledge** that beauty and women are **inseparable**. And when a woman takes care of her beauty, she is learning to appreciate her own charm. As a girl in her 20s, I think there is nothing wrong with women spending time **pampering** themselves, because only when we look good on the outside can we feel good on the inside.

4 Is it necessary for children to be good-looking when they are still young?



Gợi ý: Không cần thiết. Trẻ em nên dành thời gian vui chơi và khám phá cuộc sống thay vì dành thời gian quan tâm về sắc đẹp.



I'm not sure about this. Being pretty and beautiful is always a great thing. But paying too much attention to appearance at a young age is not something necessary. I mean, every child is born cute, so why do they need to care about whether they are good-looking or not? Instead, children should spend time enjoying and exploring life more. For example, they should go outside and **engage in** nature to know more about the natural world.

5 Do you know any method to help a person to look younger?



Gợi ý: ăn uống lành mạnh (cơ thể khỏe mạnh) và tránh bị stress (ít nếp nhăn).



To be honest, I'm not **an expert in** the field of beauty. But I think we can only look good when we feel good. For me, maintaining a healthy diet always **comes first**. Let's say, some food containing vitamin C should be **incorporated into** our diet to make us look and feel more youthful. Also, we should avoid stress as much as possible. You know, it's a fact that a stressful lifestyle will make us tired and unhappy. More importantly, it will give us **wrinkles**.

Từ vựng

- **Beauty and physical appearance:** vẻ (đẹp) bên ngoài
- **Represent the image:** đại diện cho hình ảnh
- **s.t is of great importance = s.t is very important**
- **Self-esteem:** lòng tự tôn
- **Natural human instinct:** bản năng tự nhiên của con người
- **Masculine and healthy look:** vẻ ngoài nam tính, khỏe khắn
- **It is common knowledge:** điều mà ai cũng biết (kiến thức phổ thông)
- **Inseparable (adj):** không thể tách rời
- **Pamper (v):** chăm sóc
- **Engage in (v):** tiếp xúc, gần gũi
- **An expert in:** chuyên gia (trong lĩnh vực)...
- **Come first:** xuất hiện đầu tiên, quan trọng nhất
- **Be incorporated into:** được thêm vào, được kèm vào
- **Wrinkle (n):** nếp nhăn



Speaking Part 2

Describe a kind of food people eat in a special occasion

- When you eat that meal
- How you prepare it
- What ingredients are used to prepare it and explain why you enjoy it.



Because my mom is a super great cook, since I was a child, I have **had the privilege to** try lots of awesome dishes. So **when it comes** to Vietnamese food, there are hundreds of choices **that come to mind**. But the one I want to talk about is Banh Chung, a traditional food that most Vietnamese people eat during Tet holiday. According to the Vietnamese culture, making Banh Chung is a way to **express gratitude** to our **ancestors** and homeland.

Compared with cooking ordinary food, the process of making Banh Chung is much more complicated and time-consuming as it requires lots of ingredients and skills. To make Banh Chung, we need glutinous rice, pork meat, and green beans. First we have to choose and **soak** sticky rice in water one night **in advance**. Rice is wrapped into a square shape, and the wrapping must be neither tight nor loose. Then Banh Chung will be boiled for about 12 hours. This is the most **memorable** part, as we tend to gather around the fire, chatting and eating snacks the whole night. No matter how modern the world may become, having Banh Chung with beloved ones still plays an irreplaceable role in the Vietnamese **spiritual life** during Tet holidays.

Từ vựng

- **Have a privilege to:** có đặc quyền làm gì
- **When it comes to:** khi nhắc về
- **Come to sb's mind:** đến tâm trí của ai đó
- **Express gratitude:** bày tỏ sự biết ơn
- **Ancestor:** tổ tiên
- **Soak:** ngâm
- **(time) In advance:** trước bao lâu
- **Memorable:** đáng nhớ
- **Spiritual life:** đời sống tinh thần

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a job that was done by your grandparents:** When my grandmother was alive and my grandfather could walk by himself, they always made Banh Chung together when it is Tet.
- **Describe something you brought back from a tourist attraction:** Back to when I was studying overseas a few years ago, one time I went to California and visited Orange county. After seeing that they sold Banh Chung, which is one of Vietnam's traditional dishes. I immediately bought 10 of these.

Speaking Part 3

1 Do Vietnamese people eat rice every day?



Gợi ý: Người trẻ thì thích thử nhiều loại đồ ăn nên việc ăn cơm hằng ngày sẽ rất chán. Trong khi những người lớn tuổi hơn thì việc ăn cơm tất cả các bữa không thành vấn đề.



Well, it **depends on** which **age group** we are talking about. With **millennials**, eating rice every day sounds like an evil **torture** as they love trying new things such as pizza or hamburgers instead of sticking to just one type of food. Yet, with older people, especially those who prefer **traditional values**, rice is an essential part of their **daily diet** so having it in every meal is normal.

2 Do people in your country like to eat food from plants or animals?



Gợi ý: Ngày xưa thì ăn thịt. Nhưng ngày nay lo cho sức khoẻ nên việc ăn nguồn gốc thực vật trở nên phổ biến hơn.



In the past Vietnamese people **used to** consume **a massive amount of** meat. However, nowadays we are more concerned about our **general well-being** so food **derived from** plants has become a more popular choice for the majority of Vietnamese people.

3 In your opinion, should people become vegetarians?



Gợi ý: Ăn một ít rau thì tốt. Nhưng cả ngày chỉ ăn mỗi thực vật thì rất chán (đời sống tinh thần cũng rất quan trọng).



No, not at all. Although **it's always a good idea** to eat vegetables every day, only eating vegetable is a totally different story. I think having a rich **spiritual life** with various kinds of food is as important as eating in a proper way.

4 Should we eat more for breakfast or lunch?



Gợi ý: Ăn sáng đầy đủ thì mới có đủ chất dinh dưỡng và năng lượng cho 1 ngày. Buổi trưa đa số chúng ta không có nhiều thời gian cho việc ăn uống nên chỉ cần ăn đơn giản là được.



That's not something I often think about, but maybe having a carefully prepared breakfast is a **wiser** option. By doing so, we will have all the energy and nutrition required for the whole day. Meanwhile, having a simple lunch sounds more reasonable for most of us due to our hectic working schedule.

5 Is there any difference in the food that the rich and the poor eat?



Gợi ý: Người giàu chi nhiều tiền -> đồ ăn nhiều dinh dưỡng. Người nghèo ít tiền -> dựa vào các nguồn năng lượng rẻ tiền hơn (VD: mì tôm, nước ngọt) để cho qua bữa.



Basically, a major difference is not the kind of food they eat but the quality. **Affluent people** tend to spend lots of money on food so their meals are usually more nutritious whereas poor people have to rely on **cheap sources of calories** to meet their **daily requirement**. For example, while the rich have a proper breakfast, the **underprivileged** would just have some bread and butter.

Từ vựng

- **Depend on:** dựa, phụ thuộc vào
- **Age group:** nhóm tuổi
- **Millennials:** giới trẻ (sinh sau những năm 1990)
- **Torture:** sự tra tấn
- **Traditional values:** những giá trị truyền thống
- **Daily diet:** chế độ ăn hằng ngày
- **A massive amount of:** số lượng khổng lồ cái gì đó
- **General well-being:** tình trạng sức khỏe
- **Derived from:** có nguồn gốc từ
- **It's always a good idea to:** nó luôn là 1 ý tưởng hay để làm gì đó
- **Wiser:** thông thái hơn
- **Affluent people:** người giàu có
- **Cheap sources of calories:** các nguồn ca-lo rẻ tiền
- **Daily requirement:** yêu cầu hằng ngày
- **Underprivileged:** nghèo, kém may mắn



Speaking Part 2

Describe a subject that you used to dislike but now have interest in

- What the subject is
- Why you disliked the subject
- What about the subject you are interested in

And explain why you become interested in it.



Let me tell you about chemistry, which is a subject I used to hate but now have a lot of interest in.

Dating back to my 8th grade when we were first introduced to the subject, most of the students, including me, were really excited at the chance to make stuff explode or at least change color. However, our hopes and dreams were quickly crushed during our first chemistry class, when our teacher gave each of us the periodic table and **laid down** a thick stack of paper full of theoretical exercises. Looking at the table, my mind automatically **shut down** at the giant amount of knowledge we had to learn, including 118 elements and their molecular masses, densities and boiling points.

The first semester was miserable as chemistry required a lot of memorization. Even though it took us **ages** to learn all the materials by heart, I finally managed to memorize most of the periodic table after a while. Interestingly enough, I soon realized that there was not much logical thinking involved in chemistry like in math or physics. Chemistry exercises started to become much easier. Plus, our teacher finally allowed us to do the **flashy** experiments we always wanted to do. That's how chemistry transformed from one of the most boring subjects to one of my favorites for the rest of my high school years.

Từ vựng

- **Lay down:** đặt cái gì xuống
- **Shut down:** ngưng hoạt động
- **Take sb ages:** mất rất nhiều thời gian
- **Flashy:** rất hấp dẫn và ấn tượng

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a skill that took a long time to learn:** I have to spend a lot of time mastering the “memorization skills” and it helps me find interest in chemistry.
- **Describe something you do to help you study/work:** I learn how to memorize to help me study chemistry.

Speaking Part 3

1 What can teachers do to make their lectures more interesting?



Gợi ý: create class room games, use technology, make your lesson interactive, relate material to students' lives.



In order to encourage participation in class, a good teacher must know how to include other activities apart from just giving boring, impractical **theoretical knowledge**. He should organize some games, teamwork exercises or include some of his personal experiences while explaining a difficult concept.

2 What do you think about the importance of the Internet in education?



Gợi ý:

- 1. Very important: teachers can make their lessons more exciting, students can self-study.*
- 2. Not important: students can be easily distracted; teachers should not rely too much on technology.*



I believe when it comes to education, the Internet is of great importance to both teachers and students. A teacher can rely on online visual support such as Youtube videos or images to attract students' attention and make the class more exciting, while students can learn to self-study thanks to the **wealth of knowledge** on the Internet.

3 Is information on the Internet reliable?



Gợi ý:

- 1. No: information on the Internet are unrestricted, some people try to exaggerate or give misleading titles/articles for views.*
- 2. Yes: some sources that come from academic articles or national newspapers are reliable.*



It depends. Online information is notorious for being untrustworthy as everyone can **voice their opinion** freely on any subject online. However, there are websites such as Google Scholar that provide reliable academic sources from actual researches and surveys.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a person who helps protect the environment

- Who this person is
- How this person protects the environment
- What difficulty this person has faced

And how you feel about this person.



Well, today I am going to tell you about my next-door neighbor, Mrs. Minh, who is a perfect example of an **environmentally friendly person**.

Mrs. Minh has been my neighbor for at least 4 years now. She is in her 50s and is actually a retired university lecturer. As a neighbor, Mrs. Minh is really kind and helpful as she never refuses to help me when I'm in need. From lending me some cooking spices, to taking care of my little sister when other family members are absent.

But what I find most impressive about her is how **environmentally conscious** she is, as she has been doing a lot of activities to help protect the environment. To be more specific, Mrs. Minh knows so much about the **detrimental effects** of plastic bags to our planet. She told me about how it would take these bags million of years to completely **bio-degrade** and how they can cause severe harm to sea animals. That's why ever since she moved here, I have never seen her use them once; instead, everytime she needs to get the groceries, she brings her own cloth bag... you know, the type that you can bring home to wash and re-use the next day. Other than that, she also participated in a lot of voluntary work to clean up garbage or **join hands** in other campaigns involving raising awareness about global warming.

The effort she put into protecting the environment is really **inspiring** and admirable. In fact, now I am also replacing plastic bags with my cloth bags as often as I can. I always think that good actions give us strength and inspire good actions in others; so I know what she does will continue to make bigger changes.

Thank you for listening.

Từ vựng

- **Environmentally friendly person:** một người có ý thức bảo vệ môi trường
- **Detrimental effect:** ảnh hưởng tiêu cực
- **Bio-degrade:** phân hủy
- **Environmentally conscious:** có ý thức bảo vệ môi trường
- **To join hands:** làm việc cùng nhau
- **Inspiring:** truyền cảm hứng

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a teenager you know:** My next-door neighbor is a high-school student but she cares so much for the environment, which impresses me.
- **Describe an old person who is interesting:** My elder neighbor is really interesting because despite her age, she is still an environmentalist.
- **Describe a person you wanted to be similar to when you were growing up:** My old neighbor from when I was little always cared about the environment, which is why I admired him and wanted to be like him.

Speaking Part 3

1 Why should we protect the environment?



*Gợi ý: changes in our environment affect our livelihood
the environment provides human with air, water,...*



I think it is essential that we protect the environment since a polluted living environment can have direct effects on our livelihood. For example, air pollution can cause **respiratory diseases** and cancer, among some other severe diseases; water pollution also destroys our health inside out. Therefore, keeping the environment clean and protected means keeping our lives safe and healthy.

2 Who is responsible for the protection of the environment?



Gợi ý: governments/national leaders, scientists, each individual.



Since all of us share a home we call Earth, we should share an equal amount of responsibility in protecting the planet. It's not any government's duty, it's a global problem that needs to be solved by all living human. I believe that only by working together will we be able to **make a change**.

3 What is the most serious environmental issue now?



Gợi ý:

- 1. Air pollution (from vehicles' emissions, especially in big cities)*
- 2. Water pollution (industrial waste being flushed to the ocean and rivers)*
- 3. Deforestation: Animal extinction/cause harm to animals; global warming.*



As you can see, in big cities like Hanoi, air pollution is one of the most concerning problems. Most people have to wear a mask when they go out to avoid breathing in the polluted air, filled with dust and other toxic **exhaust fumes** coming out of vehicles. Other than that, I think water pollution is also **a prime example**. A lot of rivers and oceans are full of garbage, which definitely contributes to numerous health problems for humans and causes the deaths of many aquatic animals.

Từ vựng

- **Respiratory diseases:** bệnh liên quan đến hô hấp
- **Make a change:** thay đổi điều gì đó
- **Exhaust fume:** khí thải
- **Prime example:** ví dụ quan trọng nhất



Speaking Part 2

Describe a language that you want to learn (not English)

- What it is
- How you would learn it
- Where you would learn it

And explain why you want to learn this language.



I have always wanted to be **bilingual** or even **multilingual**, so apart from English and Chinese, French is another language I wish to learn.

Honestly speaking, French was never **on the top of my list** of must-learn languages. At first, I planned on learning Japanese. But then when I recalled my time learning Chinese during high school and the fact that Japanese can actually be even be more difficult, I don't think I could ever remember all of the letters, let alone **make out** what they mean. So, I had to resort to French, which I think will somehow be easier as it shares most of the English latin alphabet.

A second language is obligatory in my faculty so I guess I will be learning French at university. Many of my friends recommended me some language centers but I have no problems with studying French at my university. It can be stressful at times as the score will count towards my GPA, but I will take that as motivation to learn this language seriously.

Learning a language is no doubt a difficult and frustrating task. It took me years to master my English, and I know it will take no less to **have a relatively good command** of French. But let's not **get ahead of myself** I will just have to **take baby steps**. But I think I'm ready for this challenge.

Từ vựng

- **Bilingual (adj):** có khả năng nói 2 thứ tiếng
- **Multilingual (adj):** có khả năng nói nhiều hơn 2 thứ tiếng
- **On the top of my list:** lựa chọn đầu tiên
- **Make out:** hiểu ý nghĩa cái gì
- **Have a good command of:** có kiến thức tốt về cái gì
- **Get ahead of myself:** làm điều gì quá sớm
- **Take baby steps:** các bước nhỏ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a skill that takes long time to learn:** It took me 3 years to be able to converse in French (remember to change the verb tense into past tense).
- **Describe a subject you dislike but now have interest in:** I used to dislike French very much because it affects my GPA but now I like it because it is an interesting language and I give maximum effort to study it.
- **Describe an activity you would do when you are alone in your free time:** I often learn French and do the exercises in my free time when I am alone.

Speaking Part 3

1 What is an example of an international language that people use to communicate (besides English)?



Gợi ý: Chinese: many people speak the language, often used in trades and business, more people are learning to speak Chinese; French, German, Spanish, Russian: also spoken by a lot of people.



Chinese is an example of an international language apart from English. In fact, around one sixth of the world population speaks Chinese as their first language. Even foreigners speak Chinese, mostly in trade and business.

2 Do you think people will speak the same language in the future (maybe English)?



Gợi ý:

Yes: English will still remain the most popular international language as long as English-speaking countries remain dominant. Chinese can also be an international language owing to the increasingly important role China plays in international trade.

No: Countries will keep their languages as they carry national values and represent the indigenous cultures.



No, I don't think people will speak the same language in the future, because a language **carries national values** and **represents the indigenous cultures**. In other words, the loss of a language equals the loss of **cultural identity**. Individualism urges people to have their own identity, wave their own flags and speak their own language. That is why people of different countries won't be willing to speak the same language.

3

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this trend?



Gợi ý:

Advantage: effective communication/facilitate trades and business meetings/ avoid conflicts and wars between nations.

Disadvantage: the distinction of a language → the loss of knowledge and cultural identity/increase jobs crisis.



Having an international language can bring both benefits and drawbacks. Despite the fact that people speaking the same language can facilitate trade and business meetings, it can result in the extinction of languages, which will eventually bring about the loss of knowledge and cultural identities.

Từ vựng

- **Carry national values:** mang những giá trị quốc gia
- **Represent the indigenous cultures:** đại diện cho văn hóa bản xứ
- **Cultural identity:** bản sắc văn hóa



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time when someone didn't tell you the whole truth about something

- When this happened
- What the situation was
- Who you were with

And explain why the person didn't tell the whole truth.



So I'm going to talk about a time when my brother told me a half-truth that just happened recently actually.

My brother is a trickster who is able to lie **without blinking an eye**. Three months ago, he told me that he was super **broke** and asked to "borrow" some cash to pay for the air ticket that he already booked. Empathizing with his situation, I decided to **give him the benefit of the doubt** and gave him some money without asking him to pay me back because, you know, he is family and also jobless. He was thankful and brought me a bunch of gifts from his trip. I was quite happy as I thought my brother had finally grown up and became a more mature person. How naive I was!

During the next family gathering, I brought up the story to my parents, praising my brother for his maturity. My mom's face dropped and she immediately looked at my brother in disbelief. It turned out that my brother only told me half of the truth. He was really in desperate need for some cash, but he asked both my mom and I, received money from both of us and ended up with twice the amount he needed. The ending was predictable: two hours of being scolded and grounded for one month. I was neither surprised nor sorry for him. He **reaped what he sowed**, you know.

Từ vựng

- **Without blinking an eye:** không chút cảm xúc
- **To be broke:** cháy túi
- **Give sb the benefit of the doubt:** quyết định tin tưởng ai mặc dù mình vẫn còn nhiều nghi ngờ
- **You reap what you sow:** hứng chịu những ảnh hưởng của hành động của mình

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Các ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển câu trả lời cho các chủ đề sau:

- **Describe something you made but you gave it to other people (friends/family):** I gave my brother some money that I earned. And he tricked me.
- **Describe a time you taught something new to a person:** it was not me but my parents who taught my brother a lesson about trust and responsibilities.

Speaking Part 3

1 When is it acceptable to lie?



Gợi ý:

1. *Lies with good intentions: doctors lie to patients.*
2. *White lie: harmless or trivial lie, avoid hurting feelings.*
3. *Half truth: statement that conveys half of the truth.*



I believe lies, white lies or half-truths, are acceptable acts when they are done with good intentions, be it providing comfort or avoiding hurting feelings. A boyfriend, for example, can choose to tell a white lie and tell his girl she looks beautiful in those new expensive jeans. A doctor can choose to tell a dying cancer patient that he has more time to live to **put the patient's mind at ease**.

2 What do you think about the fact that everybody has lied at least once?



Gợi ý:

1. *It represents our self-centered nature → everyone wants a perfect image in front of others.*
2. *There is a thin line between the advantages and disadvantages of lying. Some people only lie because they have good intentions.*



I believe lying is part of our nature, as everybody wants to keep a perfect image in front of others. In other words, nobody wants to expose their **flaws** or weaknesses, so they decide to cover them up with lies. Therefore, the fact that everybody has lied at least once, to me, just makes us more human.

Từ vựng

- **Put sb mind at ease:** làm cho ai khỏi lo lắng về cái gì
- **Flaw:** khuyết điểm



Speaking Part 2

Describe an occasion when you travelled and your vehicle broke down

- Who you were with
- What happened to the vehicle
- How long it took to get the vehicle repaired and how you feel after the vehicle was repaired.



Today I would like to tell you about my ride last weekend when my bike broke down halfway back home.

It was a bright and sunny day that I decided to take my 3-year-old bike out for a ride to **enjoy the sights** of the city. Unlike other **scorching hot** days, it was one of those rare summer days when the temperature was about 26 degrees celsius, which was perfect for a nice ride around the city. I was fairly confident that my bike would take me home safely as it still looked rather new and had been **running flawlessly**.

Following some of my favorite roads, I **made my way to** Ton Duc Thang Street, enjoying the views of Sai Gon River and Bach Dang Wharf along the bank. The ride went well and smoothly until I set out to return home. While riding along, I noticed that the chain of my bike suddenly fell off. I panicked for a while, before deciding to **pull over** in a park nearby. At that time, I was so sweaty as the temperature began to rise. Luckily enough, I came across a bike-repair shop on the pavement just after 10 minutes of walking. The repair was quick, so I did not have to wait for so long under the **harsh sun**.

It was a bit disappointing that the trip turned out to be a weary one, not as perfect as I expected. Another reason which let me down was that my lovely bike broke down only after three years. I guess it needs to be maintained more frequently from now on.

That's all I want to say. Thank you for listening.

Từ vựng

- **Enjoy the sights:** ngắm cảnh
- **Scorching hot:** cực kì nóng
- **Run flawlessly:** chạy tốt, không có vấn đề gì
- **Pull over:** tấp vào lề đường, dừng xe lại
- **Harsh sun:** nắng gắt

Speaking Part 3

1 Do you think public transport in your country is more suitable for the elderly or youngsters?



Gợi ý: Cả hai. Người già không tự lái xe được nên cần dùng, người trẻ (ví dụ sinh viên đại học nhà xa) dùng để tiết kiệm chi phí đi lại.



I think it is convenient for both groups of ages. For **senior residents**, most of them are not able to control a vehicle themselves anymore. Therefore, using public transport such as buses or trains is one of their **top choices**. Besides, young **commuters** whose houses are far away from their workplace can save a huge amount of travel costs when using public transport to travel to work every day.

2 What kinds of public transport does your country have?



Gợi ý: Hiện nay phổ biến nhất là xe buýt. Chính phủ đang thực hiện xây dựng hệ thống tàu điện ngầm ở Hồ Chí Minh.



The most common type of public transport that can be seen in big cities of Vietnam is obviously buses. Needless to say, they are super convenient, especially for university students because travelling by this means of transport helps them to **save money**. As far as I know, HCMC is now **in progress of** constructing the first **metro line**, with the cooperation of Japanese investors. I hope this metro system will be operational soon.

3

Are there any problems with the public transport system in your city?



Gợi ý: Có. Xe buýt hiện giờ quá cũ, thải ra nhiều khí gây ô nhiễm cho môi trường. Chính phủ cần xem xét nâng cấp hoặc thay mới.



Surely there are several. Based on what I've noticed recently, one of the problems is that buses are too old that they release a huge amount of exhaust fumes into the air, which does great harm to the environment. That's why the authorities should consider **upgrading** the bus system or replacing old ones.

Từ vựng

- **Senior resident:** người (dân) già/lớn tuổi
- **Commuter:** người di chuyển đến nơi làm việc
- **Top choices:** lựa chọn hàng đầu
- **Save the budget:** tiết kiệm túi tiền
- **Metro line:** đường tàu điện ngầm
- **In progress:** đang trong tiến trình
- **Upgrade:** nâng cấp



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time you had to change your plan

- When it was
- Why you had to change your plan
- What you did

And say you felt about that change.



I would like to talk about a time I changed my plan regarding the type of accommodation I wanted to live in.

It was a year ago when I had saved enough money and started to think of buying an apartment which was what I had always been dreaming of. However, after the news reported a case of apartment **in flames** in the city center, and many victims was stuck **unreachable**, I was so frightened that I immediately changed my plan and decided to buy a piece of land to build a house.

An apartment had first been my choice because, compared to a house, it is much more affordable; and with the availability of security guards and cameras, my property is protected from burglars. Having said that, the mentioned incident was like an **alert** for me to be more aware of the possible danger of living in an apartment and other types of high buildings where **evacuation** in case of emergency is a big issue.

Making changes has never been easy for me as I prefer to stick to the plan that has been made in advance, but in that case, there seemed not to be a better choice. Buying a house instead of an apartment was a big challenge to my budget. I had to **work flat out**, **cut down on living expenses** and **take a loan from the bank**. It was such a hard time, but my effort finally **paid off**. And it is now my pleasure going to the construction site every evening and watching my house being gradually completed.

Từ vựng

- **In flames:** cháy
- **Unreachable:** không thể tiếp cận được
- **Alert (n):** lời cảnh báo
- **Evacuation:** sự sơ tán trong trường hợp khẩn cấp
- **Work flat out:** làm việc cật lực
- **Take a loan from the bank:** vay tiền ngân hàng
- **Cut down on living expenses:** cắt giảm chi tiêu
- **Pay off:** đền đáp xứng đáng

Speaking Part 3

1 What kinds of changes do people in your country usually make?



Gợi ý: Có rất nhiều, những sự thay đổi liên quan kế hoạch hàng ngày, nhưng thay đổi nổi bật nhất là thay đổi công việc. Thay đổi công việc để có thêm nhiều trải nghiệm mới, chán môi trường cũ, cơ hội thăng tiến, mâu thuẫn với chỗ làm cũ.



There are many of them and I think that people make changes very often. However, the most common kind is the change of career. People change their jobs for different reasons. While some want to experience a new working environment, others may seek opportunities for job promotion and higher income. There are also some others who have **conflicts** with their boss or colleagues and they want to get a new job to avoid further trouble.

2 What are the common reasons people need to change plans?



Gợi ý: Tìm kiếm sự phù hợp, cơ hội phát triển, ví dụ, thay đổi chiến lược marketing của công ty.



If a situation is problematic, or unsuitable, making certain changes to improve it can be a good solution. Take running a business as an example. When a marketing strategy is not effective to approach **potential customers**, it is necessary for that company to make an **alteration** if they don't want to risk losing a big budget for no good result.

3

Who are more adaptable to changes? Young or old people?



Gợi ý: Người trẻ vì họ thường năng động hơn và thích trải nghiệm, người già thích sự ổn định và làm theo phương pháp truyền thống, ví dụ, việc đọc báo.



Without doubt, I would say it's young people. They are more creative and always **seize** opportunities to experience new things. By contrast, the older ones tend to seek stability, and they like to do things in a **conventional** way. For example, while young people are keen on reading online news on smart devices, the elderly still prefer getting information from printed newspapers.

Từ vựng

- **Job promotion:** thăng tiến công việc
- **Conflict:** mâu thuẫn
- **Alteration:** sự thay đổi
- **Seize:** nắm bắt
- **Conventional:** theo tập quán



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time when you solved the problem through the Internet.

- What problem did you have
- When did you have the problem
- How did you solve the problem through the Internet and how you feel after the problem was solved.



Today I would like to tell you about a time I used online banking to pay the bills for bus tickets.

It was last summer when my roommate and I decided to go on a trip to Dalat after having finished our final semester examination. We were so **up to our ears** in preparing for exams as well as working part-time that we forgot to book the bus tickets. Only 10 days before the trip did we realize this and hurriedly went on the website for booking tickets online. It was midnight when we **logged onto** the website to **check the availability** of tickets and quickly noticed that there were only 2 seats left on the bus. **Without any hesitation**, I filled in all the information to finish the booking procedure. **All of a sudden**, a countdown clock of 10 minutes appeared on the screen and I realized that I had to pay the money within this time.

You know it was midnight already. One thing for sure that I could not run neither to the bank nor the ATM to transfer the money. But if we could not manage to pay for the tickets in time, the booking procedure would be cancelled and there might be someone else taking those 2 tickets before us. Luckily, there was another kind of payment, which was via online banking. I quickly logged onto

my internet banking account and succeeded in transferring the money with only about 1 minute left. We both **breathed a sigh of relief** after receiving the email of confirmation of the booking. Thanks to the Internet, everything is so fast and convenient.

That's all I want share.

Từ vựng

- **Be up to ears in something:** bận rộn với việc gì
- **Log onto:** đăng nhập, vào (trang web)
- **Without any hesitation:** không chút băn khoăn, do dự
- **All of a sudden:** đột nhiên, bỗng dưng
- **Breathe a sigh of relief:** thở phào nhẹ nhõm

Speaking Part 3

1 Do you think old people now use the Internet more frequently compared to the past?



Gợi ý: Có. Người lớn tuổi lên mạng để đọc báo vì có thể phóng to chữ ra, còn có thể dùng để liên lạc với con cháu ở xa.



Yeah, I think more and more **seniors** are **going online** these days. As far as I've noticed, most of them use the Internet to read news and **stay connected with** their children or grandchildren who live far away from home. I see that my grandparents prefer accessing news via the Internet because online reading provides them with "zoom" option for better **visual experience**. Also, applications like Zalo or Facebook enable the elderly to contact their children without paying too much. That's why old people are using the Internet more frequently.

2 What can people use the Internet for, besides studying and working?



Gợi ý: Mua sắm trực tuyến. Hiện nay hình thức mua sắm này rất phổ biến vì tiện lợi hơn, rẻ hơn và toàn diện hơn.



I think the Internet has **revolutionized** the way people shop. Online shopping has **gained increasing popularity** because of its numerous benefits. Convenience is the biggest perk. Users can shop comfortably at midnight in minutes without travelling to any store. Besides, **cheap deals** and better prices are also available online. It's very easy to compare prices among different stores and find a better deal. That's not to mention that we can shop from **retailers** in other parts of the country, or even world.

3 Are youngsters wasting their time on the Internet?



Gợi ý: Cái này tùy thuộc vào mục đích sử dụng của họ. Nếu sử dụng vì mục đích xấu thì sẽ phí phạm thời gian nhưng ngược lại dùng cho mục đích tốt có thể giúp tiết kiệm nhiều thời gian.



I think it depends on what young people are doing on the Internet, as it can be a great resource or **a massive distraction**. If they just simply spend hours surfing online without any specific purpose, it would be definitely a waste of time. However, if people manage to make use of it wisely for learning, working or even entertainment, the Internet can help them save a huge amount of time, which increases their **working productivity**.

Từ vựng

- **Senior (n)**: người già
- **Go online**: lên mạng
- **Stay connected with someone**: giữ liên lạc với ai
- **Visual experience**: trải nghiệm hình ảnh
- **Revolutionize (v)**: cách mạng
- **Gain increasing popularity**: trở nên ngày càng phổ biến/được yêu thích
- **Cheap deal**: giá hời
- **Retailer (n)**: cửa hàng
- **A massive distraction**: nguồn gây xao nhãng khổng lồ
- **Working productivity**: năng suất làm việc



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time you received a terrible service.

- When it was
 - Where you went to
 - How poor the service was
- and say how you felt about that service.



I am going to talk about a very bad service I received by a cashier from BigC Supermarket.

It happened just last Sunday when I went to CGV cinema to see a horror movie, then dropped into BigC Supermarket located on the ground floor of the same building for some vegetables. My shopping had been so enjoyable until I was at the **checkout** where a female cashier just drove me crazy.

My first impression was that she had **unwelcoming facial expression** as if someone had just annoyed her. To me, that was fine because people may sometimes be tired or sick, and we shouldn't ask them to always give us a smile. However, when I asked her some questions related to the promotion program of some products, her response was so loud and rude that it attracted attention of the people around. I felt like she was shouting at me rather than giving information. The drama came to its **climax** when she refused to give me more plastic bags when I asked for more. As a consequence, with stuff left on the counter, I had to manage every way to **cram** them all into the two small bags that she had given before. You know, I had a hard time to calm me down and release myself from **irritation** because I did not want to cause any trouble in public.

I went home, feeling so bad about what had happened. I called the hotline and voiced my complaint because it was necessary for such **improper** behavior to be corrected. I think customer service is very important as it has a big influence on customer loyalty and every business should **take it into account** to survive in a **competitive market**.

Từ vựng

- **Checkout:** quầy tính tiền ở siêu thị
- **Unwelcoming facial expression:** biểu cảm gương mặt thiếu thân thiện
- **Climax:** cao trào, đoạn gay cấn
- **Cram:** nhồi nhét
- **Irritation:** sự tức giận
- **Improper:** không phải phép
- **To take something into account:** cân nhắc điều gì đó
- **Competitive market:** thị trường mang tính cạnh tranh

Speaking Part 3

1 How important is customer service?



Gợi ý: rất quan trọng, là yếu tố quyết định sự gắn bó của khách hàng với thương hiệu. Khách hàng không chỉ quan tâm chất lượng sản phẩm và dịch vụ mà còn trải nghiệm mua sắm.



It is very important, I must say. Customer service is an important factor that decides **customer loyalty** to a product or service. When they spend money for something, it is not only the quality that they care about, but also the shopping experience. In fact, lots of companies have been successful in providing good customer care by making phone calls to offer further support to their customers, which brings satisfaction and pleasure.

2 What can companies do to improve their customer service?



Gợi ý: lắng nghe ý kiến khách hàng, giải đáp khiếu nại nhanh chóng, đào tạo kỹ năng bán hàng cho nhân viên.



I think there are many things that a company can do to enhance their customer service. Businesses should listen to customers' feedback through means of phone call or survey and should take action after that to improve their product or service quality. It is necessary to **handle** customer complaints effectively to ease their discomfort and disappointment. Moreover, training staff with appropriate behavior and politeness is also a key mission as they are fundamental in terms of customer service.

3

Why do you think employees sometimes don't provide good customer service?



Gợi ý: không có kỹ năng do thiếu sự đào tạo, ví dụ sinh viên mới tốt nghiệp.



I think in many cases; staff do not have the skills to serve customers. That may be because of a lack of training within an organization. For example, a group of graduates who have little **hands-on experience** in sales may not know how to deal with difficult customers and can become the cause of many complaints.

Từ vựng

- **Customer loyalty:** sự gắn bó trung thành của khách hàng
- **Handle:** xử lý tình huống
- **Hands-on experience:** kinh nghiệm thực tế



Speaking Part 2

Describe a quiet place

- Where it is
- When you like to go there
- What you do there

and why do you like to visit there.



Today I'm going to talk about a place I think is really quiet, which is the elevator.

I know library or cafe will more likely **pop up in our mind** when we are asked to name a quiet place, but have you ever thought about the fact that people rarely talk to each other in the elevator? Indeed, when three to four people are **crammed into a confined space**, human interactions are reduced to almost none and the **awkward silence** will continue until you exit. And that's why I believe the elevator is one of the quietest places on Earth.

Speaking of why I think of the elevator, it was all thanks to a security guard. As I was walking my bike out of the office in the basement last week, I couldn't find that security guard, who never left his spot, anywhere until the elevator bell rang "ding" and there he was. He walked out of the elevator with his guitar in his hands, grinning to me: "Yeah, sorry I went in to record some of my new songs. It's so quiet and fully **soundproof**". He **has a thing for music** so that did not surprise me one bit, yet I still hope that he pays more attention to our bikes next time.

But I guess I have to thank him and his mini studio for helping me coming up with this idea. That's all I got.

Từ vựng

- **Pop up in my mind:** nảy ra trong đầu
- **Be crammed into a confide space:** chen chúc trong một không gian chật hẹp
- **Awkward silence:** sự im lặng ngượng ngùng
- **Soundproof:** cách âm
- **Have a thing for something:** cực thích cái gì

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a person who has an interesting idea:** the security guard in my office used our elevator as a mini studio, which I think is an interesting idea
- **Describe an interesting old person:** I will talk about the security guard in my office, who is quite old and has an interesting idea.
- **Describe my favorite singer:** I will talk about the security guard in my office, who is a great amateur singer and has an interesting mini studio, our elevator.

Speaking Part 3

1 Are there any other quiet places?



Gợi ý: rất nhiều, có thể là vì mọi người tôn trọng người khác (café, đền thờ), mọi người được yêu cầu giữ im lặng (thư viện), hay đơn giản vì ít người (nhà riêng, công viên, thôn quê).



There are plenty. Different places, like cafes or temples, are quiet because visitors respect others and keep silent as **common courtesy**. Some places require people to remain silent, such as the library. Or some places are simply not usually surrounded by people, like most parks and gardens in the morning.

2 Why do people like to spend time in quiet places?



Gợi ý: tập trung nhiều hơn (học tập, làm việc), tính cách hướng nội (introverted personalities), thư giãn đầu óc, chán ngán với tiếng ồn.



I guess the answer to this question varies. Some people find the **absence of sound** a perfect opportunity to focus on their work or study. That's why libraries often become a popular hang-out spot before final exams. Also, some introverted people love spending time in quiet cafes or parks where the **tempo of life** has slowed down a bit since these places give them great **peace of mind**.

3 Why do people like to spend time in quiet places?



Gợi ý: tập trung nhiều hơn (học tập, làm việc), tính cách hướng nội (introverted personalities), thư giãn đầu óc, chán ngán với tiếng ồn.



Yeah there are many possibilities. Maybe some people are extroverts and enjoy crowded places as well as the **exciting atmosphere**. Others, on the other hand, might be afraid of quiet places because the lack of noise makes them feel lonely, which may lead to negative thoughts.

Từ vựng

- **Common courtesy:** phép lịch sự thông thường
- **Absence of sound/noise:** sự thiếu vắng âm thanh/tiếng ồn
- **Tempo of life:** nhịp sống
- **Peace of mind:** cảm giác bình yên
- **Exciting atmosphere:** không khí náo nhiệt



Speaking Part 2

Describe something special you took home from a tourist attraction

- What it was
- When you bought it
- Where you bought it

and explain why you think it was special.



Let me tell you about the time I visited Namsan Tower, a famous tourist attraction in Seoul, Korea and took something really important home.

I visited Seoul for seven days during last year's winter with my mom and brother. Although we tried a lot of delicious food and saw a lot of beautiful scenery, I was looking forward to the Namsan trip the most in order to accomplish a secret mission. Namsan tower is famous for the 'tree of love', a designated area around the base of the tower where couples can publicly **declare their eternal love** by placing love locks. My girlfriend, who is a **hopeless romantic** and a huge K-drama fan, left there a pink, heart-shaped lovelock with our names on it a couple of months ago. My mission was to retrieve it and bring it back to her as proof that we were **meant to be**.

However, I was at a **loss for words** when I saw thousands of lovelocks of different shapes and sizes, scattered around the "Tree of love". My brother and I spent hours searching but there was no **sliver of hope**. We even had to video call my girlfriend to ask for more directions, but all of our effort was **in vain**. I gave up two hours later since the tower was closed and ended up buying a new lock back home for my girl, reluctantly **bursting her bubble** of a fairy tale love story.

So the lovelock was really special to me just because of the funny story behind it. That's all.

Từ vựng

- **Declare eternal love:** tuyên bố về tình yêu vĩnh cửu
- **Hopeless romantic:** một người lãng mạn hết thuốc chữa
- **(To be) meant to be:** thuộc về nhau
- **Loss for word:** sốc không nói nên lời (cạn lời)
- **Sliver of hope:** tia hi vọng
- **In vain:** vô ích
- **Burst sb bubble:** phá vỡ kỳ vọng/ảo tưởng của một ai

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a situation when you didn't have enough time:** I didn't have enough time to find the lovelock for my girlfriend.
- **Describe an unusual experience of travelling:** I spent 4 hours find a lovelock on Namsan Tower in Seoul during my trip to Korea.
- **Describe a time that you changed your plan:** Since I could not find the lovelock, I had to change my plan and buy my girl a new lock.

Speaking Part 3

1 What souvenirs do people buy from tourist attractions?



Gợi ý: đồ trang trí (ornaments), T-shirt, thiệp (postcard), cốc (mug), đồ ăn, nam châm tủ lạnh (fridge magnet).



That's a long list. From my experience, Westerners like to bring back home ornaments, postcards or mugs, while people from Eastern countries like to buy food. My mom, for example, often buys local specialties where ever she visits, like seafood or fruits from the places she visits, which are more expensive than a T-shirt, for sure. This is because she must share the souvenirs with our relatives and neighbors, given the Vietnamese is **strong sense of community**.

2 Why do people like to take photos while travelling?



Gợi ý: chia sẻ với bạn bè, lưu trữ khoảnh khắc đẹp sống ảo.



My initial thought was to **capture the moments and happy memories** to **impress our future self** when we revisit these pictures. But now I think about it, it seems to be far from reality. Most people now take photos to post on social networking sites and impress their online followers. A volunteer trip to an African village can totally change a Facebook's profile picture. I'm not a big fan of this **virtual lifestyle**, though.

3 Is this good that locals sell things to tourists?



Gợi ý:

Có → thúc đẩy phát triển kinh tế (tạo việc làm), truyền bá văn hoá đặc sắc, bảo vệ ngành nghề truyền thống.

Không → tạo hình ảnh xấu trong mắt bạn bè quốc tế (đồ quá đắt), thiếu nhân lực làm ngành nghề khác (làm nông).



Everything has **pros and cons**. The advantages of selling local goods is that it will help **promote economic growth** by creating more jobs, especially for underdeveloped areas. Also, this will help preserve traditional values and **encourage cultural interactions**. However, some tourist attractions are selling overpriced products which creates a bad image amongst international tourists, so overall, I believe this is a positive development if managed properly.

Từ vựng

- **Strong sense of community:** tính cộng đồng cao
- **Capture the moments/ happy memories:** bắt lại khoảnh khắc hạnh phúc
- **Impress future-self:** gây ấn tượng với bản thân trong tương lai
- **Virtual lifestyle:** lối sống ảo
- **Pros and cons:** ưu và nhược
- **Promote economic growth:** thúc đẩy phát triển kinh tế
- **Encourage cultural interactions:** thúc đẩy giao lưu văn hoá



Speaking Part 2

Describe a person who encouraged and helped you achieve a goal.

- Who this person is
- What this person encouraged you to do
- How this person helped you

and explain how this encouragement helped you achieve the goal.



Alright I will talk about my brother, who motivated and helped me a lot to achieve one of my most important goals.

Recently I've gained some weight and the **mockeries** from friends has become more and more irritating. I tried to hit the gym but gave up after two weeks since it was too **physically demanding**. My brother, who is working for a weight management company at the time, decided to **jump in** and become my temporary nutritionist.

To help me **slim down**, he first introduced me to one of his company's main products, the meal replacement shakes, which I had to consume for breakfast and dinner. These shakes provide my body with enough nutrients for a day and contain zero fat. In addition, my brother also pointed out that I need to **break some of my bad habits** like staying up late, skipping meals and called me several times per day to check on my progress. The key to lose weight, according to him, is 50% dietary supplements and 50% a healthy lifestyle. Thanks to him, I successfully lost 2 kilograms after the first two weeks and was able to **catch a glimpse of** a healthy lifestyle.

That's all I want to share. Thanks for listening!

Từ vựng

- **Mockeries:** sự chế giễu
- **Physically demanding:** cần nhiều thể lực
- **Jump in:** nhảy vào một tình huống khó khăn
- **Slim down:** gầy đi
- **Break habit:** phá bỏ thói quen
- **Catch a glimpse of:** được trải nghiệm nhẹ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a person who often help others:** my brother often helps other lose weight. Most recently, he helped me.
- **Describe a healthy lifestyle you know:** I used to have a lot of bad habits, but thanks to my brother I can have a glimpse of a healthy lifestyle.
- **Describe a time you learn something new from others:** my brother taught me how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Speaking Part 3

1 Is this important for teenagers to set goals?



Gợi ý:

Có: tìm hiểu về bản thân, phát triển kỹ năng mềm cần thiết cho tương lai, xây dựng định hướng, tính thực tế.

Không: để não trẻ hoạt động một cách thoải mái, sáng tạo, tránh tạo những áp lực vô hình cho trẻ.



I do think teaching kids about goal-setting at an early age is essential, as it helps children develop a **sense of purpose** and teaches them about the value of patience and hard work toward achieving their dreams. However, children's goals should be realistic and within their ability. Many parents in Vietnam, for example, encourage their children to set such overambitious goals like getting accepted into Harvard, which **put children under a lot of pressure**.

2 Who do you think has the greater influence on goal-setting of children? Teachers or parents?



Gợi ý:

Cha mẹ: có nhiều thời gian với trẻ hơn (từ nhỏ đến lớn), trẻ con thường bắt chước hành động của bố mẹ.

Giáo viên: được chuẩn bị kỹ năng giảng dạy tốt hơn, có nhiều cách gây ảnh hưởng đến trẻ hơn.



Opinions diverge on this topic. Some people say parents have the major influence because they spend the largest amount of time with their kids. Most kids also mimic their parents' behavior, whether it is good or bad. However, I believe teachers play a more vital role, since teachers are professionally-trained educators and would have more effective methods to help children set goals.

3 What will motivate children to learn more?



Gợi ý: cho trẻ tiếp cận nhiều cách học khác nhau, phần thưởng, hình phạt, tạo niềm vui cho trẻ khi học, tập trung vào điểm mạnh (strengths) của trẻ.



There are many things. To be honest, rewards and punishments are **on the top of my list**, but I can also name quite a few. I think teachers should make the lesson more fun by organizing knowledge-based games or including visual effects in their presentation, which will attract children's attention and **encourage participation in class**.

Từ vựng

- **Sense of purpose:** nhận thức về mục đích
- **Put sb under pressure:** tạo áp lực cho ai đó
- **Mimic parents' behavior:** bắt chước hành vi bố mẹ
- **On the top of my list:** đầu tiên nghĩ ra
- **Encourage participation in class:** khuyến khích sự tham gia xây dựng bài học trong lớp



Speaking Part 2

Describe a newly built public facility that influences your city.

- Where the facility is
 - When it was built
 - What people can do there
- and why influence the facility has.



So today I would like to talk about Thanh Ha water park, which is a recently constructed facility that is attracting many Hanoians' attention.

The water park used to be my **all-time favorite** spot as a child. I mean who can resist the fun of playing with water? Therefore, last year I decided to visit Thanh Ha, a newly built water park located in the outskirts of Hanoi, to **relive my childhood**. The trip was fun and memorable.

The most exciting things in the park, to me, are definitely the water slides. The feeling of sliding down from 15 to 20 meters at high speed and getting **soaking wet** is appealing to a **thrill seeker** like me. If you are not into physically-demanding activities, you can always choose to relax by letting yourself flow aimlessly on the lazy river. The food at the water park, which is normally great, will taste even better after two hours of water exercising.

Water parks, in my opinion, are a great place for parents who have no idea where to take their children to in this boiling 38-degree-or-above summer. I mean, children can spend hours in the park without complaining and playing with water is quite safe. Also, this place is a necessary replacement for the old Ho Tay water park, which is really **outdated** and **in desperate need of renovation**.

Từ vựng

- **All-time favourite:** cực kỳ yêu thích
- **Relive my childhood:** sống lại tuổi thơ
- **Soaking wet:** ướt sũng
- **Thrill seeker:** người ưa mạo hiểm
- **Outdated:** xuống cấp
- **In desperate need of renovation:** thực sự cần trùng tu

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you enjoy your free time:** I decided to visit a newly built water park and had a good time there.
- **Describe a park you like visiting:** I will talk about water park, the kind of park I love visiting as a kid.

Speaking Part 3

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



Gợi ý: tăng cường nhận thức (raise awareness), đưa ra hình phạt (give punishment) với những người không có ý thức, cung cấp tiền trùng tu, đưa ra những đạo luật mới.



There are quite a few solutions that could be applied. Some suggest that the government should **impose stricter punishments** on those who damage public facilities. For example, Singapore government has a **fine** of up to \$1000 for littering or public urination. Others, however, believe that instead of punishments, the authorities should simply provide more financial support to help renovate and refurbish outdated facilities.

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



Gợi ý:

Người già: những nơi yên tĩnh (công viên, thư viện), những nơi chăm sóc sức khỏe (hospital, nursing house).

Người trẻ: những nơi náo nhiệt (mall, stadium), những nơi có tính giải trí cao (cinema), những nơi phục vụ đi lại nhiều (road, airport, station).



I think the situation is similar in all nations, not just Vietnam. Old people prefer quiet places like parks or libraries, mostly because they hate noise and want to enjoy **a sense of tranquility**. Also, since old people **are more vulnerable to** both physical and mental issues, they tend to visit public places like hospitals more often. Meanwhile, young people love exciting and crowded places like malls or stadiums as they are more interested in having a good time or hanging out with friends.

3 What's the difference between facilities in the countryside and the ones in the city?



Gợi ý: In the city: hiện đại hơn (đường xá, bệnh viện), nhiều hơn (những địa điểm nghỉ ngơi, giải trí), đắt hơn.

In the countryside: thiếu thốn hơn, kém hiện đại, rẻ hơn.



Public facilities in the city are, without a doubt, better. Let's take the road system in Vietnam as an example. In big cities like Hanoi, roads are often wider and there are more **expressways and arterials roads**. In comparison, most of the streets in the countryside are narrow and **bumpy** because there are a lot of holes that can cause accident at any time.

Từ vựng

- **Impose strict punishment:** đưa ra hình phạt nghiêm khắc
- **Fine:** khoản phạt (tiền)
- **Sense of tranquility:** cảm giác thanh bình
- **Be vulnerable to:** dễ bị tổn thương trước (bệnh)
- **Expressways and arterials roads:** đường cao tốc và đường huyết mạch
- **Bumpy:** gồ ghề



Speaking Part 2

Describe an advertisement you remember well

- Where you saw it
- What it was about
- What it was like

and explain why you remember it well



Alright I am going to talk about a memorable ad that I remember well, although it was **aired** quite a while ago. The advertisement is about Comfort, a brand of fabric softener made by a company called Unilever.

Honestly, I am not entirely sure when I first saw this advertisement. If I'm not mistaken, it was a couple of years ago when TV commercials were **in their prime**. The advertisement is so memorable that sometimes I still **look it up** on YouTube to show my students what a good ad looks like.

The most interesting thing about this ad is its meaningful message. While other commercials at the time tended to be short and focused on humor to attract customers, Unilever paid attention to the content and built a story around Lily, a caring housewife, and Andy, a famous rock star. Despite his fame and success, Andy never forgets his family, because **deep down** he always feels his partner's love just from the smell of Comfort's long-lasting freshness. The company even created a series of ads, instead of just one, to deliver the message better. I think this was a costly but effective strategy, as Comfort soon became a **household name** after this campaign.

Từ vựng

- **Air:** phát sóng.
- **In their/its prime:** trong thời kỳ hoàng kim.
- **Look it up:** tìm kiếm
- **Deep down:** tận sâu trong tim
- **Household name:** cái tên phổ biến với các gia đình

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you looked for information on the Internet:** sometimes I still look it up on YouTube to show my students to give them examples of a good ad.
- **Describe a TV show/program:** The series of ads from Comfort, which consist of multiple ads about the story of Lily and Andy, is like a real TV show.

Speaking Part 3

1 Why do some people hate advertisements?



Gợi ý: quá nhiều, khó chịu (cản trở việc xem show, phim), thông tin sai sự thật (mì tôm), quá lộ liễu, ảnh hưởng đến cốt truyện (trong các bộ phim, MV).



Well, there're probably a few reasons, but I think the main one is because there are just too many ads. Imagine how annoying it is when you get interrupted and have to **endure** 15 minutes of advertisements while trying to watch your favorite TV show? Also, many **storylines** of movies are affected by advertising and must include the products of movie sponsors, which often makes the plot unnatural and illogical.

2 Do people usually buy things after seeing them advertised?



Gợi ý:

Có: quảng cáo giới thiệu nhiều sản phẩm, nhà sản xuất thường giới thiệu sales, ưu đãi trên quảng cáo, gắn liền với show, phim ưa thích.

Không: thông tin sai lệch (phóng đại, sai sự thật), chất lượng và độ uy tín của thương hiệu ảnh hưởng nhiều hơn quảng cáo.



Yea, I believe so. If not, companies would stop spending millions of dollars on advertising. Advertisements usually **exaggerate** products' effectiveness, and therefore most ads tend to have a strong influence on the **purchasing decisions** of customers. Companies often include the hottest, irresistible deals and promotions in their ads, as can be seen in many electronic device advertisements.

3 Are people more influenced by TV advertisements or internet advertisements?



Gợi ý:

TV ad: tiếp cận người có tuổi nhiều hơn, quảng cáo TV không thể “skip”, những dịp quan trọng (đá bóng) có thể tiếp cận nhiều khán giả hơn.

Internet ad: tiếp cận giới trẻ hơn, có thể quảng cáo dài hơn, xuất hiện liên tục.



I guess it depends. Young people spend more time on the internet, so they might be more influenced by ads on YouTube or **pop-up commercials** on many websites. However, TV commercials **have a bit of an edge** when it comes to older audiences. Also, TV advertisements cannot be skipped like YouTube commercials, which is also a plus.

Từ vựng

- **Endure:** chịu đựng
- **Storyline:** cốt truyện
- **Exaggerate:** phóng đại
- **Purchasing decision:** quyết định mua
- **Pop-up commercial:** quảng cáo bất chợt xuất hiện (trên các web)
- **Have an edge:** có lợi thế hơn



Speaking Part 2

Describe a piece of clothing you like to wear

- Where you bought it
- How often you wear it
- What it is like

and explain why you enjoy wearing it



So, today I'm going to talk about my absolute favorite clothing accessory, which is my scarf.

I **picked it up** for an extremely reasonable price of 60,000 VND a couple of years ago. The place I bought it from was a small **handicraft** shop at a really famous temple in Saigon. In that shop they made lots of different types of clothing by hand and with old fashioned sewing machines.

As for how often I wear it, I wear this scarf almost everywhere. In winter, it can help keep my neck warm, while in summer it can help protect my neck from the **scorching rays of the sun** when I'm driving on my motorbike to work.

This scarf is red and black with a checkered pattern and is made of 80% cotton and 20% polyester. It's **durable** too because I've had it for two years now and it still feels soft and comfortable to wear as well. One more thing is that the red and black matches with some of my clothes, so it **suits me well**.

There are obviously a few reasons that I have already mentioned as to why I like it. But I guess the main two reasons are; it's durable and has lasted a long time, and the second reason is that it's **versatile** and can be worn in different seasons.

Từ vựng

- **Pick it up:** lấy/thu thập được
- **Handicraft:** thủ công mỹ nghệ
- **Scorching rays of summer:** tia nắng mặt trời
- **Durable:** bền
- **Suit me well:** hợp với tôi

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe something special you took home from a tourist attraction:** I brought back this scarf from a really famous temple in Saigon.
- **Describe something that has a lot of uses:** My scarf can be used both in winter and summer.

Speaking Part 3

1 What's the difference between the dressing style of young people and old people in your country?



*Gợi ý: Trẻ: muốn mặc quần áo hợp thời trang (trendy), màu sắc hơn, trông ngầu. Có thể sẽ thoải mái, sexy hơn. Thường chọn những màu trẻ, sáng hơn (đỏ, vàng, xanh).
Già: chần chừ, lịch sự. Thường thích màu trầm và già hơn (tím, nâu).*



Well I think it's quite obvious from just looking on the street. **For the most part**, young people my age care more about fashion and looking cool. So, they'll wear **trendier-looking** clothes than older people. But I think some older people still care about fashion too.

2 Do you think students like to wear uniforms?



*Gợi ý: Có: tạo ra sự đồng nhất và bình đẳng giữa các học sinh, ít sự mất tập trung trong lớp, hạn chế bullying (sự bắt nạt).
Không: được thể hiện bản thân, nhiều sự lựa chọn, ít phụ phí phải đóng.*



For me, I would have to say no. When I was at school, I remember I always hated wearing a uniform and got into trouble on **countless** occasions because of trying to wear a t-shirt instead of a polo shirt. I suppose most student's never thought wearing a uniform was a **big deal**, but I didn't enjoy it because it wasn't comfortable to wear in summer.

3 When do people wear formal clothes?



Gợi ý: phỏng vấn xin việc, sự kiện trang trọng (đám cưới, đám ma, party) một số công việc đặc thù (tiếp tân, tiếp viên).



I think people mostly wear formal clothes on special occasions like weddings, funerals or formal situations like job interviews. The last time I wore formal clothes was for a job interview. I **had on** some trousers and a nice shirt and tie with leather shoes.

Từ vựng

- **For the most part:** thường thường
- **Trendier-looking:** trông hợp thời trang hơn
- **Countless:** hàng tá, không đếm xuể
- **Big deal:** chuyện quan trọng
- **Had on:** mặc



Speaking Part 2

Describe someone you would like to study or work with

- Who this person is
- How long you have known this person
- What you have done together

and explain why you would like to study/work with this person



Well I would like to talk about Huyen, one of my friends **whose company I really enjoy**.

Speaking of how long I have known this person, we've been classmates since highschool. She sat next to me for over four years, and so it is fair to say we know each other quite well. Although she is a devil in disguise, there are many reasons why I like to **have her around**.

For one thing, she is the most talkative person I know who is capable of talking **nonstop** for hours. She often bothered me with her endless stories during our lessons and often **got us scolded** by our teachers. Because most of her stories were funny, I could not stop myself from laughing and talking with her. Now each of us are busy with our work, so we could only hang out on the weekend in a small café on Hoang Cau street. But every time we meet, it feels like we **lost touch** for 10 years as she would keep on updating me stories about her life even with or without my consent. Luckily with an introverted personality, I am quite a good listener and had no problem with that. I guess we **make a perfect team**.

Từ vựng

- **Enjoy her company/have her around:** thích ai đó bên cạnh
- **Devil in disguise:** ác quỷ cải trang
- **Non-stop:** không ngừng nghỉ
- **Got sb scolded:** làm ai đó bị mắng
- **Lost touch:** mất liên lạc
- **Make a perfect team:** rất hợp nhau

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a person who made you laugh happily when you were a child:** I often laughed at Huyen's endless stories.
- **Describe someone you wanted to be similar when you grow up:** I want to become an extrovert like Huyen in the future.

Speaking Part 3

1 What kinds of co-workers do people like to work with?



Gợi ý: giỏi, nhiều kiến thức (knowledgeable), kinh nghiệm thực tế (hands-on experience), sẵn sàng chia sẻ, hợp tác (co-operative), vui vẻ, hoà đồng.



I guess it depends on each person's preferences. Personally, I do not want to work with people who have a lot of knowledge or experience but refuse to share it. Rather, I would love to work with a co-operative partner who is willing to work as a team and is not afraid of receiving **constructive criticism**.

2 Which one is more important to you at work, development in work-related skills or recognition from your supervisors?



Gợi ý:

Development in work-related skills: tăng hiệu quả làm việc, phát triển bản thân hơn, tăng cơ hội tìm việc (nếu có chuyển chỗ làm).

Recognition from your supervisors: tăng sự hài lòng trong công việc (work satisfaction), tăng sự tận tâm và trung thành.



Although acquiring different work-related skills will help you **improve career prospects**, I believe recognition from your boss is always more important. It directly affects your **job satisfaction**, which has a positive relationship with work efficiency. Also, since appreciative leaders are appreciated leaders, employees of such leaders will be more willing to stick around and commit to the company.

3

Do you think managers should be friends with their subordinates?



Gợi ý:

Yes: sếp cần quan tâm, thông cảm với nhân viên, tạo động lực, thúc đẩy tinh thần làm việc và hiệu quả công việc.

No: tránh sự thiên vị, giữ sự chuyên nghiệp, giữ cái "uy".



Yes and no. A boss should care and sympathize with each employee to make them feel taken care of on a personal level, which could become a great motivation and **improve morale**. However, they should also know how to **draw a line** between themselves and their subordinates, not only to stay professional but also to avoid **bias treatment**.

Từ vựng

- **Constructive criticism:** lời phê bình mang tính xây dựng
- **Improve career prospects:** tăng cơ hội tìm kiếm việc làm
- **Job satisfaction:** sự hài lòng về công việc
- **Improve morale:** cải thiện tinh thần (làm việc)
- **Draw a line:** phân biệt
- **Bias treatment:** đối xử thiên vị



Speaking Part 2

Describe your ideal house

- Where this place is
- What it is like
- Who you visited the house with and explain why it is ideal to you



Alright I am going to share with you my dream house.

Two years ago, during the winter break of my college sophomore year, I spent three weeks with my uncle's family in Philadelphia. On New Year's Eve, my uncle took me to a party hosted by Mr. Thompson, one of his friends, who according to my uncle, is ridiculously rich. And he was not joking.

Anyway, not until halfway through the trip did I realize I was far away from the city and when I questioned my uncle, he replied: "yeah we're going to Atlantic city, it's a beach house". But it was not a house. It was a **mansion!** The enormous construction, which had a stunning view over the Atlantic Ocean, looked like a **palace** on the outside.

Inside the house was just an **architectural masterpiece**. You see, all the decorations had a beach theme ranging from the blue shell-shaped **toothbrush holder** to the white sand carpet. Although there were four guest bedrooms on the ground floor, I chose to spend that night on the carpet. On the second floor was a massive **balcony** looking towards the beautiful sea where we welcomed the New Year together with a glass of champagne.

In that **moment of luxury**, I made a promise to myself: "this will be my house in the future."

Từ vựng

- **Mansion:** dinh thự
- **Palace:** cung điện
- **Architectural masterpiece:** tuyệt tác kiến trúc
- **Toothbrush holder:** hộp đựng kem đánh răng
- **Balcony:** ban công
- **Moment of luxury:** phút giây sang chảnh

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe an unusual experience of travelling:** my uncle drove me to a party of rich people in a beautiful mansion.
- **Describe a party you enjoyed:** I had a party hosted by my uncle's rich friend in a beautiful mansion and I totally enjoyed it.
- **Describe a person who encouraged you to achieve a goal:** Mr. Thompson and his beautiful mansion motivated to work hard and be successful in the future.

Speaking Part 3

1 What are the differences of living in the city and living in the countryside?



Gợi ý:

City: hiện đại, sôi động, tập nập hơn, nhiều cơ hội việc làm, nhiều cơ sở vật chất tốt hơn (trường học, bệnh viện).

Countryside: không khí trong lành, bình yên, ít tắc đường, nhịp sống chậm, nhiều sự riêng tư hơn (ít hàng xóm), ăn thức ăn sạch tự trồng, rẻ hơn.



In my opinion, both decisions come with several benefits. Life in the city is bustling and **fast-paced**. That's why people in big cities always seem to be **in a hurry**. Meanwhile, living in the country gives you a **sense of tranquility** that you can never find in a city. Everything seems so peaceful and quiet, which makes people feel at ease and carefree most of the time.

2 What are the disadvantages of living in the city?



Gợi ý: Ô nhiễm không khí và âm thanh, chật chội thiếu không gian sống, chi phí sinh hoạt đắt đỏ, tỉ lệ tội phạm cao (thành phố lớn).



There are plenty. For example, people living in big cities like Hanoi have to suffer from air and noise pollution from traffic, a lack of living space and high crime rate, **just to name a few**. Also, the living expenses in the city are much more expensive than that of the countryside. I mean electricity and water bills can cost you millions of VND per month, especially in this boiling hot weather.

3

Can you compare cities in the past and present?



Gợi ý:

In the city: hiện đại hơn, nhiều toà nhà cao tầng hơn, mật độ giao thông cao hơn, dẫn đến ô nhiễm nhiều hơn, nhịp sống nhanh hơn.



Yeah I think there have been many changes over the last decades, ranging from the developments of traffic infrastructures to the constructions of many **skyscrapers**. For example, Hanoi has recently developed a modern **skytrain system** that helps **relieve a lot of pressure** on the city's main roads.

Từ vựng

- **Fast-paced:** nhịp sống nhanh
- **In a hurry:** vội vã
- **Sense of tranquility:** cảm giác yên bình
- **Just to name a few:** mới chỉ liệt kê 1 ít
- **Skyscrapers:** nhà cao tầng
- **Skytrain system:** hệ thống tàu trên cao
- **Relieve pressure on smt:** giảm áp lực lên



Speaking Part 2

Describe a park/garden you like visiting

- Where the park is
- When you visited it
- What the park is like

And explain why you like visiting it



Today I'd like to tell you about a park that I frequently visit. It's not too far from my house. Perhaps about 15-minutes' drive away if the roads are clear.

As for the last time I visited it, if I remember correctly, it was last week. I had to get in a quick workout, so I rode my motorbike to the park at around 2pm. When I arrived, I met a couple of friends who are kind of like my workout partners.

This park is just perfect for working out because it has all the exercise equipment I need like **pull-up bars and parallel bars**. It's also surrounded by trees and a wide variety of flowers that **bloom** in the summer months. It's even pretty quiet too, so whenever I come here I just **feel at ease** and I guess you could call it my happy place.

The main reason I absolutely love visiting this park is of course because I do my workouts here. But actually, it's not only that. I've also met some fantastic people here and we've even made our own "team". I believe we'll teach people how to do **street workouts** in the future and I certainly hope we'll be doing that at this particular park.

Từ vựng

- **Pull-up bar and parallel bar:** xà đơn và xà đôi
- **Bloom:** nở
- **Feel at ease:** cảm thấy yên bình
- **Street workouts:** thể dục đường phố

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a healthy lifestyle:** Street workout is a healthy and budget-friendly way to exercise and keep fit.
- **Describe a time you enjoy your free time:** I often visit the park where I exercise.
- **Describe a time you taught something to a younger person:** I believe we'll teach people how to do street workouts in the future and I certainly hope we'll be doing that at this particular park.

Speaking Part 3

1 What are the benefits that a park can bring to a city?



Gợi ý: tập thể dục, điểm điểm tụ họp cho mọi người, tạo không gian xanh cho thành phố, nơi giải trí cho trẻ em.



Well there are **loads of** benefits really, but I'll mention two that I personally know. One is that it's a green area where people can exercise if they like. You know, cities have been **taken over** by ugly grey buildings these days, so having plenty of green spaces to exercise in is essential for any city. Another benefit is the social benefits that citizens can get from parks. What I mean is, if you go and take a look at one of the parks in Hanoi now, you'll see plenty of elderly retirees chatting together on lazy afternoons. That's another key benefit to society because city life can get lonely.

2 How can we encourage young people to go to parks more often?



Gợi ý: có phần thưởng, giới thiệu về những ưu điểm của công viên, tham gia cùng con cái, đẩy mạnh tầm quan trọng của việc thể dục và giáo dục môi trường ở các trường cấp 1 và cấp 2.



I guess one way to get them to go is introducing them to street workouts. Some teenagers might find that to be pretty cool if they tried it. Of course, they would get the chance to **keep fit** and meet new people. One more way I can think of is bringing them to the park from a young age, like 5-6 years old. If they liked going enough in that time, perhaps they'd be **inclined to** visit parks more often when they get older.

3

Should the government make people clean parks and gardens?



Gợi ý:

Có: giữ gìn môi trường là việc của tất cả mọi người, lợi ích của công viên là rất nhiều.

Không: đã thuê người làm rồi, không thể bắt làm không công, thiếu thực tế, mọi người bận rộn.



That's a definite yes. As I just mentioned, there are loads of benefits to having green spaces in cities, so they definitely need to be clean and accessible for people of all ages. As I know, the government employ people to clean up as well as maintain parks, so I don't believe it is a huge issue in Hanoi, but they could do a better job of maintaining the WC's in some parks I have visited.

Từ vựng

- **Loads of:** rất nhiều
- **Taken over:** bị chiếm/thay thế bởi
- **Be inclined to:** thích hơn.
- **Keep fit:** giữ dáng



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time that you looked for information from the Internet.

- When it happened
- What you were looking for
- Where you were searching on the Internet

And how you felt about the information.



To begin with, I'd like to say that I'm always on the internet, but if I have to mention a specific time I used it, there is one piece of info that I can remember searching for. It was when I was starting to learn how to do some **basic coding** a couple of months ago.

At the time, I was desperately trying to find a structured course where I could learn how to code. The course had to not only be free or **of little cost**, but also up to date with the trends of 2019.

I used my brain and my trusty Google Chrome browser **alongside** Google.com for this task. Thankfully, in the end, after looking at over a dozen articles, I ended up finding what I was looking for.

I felt pretty satisfied after that because as I mentioned, I checked loads of articles and I was ready to give up. Had it not been for an article on Medium.com, I wouldn't have found anything. One more thing is that the article was written by an **industry expert** and has helped me out a lot since and I hope I'll be able to learn how to code better in the future as well.

Từ vựng

- **Basic coding:** code (tin học) cơ bản
- **Of little cost:** chi phí thấp
- **Alongside:** bên cạnh
- **Industry expert:** chuyên gia trong ngành

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you solve a problem via the Internet:** *I used Google to find a coding course for myself.*
- **Describe a practical skill you learned:** *I learn how to code thanks to an on-line course I found.*

Speaking Part 3

1 How can people get information these days?



Gợi ý: Internet (cập nhật nhanh, nhiều thông tin), sách báo (phù hợp với người lớn tuổi, thông tin chính xác, được kiểm duyệt) truyền miệng, thư viện.



As far as I'm concerned, young people prefer to read news in online articles on the Internet. I mean to be honest they do everything on the Internet, from talking to studying, so getting news is no exception. However, the older generations, who are not familiar with **the virtual world**, like to get news via daily newspapers. Also, information from newspapers are generally more trustworthy than online news.

2 What are the differences between getting information from library and getting information from newspapers?



Gợi ý:

Newspaper: tập trung vào các tin tức mới nhất và 1 vài chủ đề được nhiều người quan tâm: chính trị, thể thao.

Thư viện: cung cấp thông tin về nhiều chủ đề hơn, cả phổ biến lẫn không phổ biến, môi trường yên tĩnh, dễ tập trung hơn đọc báo.



Newspapers tend to focus on a limited number of **controversial topics** like sport or politics. In addition, newspapers only cover the latest news. But if want to find a past article about specific subjects like chemistry or history, there is a higher chance that I will find what I need in the library. Not only are libraries **a wealth of knowledge** but they also help readers concentrate better thanks to the quiet atmosphere.

3 Is information on the Internet reliable?



Gợi ý:

Có: Những bài viết học thuật (*academic articles*) thường có thông tin chính xác, được nghiên cứu cẩn thận.

Không: thông tin thường hay được phóng đại, làm quá để giật tít, báo lá cải (*gutter press*), bị chính phủ kiểm soát.



Yes and no. Of course, it is evident since anyone can post anything on the Internet, we should not trust everything we read online. Not to mention the fact that many journalists write exaggerated articles with misleading titles or **misinterpret** quotes in interviews to get more views. This is best exemplified by **gutter press journalism**, the worst nightmare of most celebrities.

Từ vựng

- **The virtual world:** thế giới mạng
- **Controversial topic:** chủ đề gây tranh cãi
- **Wealth of knowledge:** bể trời kiến thức
- **Misinterpret:** phân tích sai
- **Guttter press journalism:** báo lá cải



Speaking Part 2

Describe an occasion when you got up early

- When you got up
- What you did
- Why you got up early

And how you felt about it.



So today I'm going to tell you about the time I got up extremely early in the morning, it happened a few months ago when I went on a trip with my family.

Well... I've got to be honest with you, I'm not **an early bird**, I always **sleep in** whenever I have the chance, and my job doesn't require me to wake up early either. That's why I hardly ever get up before 7 AM.

Anyway, back in January, when my family and I decided to take a trip to Singapore, I was really excited since I had never been to Singapore before and I had heard so many wonderful things about this country.

While my mom took care of the hotel bookings, I was **in charge of** airplane tickets for the whole family. Unfortunately, all tickets were almost **sold-out** except for the 7AM flight, which meant we all had to wake up at 4AM in the morning!

At first, I thought it was going to be so difficult since I never have to wake up before sunrise. But to my surprise, on the day of the trip, I was the first one to get up, even before the alarm went off and had to wake everybody up. I guess I was just so excited that even waking up early was not a challenge for **a heavy sleeper** like me!

All in all, our trip went really well, everyone **had a blast** there. We travelled around the city, had lots of tasty local dishes and met wonderful people. I would definitely come back to Singapore, even if it means I have to wake up at 4AM again.

Từ vựng

- **An early bird:** người dậy sớm
- **Sleep in:** ngủ nướng
- **In charge of sth:** chịu trách nhiệm với một điều gì
- **Sold-out:** bán hết
- **A heavy sleeper:** người ngủ sâu, khó tỉnh
- **To have a blast:** có khoảng thời gian rất vui

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you went on a trip:** *I travel to Singapore with my friends/family.*
- **Describe an unusual trip:** *I had to wake up really early on the day of my Singapore trip, something that I've never done before.*
- **Describe a time you enjoy a day off work or school:** *I had three days off so that weekend my family decided to go on a trip.*

Speaking Part 3

1 What kinds of people usually get up early? Why?



Gợi ý: những người có công việc phải đi xa, dậy sớm; hoặc người già khó ngủ; hoặc nhiều người dậy sớm tập thể dục.



I think many people have to wake up early because it is what their jobs require, like those who work far away from home and have to spend 1 to 2 hours per day just to **commute**. Other than that, there are some old people who can't **sleep past** 4 o'clock in the morning or others who must start their day with a morning exercise before heading to work.

2 Is it easier for older people to get up early than young people?



Gợi ý: Có -> người già ngủ ít, khó ngủ hoặc người già thường có nhiều thời gian ban ngày để ngủ. Trái lại người trẻ phải đi học đi làm nên cần ngủ nhiều để nạp năng lượng.



I believe so. My grandparents usually wake up at 4 or 5 in the morning. The main reason, I think, is because their health is no longer in good condition, at least not as good as it was when they were younger. So, it is hard for them to have 7 or 8 hours of sleep every night. Besides, unlike younger people who have to work or study all day and therefore need a deep **sleep** at night to recharge their batteries, older people usually have more time on their hands. They can take naps during the day, which will affect their sleep at night, I suppose.

3 What are the benefits of getting up early?



Gợi ý: Nhiều thời gian cho một ngày hơn -> Làm việc hiệu quả hơn.
Tận hưởng thời gian yên bình buổi sáng.



Well I am not **a morning person** you see, but I have heard a lot about the benefits of waking up early. First of all, waking up early means you will have more time in the day. This extra time can be spent on either work or exercise, all of which helps you work more effectively. Along with that, traffic during early morning is usually good, making your daily commute a lot easier.

4 Why do some people go to sleep late at night?



Gợi ý: thức đêm để làm việc vì tập trung và hiệu quả hơn; có người thì mắc bệnh nên khó ngủ.



From my own experience as a night owl, I think that some people stay up late to work, because they feel more focused and work more effectively at night than in the morning. More and more young people like myself spend tons of time working really late, and I sometimes even have to **pull an all-nighter**. Other than that, some people suffer from **insomnia** or other health issues that can mess with their sleeping habits.

Từ vựng

- **Commute:** di chuyển đi làm
- **Sleep past:** ngủ quá
- **Morning person:** người nhiều năng lượng vào buổi sáng
- **Pull an all-nighter:** thức xuyên đêm
- **Insomnia:** mất ngủ



Speaking Part 2

Describe a person who has interesting ideas or opinions

- Who this person is
- What this person does
- How you know him/her

and explain why you think his/her ideas and opinions are interesting.



When it comes to describing a person with interesting opinions, I really want to talk about my best friend – Quynh Anh. She has been my friend since secondary school so we **have a lot in common**, including our interests and mindset.

She is now an undergraduate, studying computer engineering in America. Her major mainly involves writing codes and designing new programs or software. Although working with codes and computer technology can be frustrating at times, she really **has a knack for** science subjects and enjoys what she is doing right now.

Back in our days in school, she **excelled in** math and physics since she usually came up with solutions to problems in just minutes. Quynh Anh is not only smart and also very sensible in social issues. She has the ability to **think things through** and give the best advice, so I always confide in her whenever I'm in trouble. That is the reason why I think she has very interesting opinions.

Từ vựng

- **Have a lot in common:** có nhiều điểm chung
- **Has a knack for:** giỏi cái gì
- **Excel in:** rất giỏi ở cái gì
- **Think things through:** nghĩ mọi thứ thấu đáo

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a person you want to become in the future:** *I want to become as smart as Quynh Anh in the future.*
- **Describe an intelligent person:** *Quynh Anh is one of the smartest people I know.*
- **Describe a person you want to work or study with:** *I want to study with Quynh Anh because she's smart.*

Speaking Part 3

1 When do children begin to have their own ideas?



Gợi ý: những năm đầu đời (*early years*), khi mới bắt đầu đi học, bắt đầu tiếp xúc với bạn bè và thầy cô, trước cả khi biết nói (*pre-verbal*).



It's hard to tell because I don't usually spend time with children. Just a **wild guess**, I think they may **develop their own ways of thinking** at the age of 3. This is because at the age of 3, they start to go to kindergarten and **have contact with** other kids and teachers. Thanks to these interactions, they will start to form their own ideas about the world.

2 Why are there more and more differences between children and their parents these days?



Gợi ý: trẻ con tự hình thành những suy nghĩ, đánh giá và thế giới quan riêng, trẻ con bị ảnh hưởng bởi bạn bè, kháng cách tuổi tác ngày càng lớn.



I guess it's because when children grow up, their **relationship circle** expands and they are more influenced by others rather than just their parents. Take myself as an example. My parents and I used to have similar opinions but now my ideas often **conflict with** theirs.

3

What are the advantages and disadvantages of setting rules for children?



Gợi ý:

Ưu: khiến trẻ nghe lời hơn, đỡ tốn thời gian và công sức dạy dỗ.

Nhược: tạo áp lực cho trẻ, tạo sự ức chế -> dễ dẫn đến vấn đề tâm lý và sự nổi loạn khi trẻ lớn, tạo sự xa cách với trẻ.



Well, an obvious advantage of setting rules for kids is that it can help children become more disciplined. However, if the rules are too strict or inappropriate, they can limit children's imagination and **forcing children to** follow these rules may put children under lots of pressure and even result in mental illnesses.

Từ vựng

- **A wild guess:** sự đoán mò
- **Have contact with:** tiếp xúc với ...
- **Develop their own ways of thinking:** phát triển hướng suy nghĩ riêng
- **Relationship circle:** vòng tròn quan hệ
- **Conflict with:** mâu thuẫn với
- **Forcing somebody to:** ép người khác làm gì



Speaking Part 2

Describe an important technological product you bought

- What it is
- How you use it
- Why you bought it

And why you think it is important



I have bought a number of technological products, and the most significant one is my laptop. It's a Macbook Pro, which can be seen as the **masterpiece** of Apple. Due to its astonishing features, this laptop is **prohibitively priced** and only affordable for **well-off** people. However, after many months working, I saved up enough money to buy one.

I caught sight of this laptop quite accidentally. It was a peaceful weekend when I was chilling out by **binge watching** my favorite movies on my old laptop. By chance, an advertisement popped up, announcing a **newly-released mobile gadget** from Apple, a **tech behemoth** in the US. You know, I was **mesmerised** by its nicely-designed appearance at first sight, which was the reason why I was determined to save money for it.

This is a very important tech device to me, as it was the very first thing that I bought without asking for my parents' money. I mean, I just bought it with my own **monthly allowance**, after many months **refraining from** buying trendy clothes or delicious cups of milk tea to have enough money for this laptop.

It also helps me relax, keep in touch with other family members and seek information on the internet. That's why I think this laptop is super important.

Từ vựng

- Masterpiece (n): kiệt tác
- Be prohibitively priced: siêu mắc, rất đắt
- Catch sight of: bắt gặp
- A newly-released mobile gadget: một thiết bị di động mới được tung ra trên thị trường
- Well-off (a): giàu có
- Binge watch (v): xem ngẫu nhiên
- A tech behemoth: một công ty/tổ chức hàng đầu về công nghệ, một con quái vật về công nghệ
- Monthly allowance: tiền ăn, tiền quà vặt hàng tháng
- Refrain myself from: kiềm chế bản thân khỏi

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe something you borrowed from somebody:** *A prohibitively priced laptop that I borrowed from my friend in one day.*
- **Describe something you bought but not often used:** *A macbook from a tech behemoth called Apple but I am too busy with my work in the office or classes at school.*
- **Describe something you bought after you saw an advertisement:** *A nicely-designed macbook you saw on an advertisement.*

Speaking Part 3

1 Which technological product do you think is the most useful at home?



Gợi ý: serves as a very helpful tool (là một công cụ hữu ích), seek information (tìm kiếm thông tin), offers us easy access (giúp dễ truy cập)



I guess the most useful tech product in people's house is the computer. I mean, it **serves as a very helpful tool** for us to **seek information** without having to go to the library and spend hours reading piles of books. There is one more reason why I believe computers are greatly helpful, which is that they **offer us easy access** to up-to-date information, which is nearly always free of charge.

2 Do you think there will be no teachers to teach in schools in the future?



Gợi ý: play a leading role (đóng vai trò quan trọng), the mission of educating students (nhiệm vụ giáo dục học sinh)



No, I don't think so. I think that teachers will play **a leading role in the mission of educating students** and will not be replaced. The reason for this is quite obvious. Only humans can understand humans most, which helps human teachers answer their students' inquiries in the clearest way.

3 Do you think some technological products make people lazier?



Gợi ý: the advent of (sự ra đời của), glue their eyes to the screens (dán mắt vào màn hình), lifestyle-related conditions (các bệnh liên quan đến lối sống lười vận động)



Well, yes, it is quite embarrassing to say so. Because of the **advent** of mobile gadgets like smartphones or tablets, human beings enjoy staying indoors more often. They grow lazy and take part less in physical exercise, which puts their health at risk. I mean, those who are addicted to technological products face a bigger threat of obesity, heart disease and other **lifestyle-related conditions**.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time when you taught an older person something new:

- When it happened
 - Who you taught
 - Why you taught him/her
- And how you felt about it



This topic reminds me of an experience when I taught my grandma how to use her **newly-bought** smartphone.

More or less 3 months ago, after my nerve-racking exam season, I was **in desperate need of** a short break. That's why I decided to go back to my hometown to visit my granny who is around 80 years old now. She's also my best friend. The day I arrived at her house, I saw her struggling with her brand new iPhone.

She's been long known for her **absent-mindedness**, so I doubt that she could remember how to use such a **sophisticated** gadget. You know, the elderly didn't have any exposure to **cutting-edge technology** when they were young like us, so this was much of a challenge for her. Therefore, I patiently taught my granny how to use her phone.

I told her to **jot down** every single thing I taught her, such as how to **swipe the screen** to find her favorite applications, or how to zoom an image with two fingers. She wasn't a very quick learner, though. It's quite obvious, as I believe **the aging process** is doing its job, so I kept repeating everything to her and tried not to **lose my temper**.

Well I am also proud to say that I am **a self-possessed** individual, so after 2 months, she nailed it. I mean, she is now able to make a video call by herself and create her own Instagram account without anybody's assistance. I guess this can be seen as a success for both of us.

Từ vựng

- **Newly-bought:** mới mua
- **Be in desperate need of:** rất cần
- **Absent-mindedness:** chứng đãng trí, hay quên
- **Sophisticated:** tinh vi, tỉ mỉ
- **Cutting-edge technology:** công nghệ hiện đại
- **Jot down:** ghi chú
- **Swipe the screen:** vuốt màn hình
- **The aging process:** quá trình lão hoá
- **Lose my temper:** mất bình tĩnh, nổi nóng
- **A self-possessed individual:** một người bình tĩnh

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a time you showed something new to a young person:** *I taught my little cousin who was absent-minded to use his smartphone. Luckily, I am a self-possessed individual and didn't lose my temper.*
- **Describe you helped somebody:** *The time when I helped my granny to get used to her smartphone.*

Speaking Part 3

1 Do you think old people know more things than young people?



No I don't think so. I believe **the sea of knowledge is infinite**, so a person just can't say he knows more than somebody else, **regardless of his age**. After many years **accumulating** knowledge and experience in life, an old person may have a **deeper understanding** of certain things compared to young people. However, when it comes to other topics that they are not familiar with, like modern technology, there's a good chance that many young people out there know much more than older people do.

2 Why do some old people refuse to use new technology?



The reasons are varied, but I guess the most obvious one may be that they **have no idea** how to use it. Like my granny, she had to spend many weeks to memorize how to use her cell phone to **send a text message**. Another reason is they **are wary of** the negative effects of these devices. Most of them are experienced enough to understand that we may become addicted if we **overuse** them.

3 What is the best way to teach old people to use new technology?



One of the most effective ways to teach the elderly to use new technology is ask them to **note the instructions down** on paper so that they can have a look when they forget how to use it. I used to patiently repeat the lesson to my grandmother again and again but that was all **in vain**; all of my words **sank into oblivion** after a day.



Speaking Part 2

Describe an experience when you got bored while being with others.

- When it was
- Who you were with
- What you did

And explain why you were bored



There was a trip in the past when I actually got completely bored.

That was a vacation one year ago, after my stressful **probationary period** at my current company. At that time, I really needed to break the wheel of **monotony** in my everyday life and **rejuvenate myself**. So my buddies and I decided to take a trip to Dalat city to relax. We made a lot of plans, most of which, unfortunately didn't go as expected.

As soon as I arrived in Dalat city, it started **pouring** outside. The weather was freezing, while dark clouds covered up the morning sky. Lightning flashed and thunder roared continually near the horizon, discouraging every **holidaymaker** from doing anything outdoors. So, we **resorted to** staying indoors and sitting by the window, watching the raindrops falling outside.

It was a terrible moment for me. All of my **companions** were falling asleep after the 5 hours journey in the car. I was the only one awake in the room then, waiting for the rain to stop and having nobody at all to talk with. I felt terribly bored because I expected to visit many well-known destinations and try local cuisines, but the rain didn't **let up** until 1PM that day.

I lost half of the day due to the storm, so in the future, I will avoid the rainy season when travelling, or at least, have a look at the weather forecast before **embarking on** a trip somewhere.

Từ vựng

- Probationary period: giai đoạn thử việc (khi mới vào làm trong 1 công ty)
- Monotony: sự đơn điệu
- Ejuvenate myself: làm mới, làm trẻ bản thân
- Pouring: mưa như trút nước
- Holidaymaker: người đi chơi vào dịp lễ
- Resort to: đành phải
- Companion: bạn đồng hành
- Let up: (mưa) ngớt, tạnh
- Embark on: bắt đầu, bắt tay vào

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- Describe a time you felt glad that you had a cell phone: *I had a trip to Dalat city but it was pouring outside at that time, so I had to stay indoors. All of my companions were falling asleep so I had to entertain myself with my own cell phone.*

Speaking Part 3

1 Why do people often get bored?



Gợi ý: do monotonous tasks over and over (làm hoài những công việc nhàm chán), repetition (sự lặp đi lặp lại), without any innovations (mà không có cải tiến gì cả)



People have a tendency to feel bored when they have to **do monotonous tasks over and over**. For example, boredom strikes when an office worker has to spend many years doing paperwork in a nine-to-five job with a high level of **repetition**. Nothing is interesting if everything just repeats day after day **without any innovations**.

2 Why are people less interested in reading books nowadays?



Gợi ý: the fast pace of modern life (cuộc sống hối hả), be swamped with (bận rộn với), do wonders for (rất tốt cho)



This is may be because of **the fast pace of modern life** that many people lead nowadays. They are so **swamped** with their job and family that they can hardly arrange any time for their own hobbies. Despite knowing that reading can **do wonders for** their mental health, people would prefer sleeping, hanging out with friends or surfing Facebook.

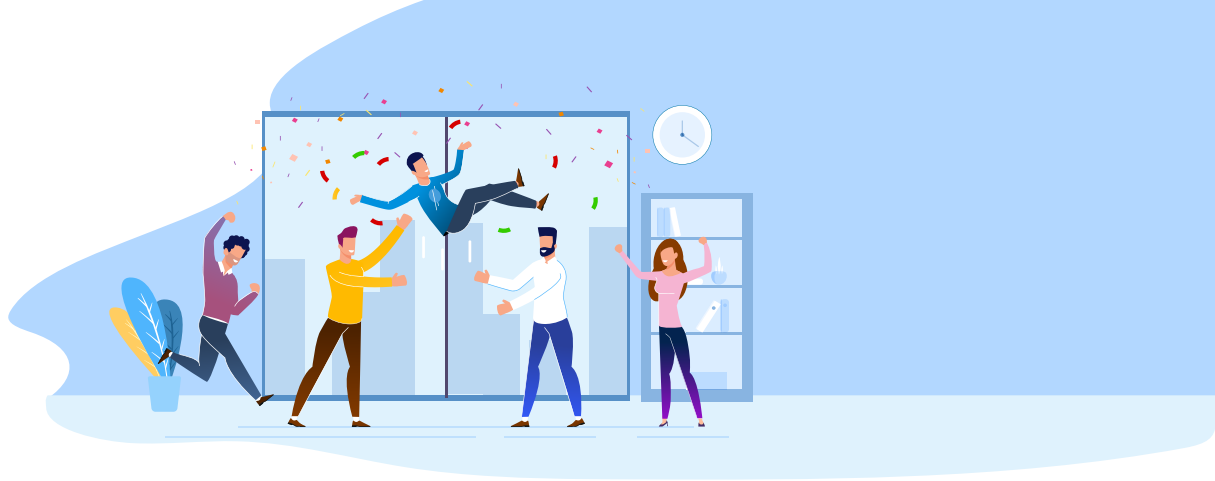
3 What can employers do to help employees feel more motivated at work?



Gợi ý: financial incentives (động lực về tài chính), boost their motivation (tăng động lực), acknowledge (chấp nhận, thừa nhận), make more progress (tiến bộ)



They could offer employees **financial incentives** when they achieve something to **boost their motivation**, like hitting the sales target or successfully dealing with customers' complaints. This is also a great way to provide recognition for their performance. When these workers think that their efforts have been **acknowledged**, they may be willing to spend more time at work and **make more progress** in their job.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a situation when you celebrated an achievement

- What you did
- When you celebrated it
- Who you celebrated it with

And explain how you felt about that achievement



You know, as soon as I graduated from university, I **threw a big party** to celebrate this achievement. That was one of the toughest times I'd been through because I had to **pull a bunch of all-nighters** over many months to revise for my graduation exams. I looked like a panda with **dark circles around my eyes**, and **my hair went gray**. My parents, seeing me like this, were very worried and they never **ceased** to encourage me to keep moving forward.

In the end, I did it. I mean, I **passed the university entrance exam**. Needless to say, my parents were **over the moon**. They wanted to announce to the world that I finally graduated from FTU, one of the most **prestigious** universities in my city. Personally, besides feeling happy and proud of myself, I was also **grateful for** their love and care, so I decided to use my savings to hold a BBQ in my own backyard.

The day the party took place, nearly one hundred guests came, most of whom **showed up** early to help me prepare the food and drinks. During the party, the atmosphere was very cozy because I just invited my family members, relatives and a few **acquaintances**. I could see that my parents were very proud because I had grown up and become mature enough to find a job, hopefully a well-paid one to support my family.

Từ vựng

- **Throw a big party:** tổ chức một bữa tiệc lớn
- **Pull a bunch of all-nighters:** phải thức thâu đêm
- **Dark circles around my eyes:** thâm quầng quanh mắt
- **Cease:** ngưng, dừng
- **Pass the university entrance exam:** vượt qua bài thi đại học
- **Over the moon:** rất vui sướng
- **Prestigious:** danh tiếng
- **Be grateful for:** biết ơn vì
- **Show up:** xuất hiện, tới một sự kiện nào đó
- **Acquaintance:** người quen

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự:

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

Describe a party you attended: *the graduation party of my friend who just passed the exam with flying colors. I showed up early to help him prepare the food and drinks. It was a cozy party because he only invited his family and a few acquaintances.*

Describe something you made for others. *I celebrated a party for my younger sister who graduated from a prestigious university. That was a tough time for her because she had to pull a bunch of all-nighters, so she totally deserved it*

Speaking Part 3

1 How do Vietnamese people celebrate family events?



Gợi ý: depends on their financial ability (tuỳ vào khả năng tài chính), take advantage of (tận dụng, lợi dụng), show off their wealth (khoe mẽ về sự giàu có), less privileged families (gia đình kém giàu có hơn)



That **depends on their financial ability**. Like, **rich people** often hold a big party in a fancy restaurant, because they can **take advantage of** this party as a way to **show off their wealth**. However, those living in **less privileged families** have a tendency to do it at home in a cozy atmosphere to gather and spend time with each other.

2 Why is it so important for sports fans to celebrate when their favorite team wins?



Gợi ý: express their pride (thể hiện sự tự hào), like-minded (cùng chí hướng, cùng tư tưởng), spectator (khán giả)



It is because these fans need a place to **express their pride** and happiness. That's an occasion when they can discuss the game with other **like-minded spectators** and show their sports spirit. Besides, these events are essential as this is a way to celebrate the success of the sportsmen and let them know that they have done a great job.

3 In what way should parents reward their children who achieve a high score?



Gợi ý: unwind (giải trí), be exposed to sunshine (tiếp xúc với ánh nắng), do wonders for (rất tốt cho), grow up materialistic (lớn lên thành người có tính vật chất, thích vật chất)



I guess the best way is to offer them a trip to some well-known destinations because this not only can also help them to **unwind** after their examination but also allow them to go out and **be exposed to sunshine**, which can **do wonders for** their physical development. This way is much better than rewarding them with money because it may make the children **grow up materialistic**.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a prize that you want to win

- What this prize is
- How you knew about it
- What you will do to win it
- and explain why you want to win it.



Today I'm going to tell you about a prize that I want to win, which is from a gameshow called "You deserve it".

The show is broadcast on VTV3 every Friday evening at 7 p.m. The thing which makes "You deserve it" way different from other gameshows is the prize format. This is the only game show in which contestants do not earn money for themselves, but for someone else they know who's in **dire straits**.

So, regarding the rules of the show, the player has to go through five rounds which involve identifying a "Who", "Where" or "What" subject based on **a series of** clues. The player is only given one free clue for each round and each of the remaining clues costs a certain amount of money. If the player still cannot **figure out** the answer, he or she will have to purchase clues until they can guess the answer. If the answer is correct, a great sum of money will be added to their **total winnings**. Otherwise, they will get no money for that round at all. If the player can provide the correct answers in all five rounds, they will officially win a huge amount of money. Later on, this will be given to a **beneficiary**.

The reason why I want to win this prize is because I usually donate to a local orphanage called "Light House" in District 3. I happened to find out about this place last year and I really want to **give them a hand** to help cover their education.

That's all I want to share with you.

Từ vựng

- **in dire straits:** trong tình huống khó khăn / nghịch cảnh
- **a series of:** một chuỗi
- **figure out (phrasal verb):** tìm ra
- **total winnings:** tổng giá trị giải thưởng
- **beneficiary (n):** người hưởng lợi
- **give a hand:** giúp đỡ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

- **Describe a gameshow or a quiz program you watched on TV or online:** “You deserve it” game show.
- **Describe a person who often helps other people:** Mỹ Tâm, a well-known singer in Vietnam, usually helps poor people. She once took part in a game show called “You deserve it” to earn money for the homeless.

Speaking Part 3

1 What rewards can children get from school?



Gợi ý: give incentives for children (những phương pháp động viên khích lệ khác nhau), have a lasting impact (tạo ra ảnh hưởng lâu dài), an aquarium (thuỷ cung), study more about their surroundings (hiểu biết hơn về các thứ xung quanh).



There are so many different ways to **give incentives for children** at school. And I think that rewards should be something which can create meaningful moments and that have **a lasting impact** on a child. That's why for me, a short trip during the day is an ideal choice. A child always has a favorite place that they wish to go to. For example, it can be a trip to a museum, a zoo or **an aquarium**. By doing this, our kids not only feel excited and happy, but they also have a chance to **study more about their surroundings**.

2 Should parents push their children to get prizes?



Gợi ý: No: develop intrinsic motivation (phát triển động lực học bên trong), study with ease (học thoải mái, không căng thẳng), have a negative effect on children's mental health (có ảnh hưởng tiêu cực tới sức khoẻ tinh thần của trẻ nhỏ).



Definitely not. I don't like the idea of kids thinking that they will only study hard if there is a prize. What parents should do is to let their children **develop their intrinsic motivation**. That's why children themselves should find fun and excitement in exploring the world and learning new things. And parents need to stop raising their children with the principle that they must beat everyone else in the class. If parents try to push their children too hard, this will **have a negative effect on children's mental health**. I mean, they may feel stressed and cannot study **with ease**.

3 Is it good for children to compete for prizes at school?



Gợi ý: improve self-esteem (lòng tự tôn), realize their strengths and weaknesses (nhận ra điểm mạnh và điểm yếu), self-reflection (tự nhìn nhận bản thân), failure (thất bại), push them ahead (thúc đẩy trẻ nhỏ tiến về phía trước)



As I told you before, I don't like the idea of studying just for prizes. However, competitions can actually bring about certain benefits for children. They will gradually realize their strengths and weaknesses so that they can work hard to improve themselves and prepare to perform better in the next competition, which helps them build up "self-esteem". Besides, a lesson will be learnt that competition is not just about winning but it's also about failure. And you know, losing will teach children to self-reflect and push them ahead for improvement in the future.

4 What kinds of rewards can companies offer to their outstanding employees?



Gợi ý: bonus (tiền thưởng): monetary reward (phần thưởng bằng tiền). Employees will strive (cố gắng, phấn đấu), meet their needs in life (đáp ứng như cầu trong cuộc sống), achieve the company's goals (đạt được mục tiêu công việc).



That should be giving **bonuses**. This is definitely the most practical way to reward excellent employees. We cannot deny the fact that people are working extremely hard to earn as much money as possible to meet their needs in life. That is to say, **monetary rewards** can motivate employees to perform their best at work and **strive** to achieve the company's goals.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a time when you spent a lot of money on something

- When you spent money
- What you bought
- Where you bought it

and explain why you spent a lot of money on it.



Today, I'm going to tell you about a time I spent a lot of money on buying a mobile phone.

Last month, while travelling back home from work, I was caught in **a torrential downpour** and **got drenched**. Unfortunately, my phone, which I put in my trousers' pocket, got water damage too. I took it to the phone repair shop but all efforts were **in vain**. So, I decided to buy a new one.

At that time, Samsung had just launched their latest model, which was the Samsung Galaxy Note 10+. And needless to say, I was immediately **hooked on** its new design. It was gorgeous to look at and the image quality was incredible with **nice vivid colors**. The thing which I was particularly impressed by was the hole cut in the top for the selfie camera because it was totally smaller than any other model. Everything about this phone was perfectly amazing, except for one thing, the price. It was sold for **an exorbitant price** of \$950. To be honest, I had never spent such a huge sum of money like that on anything before.

After a few days **weighing up** the cost, I finally made up my mind to buy this expensive phone. Normally, I would go to the mobile store to **properly examine** the phone before making a decision to buy it. But this time, I decided to purchase it online because the price on the website was \$50 lower than in store. And the phone was delivered right the next day with no **breakage** or problems at all.

I was completely satisfied with this brand-new phone and it was completely worth the money.

Từ vựng

- **Torrential downpour (n):** cơn mưa xối xả
- **Get drenched (v):** ướt sũng
- **In vain:** thất bại
- **Hooked on something (a):** rất thích, muốn có ngay
- **Nicely vivid color (n):** màu sắc sống động
- **Exorbitant price (n):** (giá cả) cực kì cao
- **Weigh up something (v):** cân nhắc
- **Properly examine (v):** kiểm tra kĩ lưỡng
- **Breakage (n):** sự đổ vỡ

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

Describe an important technological product you bought: *Samsung Galaxy Note 10+, a phone which is used to take stunning photos.*

Describe good experience of online shopping: *I purchased a new phone online. The product was delivered within a few days with no breakage or errors at all.*

Describe a time when you celebrated your achievement: *I got promotion at work then I decided to buy a new phone as a self-reward.*

Speaking Part 3

1 Why do people save money?



Gợi ý: *financially secure (an toàn về tài chính), an emergency (trường hợp khẩn cấp), be well-prepared (chuẩn bị tốt), a backup for necessary expenses (khoản dự trữ cho những chi tiêu cần thiết).*



I think it's basically because no one can predict the future and people's savings can help them be more **financially secure** in case of an **emergency**. Bad things can happen to anyone and it's always better for people to **be well-prepared**. For example, you can suddenly lose your job and become unemployed for a period of time. In this case, without a stable income as usual, you can use this money as **a backup for necessary expenses**.

2 Do you think rich people are happier than those who are not rich?



Gợi ý: *Yes. Financially comfortable (thoải mái về tài chính), important needs are met (các nhu cầu quan trọng được đáp ứng), a greater sense of security (cảm giác an toàn nhiều hơn), emotional state and innermost feelings (cảm xúc bên trong con người).*



It's hard to answer this. First of all, I do believe that the rich will be more satisfied with their lives compared to the poor, because they are **financially comfortable** and all their most **important needs are easily met**. It's clear that they will feel **a greater sense of security** and less stressed about their futures. But from my perspective, satisfaction is different from happiness. Being happy is something related to the **emotional state and innermost feelings**, which cannot be bought by money.

3

Do you think children should learn money management?



Gợi ý: Yes. Targets of the advertising industry (mục tiêu của quảng cáo), avoid spending money impulsively (tiêu tiền không suy nghĩ, bốc đồng), a good saving habit (thói quen tiết kiệm tốt)



Sure. In modern society, teaching children to manage their money is absolutely necessary. You know, children seem to become **targets of the advertising industry**, so they should be taught how to use their money wisely and **avoid spending money impulsively**. When it comes to teaching kids about money, the most important point is to show them the difference between things they want and things they need. By forming **a good saving habit** at an early age, children will find it easier to manage their life in the future.

4

Why do many people apply for credit cards nowadays?



Gợi ý: Merits (điểm tốt); unplanned expenses (những chi tiêu phát sinh bất ngờ), a loan (khoản vay), not worry about financial state (tình trạng tài chính), credit cards (thẻ ghi nợ).



I have to say that credit cards are not that popular in Vietnam. But I've heard about these types of cards before and I can see that they come with a lot of **merits**. Credit cards can be valuable tools especially for handling emergencies and **unplanned expenses**. Credit cards give users a chance to access money they don't actually own and then pay it back later, pretty much just like a **loan**. People will have more chance to go shopping without worrying much about their **financial state** at the time. That's why more and more people tend to use **credit cards** these days.



Speaking Part 2

Describe a person who often travels by plane.

- Who he or she is
- Where he or she goes
- Why he or she travels by plane
- and explain how he or she feels about it



Today, I'm going to talk about someone who often travels by plane, and that is Chi Pu.

Chi Pu is a famous singer in Vietnam. I first knew about this person 2 years ago after listening to her hit single called "A million roses".

To the best of my recollection, she started her singing career about 5 years ago when she performed some small concerts in the local area. At first, she **encountered several difficulties** since her parents insisted that she become an office worker like her peers. However, thanks to her efforts and **strong determination**, she managed to produce her first album and **grab the attention** of the public. Now, she has **risen to stardom** and become a **public figure** on not only a national level but also an international scale.

Chi Pu must travel by plane a lot because her schedule is always full of performance events in different cities, and even different countries. You know, I follow her on Instagram and sometimes I can see that Chi Pu has to move from the south to the north **back and forth** many times a day.

Honestly speaking, I think Chi Pu is a great source of inspiration and a role model for the next generation to pursue their singing careers. I bet that most teenagers in my country know about her and many of them even admire her beautiful voice as well as her **outstanding** performing style a lot.

That's all I want to share.

Từ vựng

- **Encounter difficulties:** gặp phải nhiều khó khăn
- **Insist on doing something:** khăng khăng làm gì
- **Strong determination:** quyết tâm mạnh mẽ
- **Grab the attention:** thu hút sự chú ý
- **Rise to stardom:** trở thành ngôi sao
- **Public figure:** người của công chúng
- **Back and forth:** qua lại, lui tới
- **Source of inspiration:** nguồn cảm hứng
- **Outstanding:** nổi bật

Mở rộng

Các chủ đề tương tự

Những ý tưởng và từ vựng trong bài mẫu trên có thể được sử dụng để phát triển những chủ đề sau:

Describe a band or a singer you like: *Chi Pu*

Describe a person who is good at his or her job: *Chi Pu, who is good at being a singer.*

Describe a foreign famous person you want to meet in person: *Đối với đề này bạn chỉ cần đổi tên và giới thiệu ca sĩ đến từ nước nào đó khác Việt Nam, còn nội dung của bài mẫu có thể giữ lại không cần thay đổi.*

Speaking Part 3

1 In Vietnam, is travelling by plane more popular than other types of travelling?



Gợi ý: Gain greater popularity (được ưa chuộng hơn), domestically and internationally (trong và ngoài nước): visit distant lands (những vùng đất xa xôi), foreign cultures (văn hoá nước ngoài), affordable (giá cả hợp lý).



I have to say that flying is **gaining greater popularity** in my country, both **domestically and internationally**. There is no doubt that travelling by plane is the fastest way to get anywhere, and the only way to go abroad. Without air travel, people do not have any chance to visit **distant lands** and experience foreign cultures, so, airplane is absolutely the vehicle to the world. On top of that, flight costs are surprisingly **affordable** these days, which allow people to fly more than ever before.

2 Why do some people dislike travelling by plane?



Gợi ý: Delays and pre-boarding process (quá trình trước khi lên máy bay), frustrating (gây khó chịu), ruin travel plans (phá huỷ kế hoạch bay), long waiting lines (xếp hàng dài để đợi), a nightmare for flyers (cơn ác mộng cho hành khách), be sick and tired of (bực mình, không thể chịu nổi) whiling away (giết thời gian).



The most annoying part of travelling by plane must be delays and the **pre-boarding process** including checking in and getting through security. Whatever the cause is, delays can be **frustrating** for passengers and can even **ruin their travel plans**. Besides, long waiting lines are also a nightmare for flyers. The queue for checking in, for security, for waiting to board sometimes takes forever. I once had a terrible delay experience during a trip last summer. I was so **sick and tired** of those 8 hours doing nothing but **whiling away** in the departure lounge.

3 What are the advantages and disadvantages of travelling by plane?



Gợi ý:

Advantages: the fastest, far-off destinations (những nơi cực kì xa), comfy and reclining seat (chỗ ngồi thoải mái, dựa tay chân) on board (trên máy bay)

Disadvantages: expensive tickets, delays and cancellations (hoãn chuyến, hủy chuyến)



The biggest advantage I want to mention is that flying is much faster compared to travelling by boat or car, especially when it comes to **far-off** destinations. Plus, you can have your own **comfy reclining** seat **on board**. On the other hand, travelling by plane also comes with some downsides. First of all, air tickets are much more expensive than other means of transportation, so some people might not be able to afford a flight. And as I told you before, delays and cancellations can cause real troubles.

4 Why do some people prefer to travel by train?



Gợi ý: much luggage without extra fees (phụ phí) ; eco-friendly travel (thân thiện với môi trường)



Well, this is a tough question for me because I've only travelled by train once in my life. But the good thing is that my best friend travels by rail a lot so I do know some merits of train travel. Unlike air travel, travelling by train allows you to take as much luggage as you want without any **extra fees**. Another reason is that travelling by train is considered to be **eco-friendly travel**. As CO2 emissions are lower, train travel is much greener than flying or driving.

with a range of modern facilities, including an **air conditioning system** and a number of tables made of high-quality wood.

For me, secondary school was a place full of beautiful childhood memories. I will definitely **pay a visit** to it when I have a chance to go back to my hometown.

Từ vựng

- **Within walking distance:** trong phạm vi đi bộ (gần)
- **Surrounding buildings:** các tòa nhà xung quanh
- **A sense of enjoyment:** cảm giác vui thích
- **Flowering plant:** cây cỏ
- **Enormous (a):** to lớn, vĩ đại
- **Air conditioning system:** hệ thống máy lạnh
- **Pay a visit:** ghé thăm

Speaking Part 3

1 What's the difference between being taught by teachers and by AI?



Gợi ý trả lời: *not an expert (chuyên gia): turn conventional lessons (bài học truyền thống, thông thường) more engaging (lôi cuốn, hấp dẫn) → improve self-learning ability (khả năng tự học) ; captivated (thu hút) → eager (háo hức).*



Actually I'm not an **expert** in technology, so I can hardly provide a detailed answer. But, I guess learning through lessons delivered by AI must be fun. This technology could turn **conventional** lessons into much more **engaging** ones which can improve students' **self-learning ability**. Once students are totally **captivated** by such an interesting learning experience, they will be more **eager** to learn and explore themselves.

2 What's the difference between private schools and public schools?



Gợi ý trả lời: *tuition fee (học phí): private schools (trường tư): a huge sum of money (khoản tiền lớn), self-fund (tự trả tiền), class size (kích thước lớp học)*



I guess that the most significant difference would be the **tuition fee**. Generally, without the support from the government, **private schools** will need a **huge sum of** money to **self-fund** their curriculums, programs and teachers' salaries. That's why private schools will be far more expensive than public ones. In addition, private and public schools also differ in **class size**. While private schools tend to have smaller class sizes, the number of students attending a class in public schools seems to be much larger.

3 Why wearing uniform is compulsory at school?



Gợi ý trả lời: mandatory (bắt buộc): create a sense of equality (sự bình đẳng), high or low-income family (gia đình giàu hay nghèo), reduce peer pressure (giảm áp lực từ bạn học) ; feels united and connected (cảm thấy đoàn kết và kết nối với nhau) focus on studying rather than clothing (tập trung vào việc học hơn là thời trang).



There are several reasons why wearing a uniform should be made **mandatory** at school. First of all, this will create a sense of **equality** among students. This means whether they come from a **high or low-income family**, they would wear the same when they go to school. That is to say, this will **reduce peer pressure** at schools when every student **feels united and connected**. Besides, wearing uniforms enables students to **focus more on studying rather than clothing**. If everyone put on the same outfit, they will be less concerned about what others are wearing.

4 Why some parents let their children study in single sex schools?



Gợi ý trả lời: boys and girls mature and make progress (tiến bộ), different rate (mức độ khác nhau); curriculum (chương trình đào tạo), separated (chia rẽ), tailored (sửa đổi), academic improvement (cải thiện học tập).



Scientifically speaking, boys and girls seem to mature and **make progress** at **different rates** and there is even a difference in each gender's learning method. Therefore, if boys and girls are **separated**, they may somehow feel more comfortable to develop at his or her own pace. Also, the **curriculum** and teaching style are **tailored** to adapt to their specific needs and interests, which greatly helps with their overall academic improvement.



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