

makkar IELTS

English for Exams

Jan- Apr 2020



makkarIELTS Speaking Guesswork

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English for Exams

makkarIELTS Speaking Guesswork**Jan- Apr 2020****First Version- 5 Jan 2020**

Dr Kiranpreet Kaur Makkar
(MBBS, DGO - Makkar Hospital Phagwara)

makkarIELTS Phagwara Centre 1

Handa Complex Opposite Bus Stand, Phagwara, Punjab
Basement: Vishal Megamart
Contact: 95608-20208, 9888195776

makkarIELTS MOHALI Centre 1

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

makkarIELTS Phagwara Centre 2

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

makkarIELTS MOHALI Centre 2

SCF 15, Second Floor
Phase 7 – 160062
M: 9646044322
(Opposite Chawla Hospital)

makkarIELTS Chandigarh Centre

SCO 69, 3rd Floor
Sector 17-D
(near Variety Book Store)
M: 79866-07619, 98775-96710

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INTRO Questions – SPEAKING PART 1

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1. Describe one of your family members you spend the most time with - m@kka|ELTS

- Who is he/she?
- What do you usually do together?
- What kind of person he/she is?
- Why you spend most of the time with him/her?
- **This is the 1st version of Jan-Apr 2020 Speaking Topics, for updated version refer to instructions on Page 2 of this PDF.**

- If I had to talk about myself, I would say I am very reserved person and it takes a lot of time to become familiar with strangers.
- However, I love spending time with my family.
- I am very close to both my parents but as we are all working (as they are working and I am studying), its hard for us to spend time together.
- The person I do spend a lot of time together with is my nephew- my sister's child.
- He is nearly five years old.
- He is very special to me.
- There are many reasons for that.
- Firstly, everyone says that he looks like me and secondly, we both like spending time with each other.
- I think the reason for that is we feel very comfortable with each other.
- I get to act like a child around him and I miss being a child.
- He is also like me – very shy with strangers and he is very naughty – just like I was in my childhood. Ma k k ar IELTS
- So, spending time with him reminds me of my childhood in some ways.
- In my childhood, I was in a hurry to grow up but now I sometimes wish I could reverse time and bring back my childhood.
- There are so many things we do together.
- But something that we really enjoy doing is to play pranks on Deepa, my sister and his mother.
- I think we can do that all day long.
- We also both love eating chocolates, so whenever we can, we try to buy and eat chocolates secretly.
- However, I do get scolded sometimes as I am the adult.
- I also have a dog and so we both like playing with her.
- We love taking her out on walks and feeding her. M @ k k ar |elts
- In the evening, I take my nephew to the park and just spend time on the swings there.
- Sometimes, I wish he would always remain a child, but I know that's not going to happen even if I wish for it a million times.

Follow ups

1. How many generations usually live together in India?

I think the situation in India is undergoing a change. Earlier joint families were more common and three or four generations used to live together. On the other hand, nowadays nuclear families are more common with maximum of two generations living together.

2. Is it important to visit family members?

Yes, it is really important to meet family regularly. I think family defines us and family is what supports us and stands with us in bad times. However, I think this selfless bond only stays if we remain in contact with each other.

3. What are the values of family in your country?

The think the main values of family in India are respect for elders and prioritizing the needs of the family over our individual needs. That is why, in India we think in we rather in I, for example we own a house, we own this car. m@kK@rI3LTS

4. Why is family bonding necessary for happiness in life?

Family bonding is necessary for happiness because it gives us secure. I mean it makes us feel that we are not alone, there is someone behind us.

5. Do you think the support from a friend is different from the support from a family member?

I think certainly. There is an element of selflessness in family relationships, which I feel is missing when it comes to support from friends. Also, it doesn't create a burden. What I mean is we do take help from friends but then it also makes us feel that we have to repay it. This feeling doesn't come in the case of family.

6. Who should be more responsible for educating the children in a family?

I think both the parents should be equally responsible. However, I also believe that both parents necessarily don't teach the same things. For example, both boys and girls learn gender appropriate behavior from fathers, while they love more about loving, sharing and caring from mother.

7. Do you think there are differences between how men and women care for children?

Yes, there is certainly a difference. In India, fathers are generally stricter, and they don't show their love openly. Mothers are much more open in showing their love and affection. I think it's hard to define the difference, but I certainly feel there is a difference.

8. Do your parents do household chores equally?

Yes, my parents are very particular about the household chores. For example, my father is responsible for buying the vegetables from the market daily. He also makes the breakfast and tea, while my mother makes the lunch and dinner. I also have the responsibility of taking out the trash in the morning and feeding the dog. We have a maid for cleaning and other things.

2. Describe an important journey that was delayed.

- Why was it important
 - What caused the delay
 - What happened at the end
 - Describe what caused the delay
-
- India is a beautiful and diverse country and there are so many things I love about it.
 - Unfortunately, its public transportation is not one of them, especially trains and buses in India.
 - Trains and buses often get delayed because of reasons like traffic, fog and other unforeseen circumstances.
 - Today, I am going to talk about one time when I got delayed because of something unexpected.
 - My parents and I were travelling to Ahmedabad for my cousin's wedding, and it was the middle of the monsoon season. (makkarIELTS)
 - However, we were travelling through Rajasthan, which is one of the drier parts of India.
 - So, we weren't expecting any rain, but nature had other plans for us.
 - It started raining about five hours into the journey and it rained incessantly for hours.
 - We still thought it was ok and it's just rain and it would subside sometime soon.
 - But it didn't.
 - In fact, our train stopped at one station because everything ahead was flooded.
 - A railway official told us that it was one of the worst floods in the state and the railway tracks were submerged under 2-3 inches of water.
 - I vividly remember one scene when we entered a railway office to enquire when the train would leave.
 - All the chairs were floating, and the railway officials were sitting on the top of tables.
 - When we all think about that journey, it is the first scene that comes to mind.
 - Finally, after hours the train moved again. m@kk@rIELTS
 - We missed the wedding, but we did attend the reception which was the next day.
 - When I think about it, I don't remember anything about the return journey.
 - The floods did cause inconvenience, but it also made the journey much more memorable.

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Follow ups

1. What mode of travel do you consider the safest?

I think earlier I considered travelling by car to be the safest but because of the increasing traffic and road accidents, I now consider train journey as the safest. So, whenever I have to travel long distance I travel by train. I also consider air journeys to be safe, but the recent airplane disappearances have made me less sure.

2. How do people travel long distance in your country?

I think the most common means of travel for majority of the people is train. However, with increasing incomes, many people have started travelling by air as well.

3. How can travelling be useful to people? What do you think people can learn by travelling to other countries?

Travelling is useful in many ways. First, it's one of the best ways to meet new people and make friends. Secondly, it enables us to learn about new cultures and traditions. Travelling also in a way breaks the monotony of everyday life. There is something very enjoyable about planning a holiday and visiting other places.

4. Where, in our opinion, should people visit during the vacations? What type of places do you recommend people to visit during vacations?

I have thought about it a lot. I think people should take vacations at a place, which is different from their own native place. For example, I live in the plains, so I love travelling to the hills and mountains. People who live in continental locations can visit the beaches. Ultimately though, it all depends upon people's choice.

5. In what ways can society benefit from such members?

I believe there are several ways a society can benefit from such members. Firstly, regular travellers can make a society more open-minded by spreading knowledge about other cultures. It also builds curiosity among other members of the society to travel. Finally, sometimes when these travellers like something about other cultures, they might bring it to their native place as well.

6. How do you think commercial flights can improve?

I think the biggest issue with commercial flights today is the lack of leg space, which makes it very tiring to travel. In fact, sometimes after long journeys all I can think about is lying down and sleeping on a bed for hours. Moreover, I think the food prices in aircrafts are really exorbitant and I wish these prices are made more reasonable.

3. Describe an experience you had as a member of a team - m@kkar|ELTS

- What it was?
 - Who were the members of the team?
 - What role did you play in this team?
 - And explain how you achieved your goal?
-
- I have had both negative and positive experiences while working in teams.
 - Today, I am going to talk about the best experience I have had.
 - I think it was because I had a good rapport with the team members and also because the role, I undertook was something I enjoyed a lot.
 - In 12th standard as a part of the course of economics, our class was given a team project.
 - My teacher made teams of three members and the team members were selected randomly.
 - Unfortunately, I did not know any of the other team members in my group.
 - I mean I knew their names but nothing more than that.
 - So, I was very apprehensive at the beginning, but it all changed with time.
 - We were allowed to choose the topic of the project ourselves.
 - So, we chose the topic of global economic crisis during 2007-2008.
 - All of us were very curious about what happened for such a big crisis and moreover why India was not very affected.
 - You can say I was the nerd in the team, so I was given the role of collecting data.
 - However, both the other team members also helped.
 - I still remember how we spent every afternoon sitting and reading books on the topic in the library.
 - We also read some journals on the topic on the internet.
 - It was during this part that we three became really good friends.
 - I compiled all the information and then all of it into divided different portions and wrote it down.
 - The last part of the project was team presentation.
 - I was really afraid as I found speaking in front of people really daunting.
 - But my team mates really helped me then. I think we practiced giving the presentation three four times and that made me much more confident.
 - I think we all did really well in the presentation because only two teams got an A grade in the presentation and we were one of the two.

Follow ups

1. Do you like to work alone or work with a partner?

I like working alone because I kind of hate being dependent upon other people. However, it also depends upon the team members. If I have a good rapport with the team members, I find it rather enjoyable.

2. What kind of people are good to work with?

The most important quality I try to look for in team members is sincerity. I mean sincerity with work. I have unfortunately worked with a lot of people who procrastinate endlessly, and I really dislike working with such people.

3. Do you like group work or group learning?

Yes, group learning/work is certainly enjoyable because it involves sharing of ideas and discussions. Working/Studying alone sometimes can be very boring. However, sometimes it is also irritating especially if some of the team members like talking a lot because then I get distracted.

4. What are the advantages of studying alone?

The biggest advantage of studying alone undoubtedly is that we can concentrate better. So, it is more efficient to study alone. Another advantage of studying alone is the flexibility it offers. What I mean is that we can study whenever or wherever we want, and we can study at our pace.

5. What can children learn through teamwork?

The main benefit I feel is children learn how to cooperate and work along with others. This is really beneficial in adult life when people have to work together on projects.

6. What are the disadvantages of working in a team?

I think, firstly, working in a team can be really inefficient because we have to work at common group speed. Secondly, it sometimes leads to feeling of helplessness if the other

members are not very sincere about their work and we are dependent upon them to finish their work.

7. Is it good to have differences in a team?

Well both yes and no. Yes, because team differences make sure more time is spent deliberating on issues, which means there are less chances of errors. No, because having differences means that it slows things down.

8. What are key skills and abilities needed to be successful in a team.

I think the main skill required to be successful is the ability to work well with others. People should be accommodating, but also not so accommodating that they lose their voice. What I mean is that they should be open to ideas of others but also express their ideas and reservations about ideas of others.

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