

makkar IELTS

English for Exams

Final Version

Jan - Apr 2022



makkarIELTS Speaking Guesswork

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English for Exams

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Final Version



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SPEAKING PART 2 & 3

CUE CARDS AND FOLLOW UPS

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1. Describe something that was broken in your home and then repaired

- You should say: makkariELTS
 - What it is
 - How it was broken
 - How you got it repaired
 - And how you felt about it
-
- Nowadays, I normally buy a newer model rather than getting old things repaired.
 - However, recently our washing machine broke down and as it was under warranty, we decided to get it repaired.
 - The machine just stopped working.
 - When we switched it, the lights didn't come on.
 - At first, we thought that there might be a problem with the socket.
 - However, when we plugged another electronic device into the socket it worked.
 - That's when we knew the machine was broken for sure.
 - I am not sure of the reason but I think it was voltage fluctuation.
 - It rained pretty heavily and due to the rain, there was a voltage fluctuation in our area.
 - The fluctuation probably caused burned one of the electronic circuits in the machine.
 - We had purchased the machine just a few months before that incident, so it was under warranty.
 - We called the company and they scheduled a technician visit to our house.
 - The repairman told us that the main circuit was burnt, but he was also not sure what caused that.
 - He said that the part was made to order, so ordered the part and told us that when he receives the part, he will come again and replace it.
 - I thought it would be quick but it took a whole week.
 - Due to corona, there were shipment delays.
 - Electronic equipments do break down.
 - So, it wasn't a big deal.
 - But the time we had to wait to get it repaired was much more than we had anticipated.
 - The repairman had warned us that it might take some time, but even he didn't think it would take a whole week.
 - The laundry just piled up and we just waited.
 - However, one good thing that happened was that I took out some clothes that I hadn't worn in a long time.
 - My favourite clothes were sitting in the laundry and I had no option.
 - Two days after the repairman came and fixed it, we got an apology email from the company.
 - We all really appreciated that. I don't think the company was at fault and yet they apologised.
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Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1. Are IT-related jobs valued more by society?

I don't think they are valued more or less than other jobs. But yes the significance of IT jobs has increased in recent years as our dependence on technology has increased.

2. Is the quality of products worse than before?

I definitely think the quality has fallen in recent years. This is based on my personal experience. The first refrigerator my parents bought still works fine but the ones we bought after that broke down after three-four years and this is true for nearly every electronic product. I think the technology is becoming more and more complex but that has taken a toll on product durability.

3. What kinds of things do people like to repair by themselves?

I think YouTube and Google have made it possible to repair anything and everything. Recently my mom fixed her sewing machine by watching a YouTube video. I have fixed my mobile phone and laptop many a times by just searching on google.

4. Why do people like to get their mobile phones repaired in specialised stores?

I think the main reason is that they don't want to void the phone's warranty. I think most companies mention that if the phone is opened by non-registered technician or store, the warranty would not be applicable. I think it is a tactic by companies to ensure that they can charge people heavily for parts, which can be repaired cheaply.

2. Describe an ambition that you haven't achieved

- You should say:
 - What it is
 - Why you haven't achieved it
 - What you did
 - And how you felt about it
- I have many ambitions in my life.
 - But the one ambition that I am working on right now is to go for higher education in Canada.
 - Earlier I didn't have any plans to go abroad, but a conversation with a friend who went to Canada changed my opinion.
 - He told me about the difference in the quality of education and the work opportunities available there.
 - So after completing my senior secondary education, I decided that it would be the best opportunity for me.
 - There are two main requisites to get admission in a good Canadian college.
 - The first is good grades in senior secondary education.
 - My grades are pretty satisfactory. So, I didn't have to worry about that.
 - The second is a good score in English language tests like IELTS or TOEFL.
 - I learned that Canadian colleges give preference to IELTS and hence I am taking the IELTS exam.
 - For the past two-three months, I have been practicing for the exam.
 - I ordered the Cambridge books and started my preparation from them.
 - There is a lot of free material available on the internet.
 - So, I used that to prepare myself.
 - I used to practice for about 8 hours every day.
 - I used to try to cover every IELTS module twice.
 - For listening and reading, I didn't need much help.
 - I just practised the test papers and looked at my mistakes after that, so I don't repeat them.
 - For speaking and writing, I joined a coaching institute and their teachers helped me a lot.
 - I hope to get good bands, so I can move ahead to the next step, which is to apply for an offer letter from a Canadian College.
 - I don't think it has been an easy journey.
 - English is not my first language and I have had to practise really hard.
 - But I hope the fruits of the efforts will definitely be worth the struggle.

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1 What ambitions do children usually have?

Children have many ambitions. The first ambition is mainly about the profession- in childhood, everyone has an ambition to do something noble like becoming a doctor or do something exciting like becoming a pilot or an astronaut. Then, children also have an ambition of earning huge amounts of money.

2 Why are some people very ambitious in their work?

I think it's just a part of their nature. They are ambitious because they want to grow and achieve something in their life. They want to be known for their work.

3 Why don't some people have dreams?

I think everyone has certain dreams. It's just that some people are too lazy to work for their dreams. On the other hand, there are others who can do anything for their dreams and it shows.

4 How do people balance work and life?

I think everyone does it in their own way. My mother switches off her work mobile phone after 5 PM. Some people do it by taking regular breaks when they only focus on their family. I think it is something almost every person tries to do and fails. In recent years, even governments are taking steps like limiting work hours so people are able to do so.

3. Describe a time when you organized a happy event successfully

- You should say: makkariELTS
 - What the event was
 - How you prepared for it
 - Who helped you to organize it
 - And explain why you think it was a successful event
-
- I love to organise events.
 - On July 16th last year, it was my mother's 50 birthday and I wanted to do something special for her.
 - However, due to the pandemic, most celebrations were forbidden.
 - We were all cooped up inside our houses.
 - I decided to give her a surprise online party.
 - I asked my sister for advice on how we can make it special.
 - We have a large family and we asked every one in the family, all our cousins, uncles, and aunt to record something for my mother.
 - It could be anything, there were no restrictions.
 - One of my cousins recorded a dance performance, an uncle wrote a beautiful poem, my grandpa sang a beautiful song in Gujrati.
 - After receiving all the videos, we combined them into one big video.
 - It was not easy though, we had to send reminders and message some of my aunts and uncles again and again.
 - Some even sent it one day before the birthday, but they all finally did it.
 - Moreover, It was all hard to remind them to keep it a secret.
 - We were sure one of our aunts or uncles would spill the beans.
 - Thankfully no one did.
 - Then, we organised a special get together on zoom for the family.
 - This was also hard because some of our relatives live in a different time zone.
 - We wanted to choose a time everyone could be available.
 - Here we failed to some extent, but some of our relatives couldn't be online at that time.
 - The birthday fell on a weekday, so it was just not possible.
 - On her birthday, I ordered her favourite- truffle cake.
 - And then when everyone joined the zoom meeting, I handed my mom the phone and told her someone wants to wish her a happy birthday.
 - She was shocked to see all the family on the meeting.
 - Then, she cut the cake, while I held the phone and everyone wished her happy birthday.
 - Finally, for the big reveal, we played the video on the TV and recorded her reactions while watching the video and we telecast it on the meeting on a split-screen.
 - One screen showing her reactions and the other showing the video.
 - My mother had happy tears in her eyes by the end of it all and I think that alone made it a successful event.
 - However, others told me it was such wonderfully organised and it was so nice meeting everyone online. Even after the video was over, everyone stayed on the meeting and we kept on talking and discussing everyday life.

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1 How can parents help children to be organized?

I think parents should have a daily schedule for their children. They should also allot every task a fixed amount of time. For example, they can ask them to write each task on the calendar and write how much time they expect to give to it alongside it. Then, there should be rewards and punishments for finishing or not finishing the tasks.

2 On what occasions do people need to be organized?

I don't think people need an occasion to be organised. We should try to be organised all the time. When we are organised we tend to save time and do things faster. Also, being organised creates a good impression on others.

3 Does everything need to be well prepared?

I think all the important things should be well prepared, but the minor details can be left out. It's like a speech, we prepare the main ideas but we leave some liberty to make some changes with the minor details. Preparing everything in advance would be very exhausting if not impossible.

4 Do people need others' help when organizing things?

Well, it depends upon the task. If we are organising a big event, we definitely need help. For example, wedding planners have a whole team of 10-15 members because a single person cannot manage everything. But, if there are small things like a small family get together, I think a person can organise it on their own.

4. Describe something you received for free

- You should say: makkariELTS
 - What it was
 - Who you received it from
 - Where you received it
 - And how you felt about it
-
- I have received many free things in my life, but I would like to talk about a free coffee which I got on my birthday.
 - When I visit Delhi or Chandigarh I love to visit Starbucks as I love their coffee.
 - During one of my first few visits, one of the salespersons in Starbucks told me to get a Starbucks Card as I am a regular coffee drinker.
 - She told me that the card was free and there are some amazing perks for regular coffee drinkers.
 - I was sceptical at first, as there is no Starbucks in my city and I was wondering how many times would I actually drink one.
 - But after some persuasion by the salesgirl, I got one, nonetheless.
 - One of the benefits was a free coffee during the birthday month.
 - I didn't know this.
 - So, by chance, I visited a Starbucks in June, which is my birthday month.
 - When I was about to pay, the salesperson asked me if I was due a free coffee because of my birthday month and should he make this order the free one.
 - I wasn't expecting it but more than that I didn't ask for it, he offered it.
 - I then inquired whether it could be any coffee and if I could make modifications like adding whip cream.
 - When he said, I told them to make it a mocha and add whip cream.
 - I normally don't make these additions because their coffee is already very expensive.
 - I thought there would be no better opportunity to try it.
 - So, I went for it.
 - I really enjoyed the coffee.
 - If I would have paid for it, it would have cost me around Rs 400.
 - It wasn't a big amount but it made me so happy like I had won a lottery.
 - That day, I got a card made for my mother and my sister as well.
 - However, then the salesperson told me that the free birthday month coffee is applicable only when we buy coffee worth Rs 5000 in a year.
 - I don't think they will drink so much coffee, but I have already started looking forward to next June and the next free coffee.

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1 Do you think people should pay for higher education? Why?

I definitely think that people should pay for higher education themselves. I think people should only go for higher education when they are really interested. Paying it for ourselves means- we do it only when we really want to. At the same time, I also feel that government should provide scholarships and loans to poor students so that they don't leave education because of money.

2 Is it good or bad for people to have a free education in the future?

I think free primary education is good because everyone should get primary education but I think higher education should be paid for by the student themselves. Actually, I don't think it is possible for the government to fund higher education for everyone.

3 What free gifts do companies usually give to their customers?

In India, I think companies give small gifts like pens, calendars and cups, etc to customers. They are free gifts for customers but in a way, they are advertising for the company. Then, there are also deals like buy one- get one free, which are technically gifts, but in a way - the prices factor in the free gift such that the company is still in profit.

4 Why do customers like to receive free gifts from companies?

I think there is no better feeling than getting something for free. It is just human nature, when we get something for free- we feel lucky. When we buy something, we are always thinking, whether we could have gotten something better for the same price, whether we were cheated, but when we get something for free, we feel like we couldn't get a better deal because what's better than free.

5. Describe a famous person that you are interested in

- You should say: makkariELTS
 - Who this person is
 - How you know about this person
 - What sort of life they had before they became famous
 - How this person became famous
 - And explain why you like this person
- I would like to meet many famous people but here I am going to talk about India's EX Prime Minister Manmohan Singh
OR
 - A person I admire the most is our ex-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.
 - He was born in Gah village, located in Punjab province of Pakistan and was the first Sikh Prime Minister of India.
 - He is a dynamic and development-oriented leader.
 - He served as a member of the parliament, representing the state of Assam in the Upper House of the Parliament.
 - He had been the member of parliament for five consecutive terms.
 - The reason why I admire him is that his life shows how an ordinary boy from a deprived (poor) class could reach the highest levels of the nation.
 - It is all because of his hard work and determination.
 - During his tenure as finance minister in the 1990's he opened up India's economy to Foreign investments which helped a lot in India's economic growth
 - He is one of the most influential architects of India's socialist economy, and helped it to become a capitalistic one.
 - I believe he helped establish India's presence among the developed nations.
 - He is also famous for the Indo-US civilian nuclear agreement which gave India access to nuclear fuel and technology.
 - His focus on development, eye for detail and efforts to bring a qualitative difference in the lives of the poorest of the poor have made him a popular and respected leader across.
 - He is a role model for one and all.
 - I would like to meet him and seek his blessings.
 - I would like to get his autograph.
 - Every country needs people like him to take their nation to the top.

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1. What type of people are famous in your country?

In my country cricketers very famous, Bollywood stars are very famous and at the same time, some people who have an outstanding achievement or have accomplished something in life become public figures. Most of these people are role models and many people dream of becoming like them. So, people who can attract large crowds become famous in my country.

2. How do people become famous nowadays?

People become famous when they have achieved something that other common people have not done so far. Some of the movie stars are very famous because they have a box office hit. Some singers are famous because of their singing talent. Politicians become famous for their oratory skills. There is another category of famous people that become famous among people by their wrong deeds.

3. What is the difference between people who were famous earlier and who are famous now?

A few decades ago people were famous who had achieved something or had hit upon an invention. Some people were famous for their sacrifice or for their giving nature for example Mother Teresa. Nowadays many people are famous just because they are children of famous people, their dressing sense or singing talents.

4. What qualities do famous people have in common

All the famous people have a public appeal they have a talent or charm that can attract crowds. Some famous people are very intelligent like the famous mathematician Shakuntala Devi. But one thing is sure, a famous person must always be humble and grounded only then he will retain the fame.

5. What do you think about nepotism amongst the famous people

Nepotism is a practice to use power to favour their near and dear ones. Recently nepotism debate was ignited in the Bollywood after the death of Sushant Singh Rajput. Basically, nepotism was always present among the famous people because many politicians or celebrities wanted to use their influence and give a platform to their children to achieve success. Even in the ancient times the kings and the Nawabs used to have their near and dear ones on the highchairs So nepotism was always present wherever there was fame

6. Describe a toy you liked in your childhood

- You should say: makkariELTS
- What kind of toy it is
- When you received it
- How you played it
- And how you felt about it

- I had many toys in my childhood but here I am going to talk about my electric toy car.
- My father gifted it to me on my 11th birthday.
- I used to spend hours playing with it.
- I was greatly fascinated by it
- It was red in colour
- It worked with four pen torch batteries fixed in a box under the car
- When I switched it on, it would move in all directions
- If there was an obstacle on the way then the car could change directions
- Along with that it had lights, which flickered at times.
- I was so fascinated by this car that I used to finish its batteries very soon.
- I used to show it to my friends with pride.
- None of my other friends had such a beautiful toy car.
- I just loved it when I saw the jealous look in their eyes.
- I remember, once I took it to school in my bag.
- When I came home I got a big spanking from my mother.
- I was very possessive about my car and never used to let anyone touch it.
- Even though I don't play with the car any more I still have it in my room
- Its colour has faded now but it has emotional value for me.
- That is why I have never thought of giving it away to my younger cousins.
- It brings back nostalgic memories of my childhood

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1. What is the difference between girls' and boys' toys?

Traditionally, girls used to like toys like dolls, kitchen sets, fairies, and butterflies. Boys normally preferred aggressive toys like guns, cars, and things to build and things, which make a lot of noise. The other difference was that boys normally picked blue, brown and green. Girls, on the other hand, chose pink with a tinge of purple. These differences have been disappearing over the years.

2. Do you think toys really help in children's development?

Yes, toys play a big role in children's development. It helps to develop their motor and sensory skills and also their cognitive abilities. At the same time, it also leads to their social development, especially when they play with other children. Children also learn responsibility when parents ask them to properly store their toys.

3. Does modern technology have an influence on children's toys?

Yes, modern technology has a big influence on toys. Both the type of toys available and the children's preferences for toys have changed over time. Today robots, app controlled cars are more popular. Board games are becoming less and less popular. Simple action figures and dolls have also become much more detailed.

4. Have we lost our hand skills such as sewing?

Sewing by hand has definitely become a thing of the past. Sewing machines have come up in a big way. But manual sewing machines are still used. These have a hand pedal or a foot pedal. My mother has a fully automatic computerised sewing machine, but she has to operate it herself when she sews.

5. What toys are popular with kids in India today?

Many types of toys are popular in India. Children like wooden toys and other mechanical toys, but electronic toys are fast gaining popularity.

6. In general, do children today have many toys?

Yes, they do. When I look at the children around me, I feel that they have too many toys. I never had so many. I think parents, today, are substituting the time they have to spend with children by giving them more and more toys.

7. Do you think playing with electronic toys has a good influence on kids?

Yes, electronic toys introduce children to technology. They increase the strategy forming skills. They are good, but when children spend too much time on electronic games, they forget everything else and then these become negative.

8. Do you think there are some toys that are only suitable for girls and some that are only suitable for boys?

Not any more. Gender differences are disappearing fast and boys and girls play with the same type of toys nowadays.

9. Which do you think is better, for children to play with toy alone or with other kids?

It is definitely better for children to play with other kids. They learn caring and sharing and many other social skills when they play with others.

www.youtube.com/makkarielts www.instagram.com/makkarielts www.facebook.com/makkarielts

10. Do you think parents should encourage their children to share their toys with other kids?
Yes, definitely. They should encourage their children to share their toys with other children. In this way they will not need to have many toys.
11. How are toys today different to toys of the past?
Today we have electronic toys, whereas earlier we had wooden toys and plastic toys.
12. How do you think toys will change in the future?
What the future holds in store for us no one can tell, but as far as I can see, there will be more and more electronic gadgets in the future, which the children will play with as toys.
13. If you were going to give a present to a child, what would you give him?
I would give a child, a book as a gift. He may not like it at first, but it will shortly develop the habit of reading one day. I believe that books are the best gifts. They remain with that person forever.
14. What kinds of gifts do parents give to their young children?
Parents give all sorts of gifts to their children. They know the requirement of their children and give gifts accordingly. Mostly parents give educational gifts, from which the child can learn something in a fun way.
15. Is it good to give children too many presents such as too many toys?
No it is definitely not good to give a child too many presents. Children do not appreciate the value of toys when they are given too many toys. It also decreases their imagination and creativity. They also do not learn sharing with other children.
16. Some parents don't spend much time with their child but instead give the child gifts as a way to show their love. Do you think this is good enough?
No I do not think this is good enough. The time been didn't spend with the children is more important than the gifts they give them.

7. Describe your experience when you changed your school/college" or Describe an experience about moving to a new school or house

- Why did you change your school/college?
 - When was it?
 - Was that helpful?
 - What were the consequences after that?
- I have been to two schools in my life.
 - My primary school was different from my secondary school.
 - I have vague remembrances of my primary school as I was too small then.
 - Here I would like to talk about my secondary school in which I studied from 6th to 12th class.
 - I had to change my school because my father got transferred to a different city and we had to move with him
 - My school's name was SD Model Senior Secondary School.
 - I vividly remember I was very nervous on the first day.
 - This school was much bigger than my primary school.
 - I was afraid of getting lost there.
 - I was a little bit excited also.
 - I just walked inside with the other students and went where they were going.
 - I was a new face for them so many of them were staring at me.
 - I asked one student about where 6th class was.
 - Coincidentally she was also in 6th class.
 - She took me to her class.
 - That was the beginning of my new friendship.
 - Her name was Harleen and till today we are the best of friends.
 - She made me feel very comfortable.
 - All my nervousness vanished.
 - We attended the classes before the lunch break and during recess she showed me the whole school.
 - I was awed by the infrastructure of the school.
 - There were separate labs for physics, chemistry, and computer science.
 - There was also a huge library.
 - Badminton and volleyball courts were also there.
 - The canteen was the most impressive.
 - All the teachers were also very nice.
 - I studied for 7 years in that school.
 - Those were the most memorable years of my life.

Part 3 - Follow-up Questions

1. Are children better at solving problems than adults?

I don't think that children are better problem solvers as compared to adults because problem-solving requires two things, one is the logical ability and second is experience. Although children might be good at applying new approach or perspective towards the problem, however, they sometimes don't have the experience to solve the problems that they face. Sometimes who can solve it better will also depend on the nature of the problem.

2. If people move frequently, is it better to stay in one house all the time?

I don't think it would be wise to stay at one place if someone moves or gets transferred frequently to different cities or towns. For example, my brother, who is in the Army, gets posted to a new city after every 2 years, he always moves to the new place with his family because if he chooses to opt for a permanent home, then he would have to live away from his wife and children.

3. What are the pros and cons of living in a high-rise building?

I think the advantages that high-rise building offers is the beautiful views and easy access to facilities like gyms, swimming pools shops. On the other hand, the disadvantages include the fire risks and the fact that people have to live in compact spaces because the apartments and rooms in high-rise buildings are comparatively smaller in size.

4. What are the pros and cons of living in an old and new neighborhood?

I think the major difference of living in old and new neighbourhoods is the access to facilities. For example, in old neighbourhoods it is difficult to find parking spaces because during their construction cars were not that popular, whereas the new neighborhoods are much better planned and focus on the challenges that people face today.