



THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY

**IELTS™**

English for International Opportunity



The world speaks IELTS

# IELTS

## Speaking

## Cue Cards

### JAN-APR 2020

RACHNA GUPTA

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Australian Academy acknowledges the valuable contribution of the individuals and organizations involved in the development of book titled “**IELTS SPEAKING CUE CARDS JAN- APR 2020**”, authored by **Ms. Rachna Gupta**.

The work on this book started in Dec.2019. Since then a large number of teachers, students and English language lovers have made valuable suggestions which we have incorporated in this book. It is not possible for us to acknowledge all of them individually. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to them.

However, to Mrs. Anu Gupta, who took great pains in going through the entire manuscript and made valuable comments, we are especially indebted. We are also beholden to my colleagues who have so largely assisted us in reading and correcting the proof sheets; in particular we are grateful to Mr. Amit Gupta for his kindness in revising the whole work and devoting enough time for fruitful discussions.

The contributions of the publication department in bringing out this book are also duly acknowledged.

The book is intended to make IELTS SPEAKING preparation simple and an enjoyable experience as the learners tune in and embark on this academic journey.

Finally, we thank the members of our family for their constant support and encouragement.

**The Australian Academy**

## INDEX

### General Question

1. Running.....	6
2. Hometown.....	6
3. Voice.....	7
4. Patience.....	8
5. Map.....	8
6. Work or Study.....	9
7. Language.....	10
8. Photos.....	10
9. Jeans.....	11
10. Friends.....	12
11. Music.....	13
12. House or Accommodation.....	13
13. Park/Public gardens.....	14
14. Study.....	15
15. Hairstyle.....	16
16. School Travelling.....	16
17. House location.....	17
18. Make up.....	18
19. Borrow.....	18
20. Social Networking.....	19
21. Street Market.....	20
22. Recycle.....	20
23. Public Holiday.....	21
24. Wild Life/Animals.....	22
25. Reading.....	23
26. Travelling.....	24

## The Australian Academy

---

27. Concentration.....	25
28. Math.....	25
29. Weather.....	26
30. Pen and Pencil.....	27
31. Science Class.....	28
32. Water Sports.....	29
33. Scenery.....	29
34. Laughter.....	30
35. Spending time by yourself.....	31
36. Number.....	31
37. Art.....	32
38. Break.....	32
39. Country Side.....	33
40. Tea/Coffee.....	34
41. Plan.....	34
42. Cake.....	35
43. History.....	36
44. Market.....	37

### Cue Cards

1. Describe a change that have improved your local area.....	39
2. Describe an occasion when you lost something and then got it back.....	40
3. Describe a time when you were excited.....	41
4. Describe a time when you travelled by public transport.....	43
5. Describe an experience when you played an indoor game with others.....	44
6. Describe any physical skill you learnt.....	45
7. Describe a time when you was sleepy but had to stay awake.....	46
8. Describe an experience you had as a member of a.....	47
9. Describe a person who has apologised to you.....	49

## The Australian Academy

---

10. Describe a successful small business that you know.....	51
11. An important piece of news that you received via text message.....	53
12. Describe something you bought that was difficult to use at first.....	55
13. Describe a situation when you were not allowed to use your cell phone.....	57
14. Describe a person in the news that you want to meet.....	58
15. Describe an article that you read from a magazine or newspaper.....	60
16. Describe a time when you were cheated or someone did not tell you the complete truth.....	62
17. Talk about someone who encourages you to achieve goal.....	63
18. Describe your idea of a perfect home or dream house.....	65
19. Talk about a gift for which you spent long time to choose.....	66
20. Talk about a toy you liked in your childhood.....	67
21. Describe a picture or photograph in your Home.....	69
22. Describe a special day that made you happy.....	71
23. A time when you first met someone.....	72
24. Describe the happiest day you had.....	73
25. Describe a difficult challenge that you completed.....	75
26. Describe a crowded place you have visited.....	76
27. Job you would not like to do in future.....	77
28. Describe a uniform you wear at your school or company.....	78
29. Describe a situation or a time when you helped someone.....	80
30. Describe an indoor game that you liked to play when you were a child.....	81
31. A performance you recently watched.....	82
32. Describe one of your family members you spend most of your time with.....	84
33. An important journey that was delayed.....	85
34. Describe a goal that you achieved which was set by you.....	87
35. Describe one time when weather changed your plan.....	88
36. A person who taught you something important.....	90
37. Talk about an interesting conversation.....	91

## The Australian Academy

---

38. Describe a film you would like to share with your friends.....	92
39. Describe a place where you read and write apart from your home.....	94
40. Describe a school you went to in your childhood.....	95
41. Describe a person who likes to travel by plane.....	96
42. Talk about a time when First time you admire the sky.....	98
43. Talk about a leisure activity that you do with your family.....	99
44. Talk about a place which is full of colour.....	100
45. Describe an experience when you were with people and you get bored.....	102
46. Talk about a Famous product of my region.....	103
47. A celebration organized after an achievement.....	104
48. Describe an advice you received on your subjects or work.....	106
49. Talk about a thing you borrowed from someone.....	107
50. Talk about a public facility that improves / influence local life quality .....	108
51. Talk about an interesting animal which you looked for first time.....	110



## **1. Running**

### **1. Do you run? Where?**

Yes, I do. I have taken up the hobby of running in one of the biggest parks in my city. This Park is quite big, covered by a lot of hundred year old trees.

### **2. How often do you run?**

I run in the park five days a week so that I can feel energized both physically and mentally which leads to higher productivity.

### **3. Is running a good exercise?**

Yes, it is beneficial to the health. It helps in reducing the amount of cholesterol inside the body as well as stimulates mental health.

### **4. Do you run more now than you did in the past?**

Well yes, now I adopted the hobby of running frequently so that I can stay healthy but it was not my habit in the past.

### **5. Do you like to walk on your own or with others?**

I like to walk on my own because for me walking is ideal to calm myself, breath in some fresh air and enjoy the world outside.

### **6. Would you say that your city is a good place for walking?**

Currently, there are fewer parks are walking areas. Moreover walking under such hot weather with heavily polluted air is definitely not a good idea. So, I do not recommend my city as a good place for walking.

## **2. Hometown**

### **1. Describe the place where you belong?**

I am from Chandigarh which is the capital city of Punjab as well as Haryana. It is also a union territory. It is also known as the city beautiful because of the attractive tourist destinations in the city as well as nearby cities.

### **2. What changes would you like to see in your city?**

Well, in my city most of the facilities are present. But in my opinion the city need to expand a little as people move to the city as they are attracted by the facilities present in the city as compared to the place where they belong to. Also, with the increase of population in the area the number of vehicles has also increased. So, I suggest that government should take some concrete steps to stop this.

### **3. What are the places to visit in your hometown?**

There are many places in my hometown to visit. There are a number of cinema halls and shopping malls. Shopping hubs like sector 17 and sector 22 are quite popular. Moreover, a number of parks are there where people generally visit in the morning and evening for jogging, yoga, aerobics and so on.

### **4. How can the city be made more attractive to young people?**

In my opinion, the thing which can attract the younger generation to the city more could be better educational facilities, more employment opportunities. Moreover, more recreational centers will also add up to allure more youngsters such as hobby developing centers, entertainment places, shopping places, restaurants, swimming pools, etcetera.

### **5. Do foreigners visit your city?**

Yes definitely, being the capital city of two states my city has all type of transportation facilities from bus terminal to aerodrome. Foreigners generally come to my city to visit various tourist attractions and also to visit nearby places.

### **6. How can I visit to your hometown?**

My city has a good transportation system. It has all types of transport facilities such as bus terminal, railway station and aerodrome for the convenience of the visitors.

## **3. Voice**

### **1. Do you like your own voice?**

Yes, I like my voice. It's my identity. By this I can express myself. I believe I have a well modulated voice that makes every listener feels very comfortable.

### **2. Has your voice even changed?**

Yes, it has changed a lot. I used to have a small and soft voice when I was a child but it developed into high pitched voice. Having this kind of voice no helps me deliver speeches in a more natural way.

### **3. Do you like to listen to your own recorded voice?**

Yes, I like to listen my own recorded voice. It is totally different from my original voice. I find my recorded voice very funny so I listen to it again and again and laugh on my own voice.

### **4. Does your voice sound similar to your parents?**

I think that my voice is somewhat similar to my mother as whenever my mum picks up my friends' call, my friends fail to recognize that whether it's my mum or me who is talking to her.

### **5. How does your voice change in different situations?**

My voice changes in different situations. I speak with a higher and sweeter voice with whom I am attracted with friends, I feel more comfortable, then I speak more louder and faster.



### **6. Do you want to participate in any show related to voice?**

Yes, I definitely want to participate in voice of Punjab. I am not that much impressed by my voice but I want to get an opportunity to explore my talent.

## **4. Patience**

### **1. What do you mean by patience?**

Well, I think patience is the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems of suffering without becoming annoyed. It is not the ability to wait but how you act while you are waiting is patience.

### **2. Do you think patience is important?**

Absolutely, I think it is a quality that everybody should try to learn. Patience is the key to success, in my opinion. In fact, most successful administrators are very patient people.

### **3. Have you ever lost your patience?**

Well, there have been times I do lose my patience, but it is after a certain threshold. So, recently I lost my patience at my house when I was studying for my exam and my brother was disturbing me a lot. At the time I was worried for my exam and at that moment I lost my patience.

### **4. What do you become impatient about?**

How to get impatient usually when I do some work that I do not like much because of it I am not able to do things that I love.

### **5. Do you think patience is important part of being polite?**

In my opinion, politeness does help in being polite. So, a person who is patient enough to listen to the other person, is more likely to have a better understanding of the others' opinion.

### **6. Would you say you are a patient person?**

Well, I am a patient person in parts. So, there are some things I can wait for but then there are things that just make me go mad. Overall, I am not a patient person but I am trying to be one.

## **5.Map**

### **1. Have you ever used a map?**

Yes, I did use maps. Actually, I have used it many number of times in my school days, to learn variety of things. I also used it on various electronic devices to find the exact location of places using GPS facility. I have a bad sense of direction, I find it really useful.

### **2. When do you use a map?**

Well, I have a very bad sense of direction, so I frequently use the Google map application to use Global positioning system (GPS) on my mobile phone. I use map when I need to go to unfamiliar cities, so I

## The Australian Academy

---

would never be afraid of being lost. Modern digital map even can position yourself in a minute and guide you to your destination quickly

### **3. What do you prefer: an electronic maps or maps made of paper?**

Well, as per my opinion, I generally prefer to use the electronic maps because it has more advantages over the one made of paper. Firstly, we can search a place we don't know just in a minute. Besides this, the electronic map can tell you the traffic flow in that area so that you can steer clear of the terrible traffic congestion. Furthermore, it can position you and guide you to your destination quickly.

### **4. Have you ever asked any people for directions rather than using a map?**

I did ask many people for directions many times. Sometimes if I cannot work out the map myself or have no map with me I ask local people to get the correct direction. But generally I avoid disturbing other people if I have an alternative in terms of finding my ways.

### **5. Who taught you how to use map?**

I learned to use maps at school from my geography teacher. She taught us various things about maps, such as, various types of maps, and symbols which are used in maps and many other things.

## **6. Work or Study**

### **1. What do you do? (Work or Study)**

I am a working professional. Currently, I'm working as a Graphic designer in mechanical section at Tata Motors.

**OR**

I have recently completed my intermediate studies. Now, I wish to go Cambridge University for my advance studies.

### **2. Do you like your job?**

Yes, I like my job very much as it gives me opportunity to enhance my skills and pursue my passion. I like to learn operating new machines and all ins and outs about them. It keeps me motivated.

### **3. Would you like to change your job in the future?**

No, I don't think that I will change my job, though changing company is a different thing. I would like to work in the same field in future also. As I have expertise in mechanical branch so I would like to continue in the same domain.

### **4. Do you like to work in a group or work alone? Why?**

Well, I like to work by myself because my job demands so. I am a graphic designer and I have to work on AUTOCAD for designing. So I need to work in isolation, away from people to concentrate on my job.

### **5. Do you prefer to work in the morning or in the evening?**

My job is a shift job so we have to work both in morning and evening time to time. But I like to work in the morning time. As in the morning, I feel very lively, enthusiastic and full of full of life and almost positively more competent.

### **6. Why did you choose that job?**

I chose this job because I have done my graduation, and that is, B.Tech. in mechanical engineering. Since childhood I have a keen interest in technology and machines and how they accomplish such difficult tasks with a click of a button. So I just followed my passion.

## **7.Language**

### **1. Do you think learning languages is important?**

Definitely, learning different languages helps to communicate with others easily by which one can enhance one's knowledge.

### **2. Do you learn any foreign language?**

English, which is very first foreign language, I have attempted to learn because of its widespread use and several benefits.

### **3. What languages do you speak?**

My mother tongue is Punjabi and I can speak Hindi which is national language of my country. In addition, I am learning to speak English which is international language.

### **4. Why do people learn more than one language?**

People learn more than one language because they often need this to improve their current position in an occupation or an education.

### **5. Do you think that all the children should learn foreign language at school?**

Yes, as wards are better at learning. They learn things fast at a young age and being bilingual or multilingual would prove to be beneficial for them in future.

### **6. What are benefits of being bilingual and multilingual?**

It helps in cognitive development of a person and one can interact with other person easily. Multilingual person has more job opportunities in different parts of the world.

## **8.Photos**

### **1. Do you like to take photographs?**

## The Australian Academy

---

I am not a professional photographer but I do like clicking photographs from my phone. For me, photographs are mere collection of memories which I often display on social media account.

### **2. How often do you take photographs?**

Technology has made life so much simpler and convenient. I click photos every now and then from my phone when I have to go to a park just to make sure that I am looking good.

### **3. Have you framed any of your photos?**

Yes, I framed two of my photos. Those are my favorite photos. So, I have framed those photos and now I keep them in my room on the side table of my bed.

### **4. Do you prefer to take photos yourself or to have other people take your photos?**

**Why?**

It would be way more comfortable taking photos by myself, as I can see crystal clear how ridiculous my face expression looks like. In addition, I can apply the techniques that I have learned to produce stunning photos.

### **5. Do you keep your photographs on your computers?**

No, I do not think I need to do so because my phone has large memory storage. So I think I do not need computer for storage.

## **9. Jeans**

### **1. Do you like to wear jeans?**

I find jeans to be really comfortable. I often wear jeans I tend to wear them 5 to 6 times a week especially in the colder months.

### **2. Did you wear jeans at school?**

No, in my school there was a dress code and students were supposed to wear formal pants with shirt, but we were given permission to wear jeans on the special occasions like birthday or annual festival.

### **3. Why are jeans popular all around the world?**

It seems to me that this type of clothing is universally accepted because they are so durable. In addition these are easy to match with anything and can be worn on any occasion.

### **4. Would you pay a lot to buy jeans?**

Yes, I would pay a lot to buy jeans. Because, in my opinion branded jeans are much more durable and comfortable. Moreover, I am fond of purchasing new jeans.

### **5. What is your favorite brand?**

For clothes, my favorite brand is sportking. I feel very comfortable wearing clothes of this brand as their quality is pretty good. Moreover these are durable.

### **6. With whom do you prefer to purchase jeans?**

I prefer to purchase jeans with my best friend. He or she always gets me the best advice as his or her choice is very unique. She always stays updated and helps me to choose the latest style of jeans.

## **10. Friends**

### **1. Do you think friendship is important?**

It is undoubtedly an imperative part in our lives. Friends make our lives exciting and amazing. They stand by our side and help us when we need them. They help us to build up wisdom of sharing whether they are material things or just encouraging or motivational words.

### **2. Have you ever had a friend who is no longer your friend?**

Well, I have made numerous friends in my life and there are many with whom my contact is broken now. However, I do have a memorable friend to whom I met while pursuing graduation. I don't remember exactly but something went wrong among us. Our communication got clogged with each other. I assume the major reason behind it was the fact that we never got time to share our thoughts with each other. Eventually, we got further apart due to all these things and it resulted into sad ending of friendship, long before we could become close buddies.

### **3. Do you have many close friends?**

I have only one friend I would confide in. I'm quite picky and more importantly, I have a somewhat irrational fear that none of my friends really like me and that I'm just a guy they can barely tolerate and it is hard for me to live in harmony with them.

### **4. What kind of people do you like to have as friend?**

I predominantly like someone who is honest to me and can say things on my face rather than saying behind my back. Most of my friends are quite well-mannered and avoid using smokes and drinks. I particularly stay away from being in contact with people who have egoistic personality and have superiority complex.

### **5. What is more important to you, Family or Friends?**

As per my view, one's friend has same importance as their family. Family is like a backbone of a person, and without them an individual would have no footing in the society. Whereas, friends act as a support on whom a person could rely on at the time of need.

### **6. What do you think that can some friends be more harmful than good?**

Friendship is also a part of life just like any other relation, similarly, with the passage of time and misunderstanding it can also turn sour and unquestionably can become harmful. It happens when one person changes or shows his true color. It leads problematic situations when a person tries to take illegitimate advantage of another person.

## **11.Music**

### **1. What type of music do you like to listen?**

In my leisure time I like to listen to good music. I like to listen to soft rhythmic and light mood music. I sometime prefer to listen to spiritual music at early morning because it motivates me and provides me peace.

### **2. What kind of music is popular in your region or place where you live?**

Well, I belong to northern part of India and the type of music famous here is classical folk music. Also people like to listen to new Punjabi song sung in regional language. Some people also like to hear Bollywood songs. Youngster enjoys listening to Jazz, Rock, Pop and other Western songs.

### **3. When do you usually listen to music and for how much time?**

Well, I usually like to listen to music when I am free and also when I feel bored and exhausted. I spend about one or two hour daily to listen to music. It makes me feel energized and fresh.

### **4. Do children like to learn to play musical instrument in your country?**

In India, music has a very significant role in people's life. Children also have inclination towards music and musical instruments, few most popular musical instruments are Guitar, Drums, Piano and many other.

### **5. Have you ever tried to learn any musical instrument?**

Well, I also tried to learn my favorite musical instrument that is, flute. But unfortunately, it was not my cup of tea. So, after trying to learn it for 2 years, at last, I gave up because of my studies.

### **6. Why do people have change of taste in music with increase in age?**

People generally listen to music to get entertained. When we are young, we are full of energy, so, we like to hear fast and songs with beats. As we grow older, our level of energy decreases and then we listen to slower songs with soothing music and deep meaning to relax and rejuvenate ourselves.

## **12.House or Accommodation**

### **1. Describe the place where you live in?**

Well, currently I am living in a big house in a posh locality. It has five bedrooms, a big drawing room, and huge kitchen area. It also has a beautiful garden in the backyard and garage with ample space. The house is well-ventilated and has all the basic amenities. It is a perfect house which one could dream of.



### **2. Which part of the house do you prefer the most?**

Well, I prefer my own room over any other room. I like it because I have decorated it personally, and it has all the things which I require such as a computer, a cupboard, my game collection as well as my trophies and so on. Moreover, I usually spend most time of the day in my room.

### **3. Do you like to live in a traditional vintage house or a modern day apartment?**

In my opinion, I prefer to live in an apartment in the city rather than in a traditional house. An apartment which has all the basic facilities along with high speed wifi connection is sufficient for me to live in.

### **4. Describe the place with is mostly used in your house?**

In my house, the places which are mostly used are the drawing room and the kitchen. Drawing room because it has television set installed in there and kitchen because in my family everyone is really very fond of eating. Moreover, I, myself, am very fond of learning new cuisines to make.

### **5. How long are you living there?**

It's been three years since we are living there. We have shifted here from the outskirts of the city.

### **6. What is the difference between your older house and this new house?**

Well, my older house was at the outskirts of the city whereas the new house is in the city center. The place where we used to live was a remote area whereas the place where we live now is in a posh locality. This new house is a lot more spacious than the old one and it also has a garden and a garage.

## **13. Park/Public gardens**

### **1. Are there many public gardens in your country?**

I think it's pretty enough as I am more concerned about the quality than the quantity. People can enjoy a great time with their friends or families in public Gardens by looking at beautiful flower beds.

### **2. Do you often visit public parks?**

Yes, I go to the parks a lot. I just go to take a walk there at night after dinner with my family to enjoy ourselves.

### **3. Do you think it's good to have parks in cities? Why?**

Yes, there should be parks in cities because parks with plenty of trees and grass can function like lungs to human bodies. They can purify the air efficiently, provide sun shade to citizens.

### **4. What do you like most about going to a park?**

I like the calm environment in the park in which I can invent myself without any interruptions and also it's a good chance to take exercises like jogging.

### **5. Do you think the park where you go could be improved in any ways?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Yes, I do. I think they could be improved. As some facilities could be added. For example, exercise equipments for adults and children should be there.

### **14.Study**

#### **1. Where do you study?**

I am pursuing an under-graduate course in Commerce from Chandigarh University, Chandigarh. It offers quality education with affordable fee structure and there are many professional courses to choose from.

#### **2. Why did you choose that subject?**

I belong to a business family, so my natural inclination is towards commerce subjects. Moreover, it will aid me in a better understanding of the business operations; hence I opted for this curriculum.

#### **3. Is there something that helps you to study efficiently?**

Yes, definitely. A calm and serene environment helps me to focus better and efficiently. A good source of natural light re-energises me and instils positivity which enhances my learning and overall concentration.

#### **4. Who is more important for you, lecturers, or friends?**

At this juncture of my life, I would like to attach more importance to the lecturers vis-a-vis my friends. The reason is that presently, I am at the threshold of paving a path for my future and the guidance of mentors is of grave importance. True friends are understanding and will always be there by my side, even if I don't communicate with them on a daily basis.

#### **5. What do you like the most about your studies?**

The fact that most of the case studies in curriculum are real-world stories and teach a direct practical approach makes me more interested in studies. Additionally, the interactive sessions and the emphasis on conceptual learning rather than rote learning make it all the more likeable.

#### **6. What facilities does university provide?**

The University has a state-of-the-art campus with fully equipped observatories. The library has an excellent compilation of reference books and the classrooms have smart boards. The university promotes a mentorship program that is beneficial for future job prospects.

#### **7. Is there anything you want to change in your university?**

I am grateful to my university for providing the best of all resources but there are some improvements I would like to incorporate. I would suggest 24X7 access to library and computer centre. The menu at the cafeteria also needs a makeover because a lot many students rely on it to satiate their hunger. I believe that if the authorities bring out these changes, the University will gain a widespread recognition.

### **15.Hairstyle**

#### **1. Do you always have the same hairstyle?**

No, I am very experimental in my looks. I love to style myself and look presentable. Hairstyle adds a new dimension to the personality so yes; I try to change my hairdo according to the latest trends. I feel that it gives a fresh look.

#### **2. How often do you have your haircut?**

Usually I get a haircut done after one and a half months because my hair do not grow at a fast pace but if there is any occasion to attend, I prefer getting it trimmed in between also. It gives a neat and suave look.

#### **3.What's your favourite hairstyle?**

As I said before, I love to support new hairstyles but my favourite is short hair on the sides and longer hair on top. I also use gel to keep them spiky. This hairstyle looks cool, trendy and is easy to maintain as well.

#### **4.Do you often change your hairstyle?**

Yes, I prefer to modify my hairstyle quite often because I follow Justin Bieber and he changes his looks frequently. I have always been admired for my ability to carry trendy hairstyles.

#### **5.Do you go to barber's shop a lot?**

Honestly speaking, I visit a barber once in 40 days only because my hair growth is pretty slow. I know how to style my hair and I prefer doing things on my own.

#### **6.Will you colour your hair in future?**

I do not endorse hair-colours as they are pure chemicals. They have many side-effects and affect the skin as well as hair growth. So, I would not colour my hair in future, even if I have grey hair because I really like the salt n pepper look.

#### **7.Do you ever feel bad because of your hairstyle?**

A good hair day can make you instantly feel good about yourself and influence your interactions with those around you. I have also had my share of bad hair days. While there is nothing wrong with being upset and angry about a bad haircut or hairstyle, the way in which one reacts to the situation can sometimes make it worse.

### **16.School Travelling**

#### **1.How do you commute to school or work?**

I own a car and I drive to my office. It gives me convenience to reach and depart as per my will. Moreover, I have a field job so it helps me to move around easily.

### **2. What other transport can you use to get there?**

My office is situated in the heart of city and is well-connected. There are many public transport options like buses and three-wheelers which are economical and frequent as well. One can book a cab also to reach the office.

### **3. Which do you prefer in travelling, by car or bus?**

I prefer travelling in car rather than in a bus because I do not feel comfortable in crowd. Moreover, the routes and timings of bus are fixed which do not suit my work profile. With car, I have the liberty to move anywhere and anytime.

### **4. How did you commute to school when you were a child?**

When I started my school, my mother dropped and picked me. Then, when I shifted to middle school, I opted for school bus because my mother had taken up a job at that time and I too, wanted to enjoy with my classmates.

### **5. Did you like it? Why?**

To be very frank, it was the best part of my school days. All my friends in the bus played pranks on each other and we used to laugh out our problems. We celebrated birthdays, shared our meals and exchanged study material also.

## **17. House location**

### **1. Where are you living nowadays?**

I am presently residing in Chandigarh which is around 250 kilometres north of Delhi. It is a beautiful city known for its beautiful French architecture.

### **2. What do you like most about your area?**

Being a planned city, the area is well-equipped with all the basic amenities like good roads, commercial plaza, hospital etc. The presence of daily needs market is a boon because it serves the purpose of routine shopping to the fullest. It has a variety of products that are economically priced and stays open till late night too.

### **3. What are the bad things (traffic, pollution...) in your area?**

I suppose my least favourite thing about it is that there are too many vehicles but not enough parking spaces. So, the streets are congested and especially, in the morning, there is too much of chaos. People tend to honk a lot causing both air and noise pollution.

### **4. Do you intend to stay in this area in future?**

As long as my work doesn't take me to a faraway destination, I would prefer to stay in this area because the people are very friendly, all my basic needs are duly fulfilled and it is strategically placed. So I don't find any valid reason to change my habitat.

## **18.Make up**

### **1. Do you often wear makeup?**

Well, I wear makeup but not in my regular routine life, because I am more of a natural look person. However, when there is any occasion like a party or a wedding to attend, I love to apply a light makeup as it accentuates my facial features.

### **2. What does wearing makeup mean to you?**

There is no doubt that makeup improves one's looks but since I am an advocate of natural beauty, I feel a bit superficial. But sometimes, when you are required to look a certain way, cosmetics enhance your looks and boost your confidence too.

### **3. Have you ever bought makeup as gifts?**

Yes, many a times because I have a lot of female friends who are really fond of cosmetics. They appreciate my choice and since, I travel a lot, so I love buying grooming products of different brands for them.

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

In modern times, beauty norms are changing. Everyone wants to look trendy, be it man or woman. Use of makeup is no more considered a feminine thing. So as long as a male is comfortable and confident, I am okay with men wearing makeup.

## **19.Borrow**

### **1. Have you ever borrowed anything from anyone?**

Although I don't like to bother others for my requirements, there were times when I had to borrow a few things from my friends. I remember when I was in school and my father had met with an accident, I took my friend's bike to rush to the hospital. I did so because I didn't have the time or any choice and I was short of time.

### **2. Will you ever borrow money from others?**

Since money can easily break relationships, I avoid borrowing money. However, in times of emergency, I would consider asking for money and that too, from my close friends or acquaintances only.

### **3. Will you share your mobile with anyone? Give reasons.**

It is very difficult to trust on anyone in today's times. The increasing number of frauds has actually taken off the trust but I cannot say no to anyone. So, I will share my mobile, if someone asks for it.

### **4. Do you like to lend things to others?**

Well it depends on what kind of things people want to borrow from me. If they are routine things like books, shoes, clothes etc, I have no issues. However, if it's a precious item like car or jewelry, I simply refuse, even if it affects my relationship. I am pretty firm in this regard.

### **5. How do you feel when people do not return things they borrowed from you?**

Well, it depends on two factors, the thing that I have lent and to whom I have. If it's a valuable commodity, taken by my close acquaintance and with a convincing explanation, it would upset me surely but I will give him some more time to return. But for trivial things, I don't fret much.

## **20.Social Networking**

### **1. How often do you use social networking applications?**

Honestly speaking, I cannot imagine my life without these social networking applications because every few minutes or so, I am checking my phone for any update. It won't be wrong/ exaggerated to say that I am addicted to social media apps.

### **2. Why do you use social networking apps?**

Primarily, I use them to stay connected with my near and dear ones, to post my photographs, to be updated on current happenings etc to name a few. Since I have a seller account on an e-commerce site, I use these apps to promote my products too.

### **3. What websites should parents block for teenagers?**

Adolescence is a very tricky age where children do not pay any heed to their parents' advice. They feel their privacy is being interfered with if the parents keep a vigil/ check on their social media activities. But still, parents should guide their children about sites providing dating, chatting and inappropriate adult content. Then there are gaming sites that promote violence which should be banned by parents.

### **4. What are the disadvantages of social networking apps?**

Spending too much of time on social media apps makes one addicted to it. It actually causes stress and anxiety, resulting in loss of appetite as well as sleep. It distracts one's focus from studies or job. Cyber-bullying can psychologically affect a person. One may get entangled in the web of fraudsters and liars, if one is not vigilant enough.

## **21.Street Market**



### **1. Do you enjoy visiting street markets?**

Once in a while, I enjoy going to the flea market because of the hustle-bustle associated with these places. There are certain items that are available only in local markets plus there is a wide selection of choices. Moreover, one gets to bargain and strike a good deal with the local vendors.

### **2. Are there many street markets in your country?**

Yes, street markets are quite popular in my country as it is an age-old tradition. Every community can boast of one-to two markets, housing a variety of goods at affordable prices.

### **3. Why do people like street markets?**

People throng/flock to these markets because of their proximity to the residential areas. They are convenient for purchasing daily groceries and are pocket-friendly as well. Shopping in these local markets is an experience in itself.

### **4. Do you prefer going to street markets over shopping malls? Why?**

Shopping at a mall or at street markets are two diametrically opposite experiences. If I have a requirement of branded or high-value goods and the entire family wants to have a good time, I would prefer a mall but if it's daily trivia or if I don't want to invest too much, I would certainly go to a street market.

### **5. Would you like to go to street market of foreign country? Why?**

I don't think there's any harm in visiting the local shopping areas abroad. In fact, it will give me a chance to interact with local population. I would get an opportunity to savour the street food and collect some souvenirs that would remind me of the good times of that place.

## **22.Recycle**

### **1. Do you recycle stuff?**

The importance of recycling cannot be ignored and I truly endorse this process. It helps to reduce the waste. I use my kitchen waste as manure in the garden and I always carry my own shopping bag. I have recycled the plastic bottles into hanging pots in my balcony.

### **2. How do you feel when you see trash lying on roads?**

It pains/upsets me to see the lack of sense of responsibility amongst people when I see filth on the streets. Even though there is widespread awareness about cleanliness, people tend to be ignorant and this infuriates/angers me a lot.

### **3. Is it important to have recycle bins?**

Yes, definitely because then only, the masses can be motivated to follow this practice. It aids in easy segregation and disposal of waste which is essential for recycling. It also helps in limiting the waste sent to landfills, thereby protecting the mother Earth.

### **4. Do you influence others to use recycle bins?**

I always segregate the waste before dumping them in recycle bins installed in my neighbourhood. Seeing me do this, many people are following suit and I encourage them to do the same, particularly the senior citizens who are not so aware about the bins but are keen on learning. So, I guide them accordingly.

## **23.Public Holiday**

### **1. Are there many public holidays in your country?**

Being a secular and democratic country, there is a great range of public holidays. They help in promoting cultural unity amongst the citizens.

### **2. Which is your favourite holiday? Why?**

Holidays are always fun but my personal favourite is Diwali vacations. Being one of the most important festivals, everyone gets around 4-5 days off, be it in school or organisations. The whole family comes together and participates in the festivities. I am super excited for buying crackers, decorating the house with lights and most importantly, gorging on a variety of lip-smacking food.

### **3. Which was your last holiday that you enjoyed a lot?**

Last year in March, after my final exams, the whole family had gone to Mount Abu. It was a 4-days trip and was very enjoyable, more so because after a hectic study schedule, I finally got a chance to spend quality time with my loved ones. Moreover, the scenic beauty, the magnificence of forts and the mouth-watering cuisine made it more memorable.

### **4. What do you usually do during this holiday?**

In normal course, we decorate the house with lanterns and lamps and I help my mother in preparing sweets and savouries. Thereafter, I go to the market with my father to buy crackers. In the evening, the entire family gathers together for the worship and then we burst crackers, exchange sweets with our neighbours.

### **5. What do you usually do on public holidays?**

Well, I often spend my time catching up with my beloved family and friends. Sometimes, I go to the mall or watch a movie. Many a times, I just laze around and sleep all day. It's a great way to rejuvenate oneself.

### **6. Do you prefer to have short holidays once in a while or long holidays once a year?**

Both have their own benefits and it's pretty difficult to make a choice but if need be, I would prefer frequent short holidays in comparison to one long vacation because it will keep up my energy levels high

all the year round. I will look forward to them eagerly but if I am unable to take annual vacation due to any reason, I will have to wait for one entire year.

### **24.Wild Life/ Animals**

#### **1. Are you interested in wild life?**

Wildlife gives one a great insight into Animal Kingdom. The variety of animals and the plants in a forest reveal a great deal about our flora and fauna.

#### **2. Did you ever see wild animal?**

On my last trip to wildlife sanctuary in Jim Corbett Park I wanted to see wild animals but I was not so fortunate. Still I could spot some deer, wild bear and Sāmbhar roaming freely.

#### **3. What is your favourite wild animal? Why?**

My favourite wild animal is spotted deer, roaming in the wild amongst a herd of 10 to 15 with children and grown-ups, grazing in the open. Spotted deer is very swift in running and also takes giant leap from one place to another in order to avoid being hunted by tigers and jackals. It looks majestic with its horns and slim legs.

#### **4. Should wild animals be protected?**

Animals are an important part in our food chain. So it is very important to protect even the smallest of animals. If any animal is disturbed from the food chain, it will play havoc in disturbing our complete food chain. Also, animals present a very charming and beautiful picture of the nature. Any place devoid of animals will be very boring and mundane.

#### **5. How do you feel when you see animals at zoo?**

A visit to a zoo is a memorable experience in ways more than one. You get to see a large variety of animals in one place and it gives you a great insight into their behaviour and lifestyle. But it is also sad to see those majestic animals being trapped inside a cage or a farm and see their independence being robbed off. I wish the animals would roam round in forest freely and the visitors could see them from a distance or inside safari jeep for vehicle.

#### **6. What are the disadvantages of hunting animals?**

Animals in the wild have a very delicate balance which maintains their food supply chain. By artificial hunting, man causes that supply chain to be disrupted, thus creating an artificial deficiency or excess of certain species of animal which leads to destruction of the entire ecosystem and imbalance in nature.

#### **7. What is the importance of animals to children?**

Animals are a teacher to all human mankind. They have a large impact on the growth of children and their mentality. They teach the children how to have teamwork within the herd and also teach them how to roam

independently and carry out one's activities. Animals teach children how to pursue their goals relentlessly and also to protect others in time of need.

### **25. Reading**

#### **1. Do you like to read?**

Amongst many interests I have in my daily routine, reading is one of them. I like to read articles published in newspapers, magazines, internet web browsers or just about in any place where I can find them. It gives me an updated knowledge on what's happening around me in the world or in my place of interest.

#### **2. Is reading important?**

By reading books and journals, magazines and web pages, one gets to know a lot on what's happening new all around us. It is very important to keep abreast yourself about the latest knowledge in the field of politics, Science and Technology, sports, literature or just about any topic of your interest. This knowledge comes only from reading your writers of interest or of international repute.

#### **3. Are you reading a book presently?**

I generally keep a book in my office bag and go through it on my way to office or back home. Presently I am reading a book written by Mahatma Gandhi, "My experiences with Truth". It explains the freedom struggle of the Indian population against the British Empire. It explains how the Indians, without the use of any force, made the British Empire accept their demands and finally gained independence in 1947.

#### **4. Did you like to read in your younger days?**

In my younger days I used to read a lot of books which had knowledge from ancient mythology. These stories were not only fun and interesting to read but also imparted a lot of knowledge. It gave a peek into how our ancestors were knowledgeable and scientifically capable of carrying out difficult tasks in day-to-day life.

#### **5. What type of books do you read?**

Currently, my field of interest is Science and Technology but I also like to read books on literature and history. Books on science and technology give me an up-to-date knowledge of the technological advances in the world of computers, electronics and machine learning whereas books on literature and history teach me what mistakes not to repeat in future.

#### **6. Do you read for pleasure or academic?**

Since I am working in office 5 days a week therefore it's not possible for me to pursue an academic course. Therefore, most of my learning is for pleasure and I read the books for my own academic interest.

#### **7. Would you like to write a book in the future?**

I have sufficient knowledge on many domains of my day today working day. I like to jot down my experiences and learning so as to share them with general public. I think the best way would be to write them and compile them in the form of a book and publish the same so that it can be distributed to college

libraries and various other reading rooms. This way it will help me distribute knowledge amongst all and I can witness to the propagation of knowledge.

### **26.Travelling**

#### **1. Do you like travelling?**

Routine life of going to office and back home makes it very boring and I lose interest in short span of time. Therefore I love to travel to other places for work or pleasure so that my daily routine is not monotonous and I feel energetic at the end of the day.

#### **2. Why is travelling important to you?**

Travelling gives me a new high as I get to meet new people, new cultures and I can explore new cuisines. This change from the daily routine is very important for me as it keeps me motivated and energetic. It keeps my brain in healthy condition which helps me in my work to innovate and experiment.

#### **3. Where is best place for vacation in your country? Why?**

The best place for vacation in my country is to go along the river Ganga. While doing so, you get to see many diverse cultures being developed from very ancient modern times to the most modern times. One gets to see the spiritual side of India, the economic progress being made and the political and economic centres of power. One can meet people of various backgrounds and enjoy the culture, cuisines and diverse traditions.

#### **4. Do you want to travel the world? Why?**

Travelling the world is really a dream for me as I am fascinated to see various cuisines and traditions of various ethnicities in all parts of the world. There is such a diverse culture from north to south, east to west that it is impossible for anyone not to be fascinated and be surprised of the various traditions and lifestyle present.

#### **5. Would you take a job that requires you to travel to different countries?**

It is best to be in a job which makes your life pleasurable and you enjoy being in that job and contribute it to the maximum extent possible. Since I love travelling, it would be really exciting to be in a job that requires me travel to different countries. This will give me a valuable insight into various cultures, traditions and cuisines that people enjoy in all parts of the world.

#### **6. What challenges did you face when you were travelling?**

While travelling, one has to experience many challenges ranging from comfortable boarding and lodging to communication in local languages with the natives. Also, if you would fall ill for some reason, it's quite difficult to get a medical assistance and travel back home with least possible inconvenience. These are some of the challenges I had faced when I was travelling to other locations.



### **27. Concentration**

#### **1. When do you need to be focused?**

Any activity which is done with an objective of achieving target needs proper focus and concentration. I like to give my 100% to whatever work I am doing. It's just the routine or mundane tasks which I know well like the back of my hand, I take liberty else I am always very attentive.

#### **2. Can you do two things at the same time?**

In the modern fast-paced life, we are blessed with a lot of amenities that have made life easy. So it's comfortable for me to multi-task. When I go for morning walk, I talk with my mother on phone because I don't get time to call her due to my hectic schedule. Similarly, when I am preparing meals, I switch on the news on TV so that I am updated on the latest happenings. It does help me save time and improves my productivity.

#### **3. Why is concentration necessary?**

Concentration prevents the mind from wandering aimlessly, thereby enabling target-achievement. It helps in fulfilling the task with full efficiency and reduces the possibility of committing errors. It saves time also and relaxes one because of the successful as well as satisfactory completion of task.

#### **4. Why do you find it so hard to concentrate?**

Sometimes, external distractions like noise, weather or even an uncomfortable chair distract me. At other times, my own emotional well-being, an injury or lack of sleep makes it difficult for me to concentrate on my work.

#### **5. How can you improve your concentration?**

I am a firm believer in the power of yoga and meditation for improving my concentration. It really relaxes my mind and helps me in focussing on my work. Sometimes, I play soulful music to calm me down and channelize all my energies on my task.

### **28. Math**

#### **1. Do you like math?**

Mathematics has been an integral part of my school learning days. It was by far the most important subject of our curriculum. I used to like maths because I could score very high marks which would push up my total percentage. My high score in mathematics would compensate for my low scores in language and history subjects.

#### **2. What is the importance of learning mathematics?**

Mathematics is very important for everyone to learn since it gives you a very important knowledge on your day-to-day life, for carrying out calculations and analytical thinking. Mathematics keeps your brain sharp



and agile for many other activities to perform.

### **3. When did you start learning math?**

Learning mathematics is part of every school curriculum from kindergarten to graduation. Likewise, I also started learning mathematics from my kindergarten School where I loved how to count forward and backward plus additions and subtractions were my favourite activities.

### **4. Is it your favourite subject?**

Mathematics is really my favourite subject as it is very high scoring and helps to keep my total score high. I have always loved mathematics because it's very analytical and the formulas and solving patterns are fun to learn.

### **5. Do you use calculator for math?**

I always love to do mathematical calculations mentally as they are very fast and do not require any other gadget to operate. You don't have to look around for a calculator or a computer to carry out your daily mathematics. In case the calculations are large or require a very exact answer, I do not shy away from using a calculator.

### **6. How do math skills help us in daily life?**

In our daily life mathematics plays a very important role. It helps us calculate the time required to carry out an activity, to be able to decipher the price of various articles and also teaches us how to carry out an activity at what speed so as to be able to finish it in time.

### **7. In your opinion, is it necessary to people nowadays to be good in mathematics?**

Mathematics is the most important subject. In my opinion, it is necessary for people now a days to be good in it so that they can optimise their resources and reduce wastages to the best possible extent.

## **29. Weather**

### **1. Does the weather in your country change often?**

Being a tropical country, there are four major seasons, with each extending for a span of 2-3 months. The weather reaches its extremity in each season and there is a lot of unpredictability.

### **2. What weather do you like?**

I cannot tolerate extreme weathers, be it heat or cold, nor do I like rainy spells. For me, a cool breezy sunny weather works perfect when I don't sweat a lot and I can enjoy the sun also. The heat-waves take a toll on me and winters are too harsh for my body, so I like pleasant weather.

### **3. Do you work better in cold or hot weather?**

Although I cannot tolerate extreme weathers, I am still comfortable in winters. I perform better in cold weather vis-a-vis hot weather. High temperatures just fog my mind and I cannot pull myself to work.

### **4. Does weather affect your study habits?**

Definitely yes, it actually makes or mars my academic performance. I am unable to focus on my tasks if it's too hot or cold because my mind is constantly occupied in making myself comfortable. A dull cloudy weather makes me feel gloomy while incessant rains irritate me with all the clumsiness. But if it's a bright sunny day with cool breeze flowing, I am high on energy and at my level best.

### **5. In the future, would you like to experience another country's weather?**

I am not a very experimental kind of a person. I am happy in my comfort zone because I know that I get perturbed by little deviations, be it as small as weather only. Moreover, it affects my mood and health as well. So, I won't be very keen on experiencing another country's weather.

### **6. How many seasons are there in your place?**

Being located in the northern part of the country, my place experiences four major seasons namely summer, monsoon, winter and spring. Although there are well-defined months for each season, sometimes there is an overlap or lag which is again unpredictable.

### **7. Do you prefer wet season?**

Not really. I am not very fond of wet season because I cannot take the humidity that comes with rains. It triggers headache and I feel dizzy. Moreover, water-logging, traffic jams and dampness disrupt my schedule which puts me off.

### **8. What do you do in your spare time in that season?**

It's very difficult for me to stay calm in rainy season because I am forced to stay indoors. I try to catch up with my sleep or read some novels. Sometimes I just watch a movie but mostly, I am grumpy and complaining.

## **30. Pen and Pencil**

### **1. Do you usually use pen or a pencil?**

I hardly get a chance to use either a pen or a pencil because my work entails working on computer mainly. It actually depends on the purpose like if I have to sign any legal document, I will use a pen but for other mundane tasks, I will choose a pencil.

### **2. Which do you prefer, pen or pencil?**

I would prefer a pencil over a pen because it doesn't smudge, can be erased easily and is suitable for drawing also. It is cost-effective and comes in an array of colors. Apart from this, I have a notion that I write swiftly and beautifully with a pencil.

### **3. When was the last time you bought a pen or pencil?**

Last week, it was my niece's 7<sup>th</sup> birthday and she has a flair for drawing. She sketches beautifully, so I gifted her a pack of colored pencils that would help her in enhancing her drawings. I ordered it online due to paucity of time. She was super thrilled to receive them and immediately started drawing with them.

### **4. How would you feel if someone gave you a pen as a gift?**

I am always excited whenever I receive any gift. A pen is a utility item which never goes out of fashion. Even if I may not use it immediately, I can keep it for future without it being outdated or damaged. So, yes, getting a pen as a gift would be appreciable.

### **5. Do you think that handwriting is affected by the medium used (pen or pencil)?**

It varies from person to person. If I talk about myself, I feel that my word formation and the overall presentation of my writing are better when I do it with a pencil. It is sharp, clean and graphically superior.

## **31.Science Class**

### **1. Do you like Science class?**

Yes, I attend Science class with great interest. Right from my childhood, I was an inquisitive child and was interested in the Hows and Whys of everything. It holds my attention and I am always eager for Science class.

### **2. Did you have a Science class in primary school or high school?**

Science has been an integral part of my educational curriculum. It was introduced in primary school as a basic introduction and continued in high school as well with more elaboration and complexities.

### **3. Do you think Science classes are important?**

The importance of any subject cannot be negated. However, Science enjoys a superior position vis-a-vis arts and commerce because of its widespread application. Right from the research as well as the implementation of any activity, Science is significant. It broadens the analytical thinking.

### **4. What Science subject did you like the most in school? Why?**

Being a nature-lover, Biology has enjoyed a preferable status in my life as compared to other streams of Science. Life forms have always intrigued me and nothing gives me more joy than reading about them, watching the micro-organisms under a microscope and human anatomy have been my most favourite subject.

### **5. How has Science that you have studied helped you?**

The study of Science has given me a multi-dimensional approach to analyze everything. It assists me in understanding the various aspects that govern human life and beyond. It quenches my thirst for knowledge and helps me in taking logical decisions.

### **32. Water Sports**

#### **1. Do you enjoy being near water?**

Water is one of the basic necessities of survival. It is needed by one and all. Everyone is fascinated by water in some way or the other. Some like calm and tranquil blue water, whereas others enjoy turbulent and roiling currents. Since I do not know how to swim, I am bit petrified of water, especially deep waters. But I do enjoy boating and strolling near a water body.

#### **2. Which is the most popular water sport in your country?**

The most popular water sport in my country is swimming. People of all age groups, flock to lakes, rivers and both indoor and outdoor pools, to take a dip. Most of the people learn it at a young age. There are many water parks in the country which serve the purpose of recreation, relaxation and exercise.

#### **3. Is swimming a water sport?**

One of the most popular water sports, swimming has been around for centuries. It has evolved to become one of the most common recreational activities as well. It keeps one fit, builds up stamina and is very relaxing.

#### **4. What kinds of water sports are popular nowadays?**

Water sports are adventurous, fun-filled, action packed, and exciting. Both, physical exertion and mental stimulation can be attained in water sports. The most popular water sports these days are scuba diving, snorkelling, banana boat ride, fly boarding, kayaking, parasailing, Jet Ski and white water rafting.

#### **5. What kind of water sport would you like to try in future?**

I would like to try my hand at swimming because it tones the muscles and is one of the best aerobic exercises for the body. It's a great way to burn calories and also lowers stress and depression. Moreover, there is a pool in my neighbourhood, so it would be convenient for me as well.

### **33. Scenery**

#### **1. Does your hometown have beautiful views?**

My hometown Chandigarh has a beautiful landscape. It is an architectural delight as it is segregated into sectors and phases. Being geographically located at the foothills of Himachal Pradesh, one can see hills and mountains in the background which is picturesque.

#### **2. Do you like to stay in places with beautiful views when you are traveling?**

Being a nature-lover, I enjoy the scenic beauty of any place. I feel claustrophobic in rooms with no views. So, I always make it a point to ensure that the place I am staying in presents a panoramic view of that area.

#### **3. How would you feel living in a house with beautiful scenery?**

## The Australian Academy

---

That would be a dream come true for me because natural beauty is invigorating and inspiring. It instantly uplifts my mood and rejuvenates me. A walk out in the beautiful natural surroundings would be therapeutic for both mind and body.

### **4. Do you like taking photos of beautiful scenery with your smart phone?**

Yes, I love capturing natural beauty with my smart phone. Be it a vibrant flower, majestic mountains or the freshness of flowing water, I cannot resist clicking them. I use them as wallpaper on my phone.

### **5. Can you suggest why some people use their mobile phone to take pictures of beautiful views?**

These days, people always carry their mobile phones with themselves, everywhere and at all times. So whenever there is any breath-taking view, it comes handy to capture that moment. One doesn't always carry cameras but phones are always with us and it's easy to use as well.

## **34.Laughter**

### **1. Do you usually make your friends laugh?**

Definitely, I do. Making your friend laugh is a great way to show you care about them. I like to share funny things with my friends which bring a smile on their face.

### **2. When was the last time you laughed?**

Last night, I was watching a comedy show which was extremely hilarious. The content of the show had many punches and the one-liners were mind-blowing. The main anchor of the show was the best because he made me roll on the floor by his poker-faced expressions.

### **3. In what situations do people laugh?**

Usually people laugh at others, be it their foolishness or failure but very few can dare to laugh at their own self. When something really funny happens, people laugh out loud but some laugh to hide their pain too.

### **4. Do you like to make people laugh?**

Yes, it's a nice feeling when you can make someone laugh because it is evident on their face that you are the reason for their happiness. Moreover, it's great to share a funny moment with someone.

### **5. Do you like watching funny TV shows?**

I am fond of classy and subtle humor but these days, most of the sitcoms have loud and below-the-belt humor. So, once in a while, I do watch few funny TV shows.

## **35.Spending time by yourself**

### **1. How much time do you spend at home?**

## The Australian Academy

---

I have a very hectic schedule in my office from 9 in the morning to 8 in the evening and its 6-day week, so I get only Sundays to spend at home.

### **2. Do you love to spend time by yourself?**

I am a very outgoing person and I like to be surrounded by my near and dear ones. But once in a while, its good to have some time for oneself. Spending time alone is a form of self-care.

### **3. Do you prefer to spend your free time at home or outside?**

Well, it depends on a lot of things like weather or my mood or even my requirements. Like, if I have a shopping agenda or if there is some outing planned with my friends or family, I love to spend my leisure time accordingly. But sometimes, I just enjoy lazing around in my home.

### **4. What do you like to do in your spare time?**

There is no fixed routine that I follow in my spare time. I do different things depending on how I am feeling. Mostly, I try to catch up on my sleep as I am literally deprived of it in the whole week. Being passionate about cooking, I put my culinary skills to their best use on Sundays by making delectable dishes. If I get an extended weekend, I go to my parents' place and spend quality time with them.

## **36.Number**

### **1. Do you have a favourite number?**

Yes, I do have a favourite number. I am particularly fond of my birth date i.e. 15 and I believe I am always lucky with this number.

### **2. Are you good at remembering numbers?**

Oh yes, I have a very sharp memory as far as numbers and dates are concerned. Even before the advent of mobiles, I never maintained any diary because all phone numbers or birthdays were on my tips. In fact, this is one quality that I am very proud of.

### **3. Do certain numbers hold special significance in your country?**

There are certain numbers which hold special significance in my country. The number 7 is considered lucky by many people while number 13 is not considered auspicious. Similarly, people are superstitious about the numbers which had any fateful event or accident associated with them. Sometimes, there is a cultural fascination with certain numbers and people tend to give them all sorts of significance.

### **4. What is the importance of numbers for students?**

Numbers are important in all walks of life and hold a special place of interest for students. It builds the foundation for simple calculations which is later used for doing complex calculations. Then, their performance is evaluated with the help of numbers. Communication, reasoning, monetary transactions, time, age, success or failure- numbers are everywhere in a student's life.

## **37.Art**



### **1. Do you like art?**

Although I have a scientific temperament, I do appreciate art in its basic form, like a layman. I can draw fairly and differentiate between a good and a bad creation but I am not a connoisseur of art.

### **2. Do you think art classes are necessary?**

Yes, I believe in the importance of art classes because they provide a medium of expression of emotions. They bring out the creativity and give wings to the imagination. They provide a peep into the cultural heritage and act as a stress-buster too.

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

Art classes help in bringing out the creativity and imagination of a child. They help in overcoming the linguistic barrier and provide an avenue to express one's feelings and thoughts in an alternative way. They have a calming effect on their minds and take the boredom out of learning, making it a fun activity.

### **4. What kind of paintings do people in your country like?**

The people in my country have a varied taste in painting. A large section of the population prefers traditional landscape while few have a liking for ethnic or regional paintings. The youth in my country love abstract art.

### **5. What benefits can you get from painting as a hobby?**

Painting fosters creative growth and provides relief from stress. It nurtures emotional growth as a painter has an aesthetic attitude towards everything. Painting improves concentration and sharpens fine motor skills. It teaches patience and perseverance and improves the overall quality of life.

## **38.Break**

### **1. How often do you take a break when you are studying or working?**

Working or studying continuously for long hours fogs my mind, hence I prefer to take a short break after an hour or so. It breaks the monotony and avoids burn-out.

### **2. Do you prefer to have a long or short break?**

It depends on the type and complexity of task I am doing. If it's a physically-demanding work, then obviously the break should be long enough to give adequate rest to the body. If I am engaged in mental work, then a short break is enough for me to recharge my batteries.

### **3. Do you think having a break is important for you?**

I think it is important to take short breaks. It breaks the monotony and gives a chance to both body and mind to rejuvenate. It is important to take some intervals of rest between work and study to improve the productivity as well as overall efficiency of an individual. It is an opportunity to exercise and socialise as well.

### **4. Do children need breaks more often than adults?**

Children need frequent breaks because their attention span is less as compared to adults. Regular short pauses help them to focus better and lessen their fatigue. It also helps in keeping their interest intact.

### **5. Did you enjoy break time in your school?**

Recess time was the most awaited time of school. Not just for the food, it was a time to catch up with friends of one's own class as well as from other sections too. The playground was the main attraction to hit during lunch-break while sometimes; it served as a saviour to prepare for any impending test.

## **39. Countryside**

### **1. Do you like to go to countryside? Why?**

The proximity to nature and the simplicity of life has been crucial in inviting me towards the rural areas. I enjoy the breath-taking sceneries, the uneven terrain, the vast expanse of fields and the basic pleasures of living which are somehow lost in the fast pace of modern urban life.

### **2. Have you ever lived in countryside?**

On few family occasions, I got a chance to spend some time in countryside and I must say it was worth staying. It is usually once in two years during summer vacations that I get a chance to visit countryside.

### **3. Will you live in countryside in the future?**

Given a chance, I would definitely love to stay in countryside because of the easy and relaxed pace of life. Beautiful surroundings, simple people and comfortable living are big attractants for me to live in countryside in future.

### **4. Do you enjoy living in the countryside?**

Having stayed in Chandigarh since my birth, I do not get enough time to spend in the countryside but whenever I get a chance, I am always game for it. It is very peaceful and serene which is a rarity in urban areas. The air is pure and one gets to stay close to the nature.

### **5. What do you usually do when you go there?**

Usually I love hiking in the woods with my cousins or going for a drive. This gives me a chance to explore the wild and also relish the delectable local cuisine whose taste is matchless. I just soak in the beauty of nature and recharge my batteries.

## **40. Tea/Coffee**

### **1. Do you like tea or coffee? Why?**

In my daily routine, I drink tea but coffee is reserved for special occasions like meeting friends or having guests at home. Tea is a regular all-purpose beverage.

### **2. Do people drink a lot of coffee and tea in your country?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Yes, people drink a lot of tea and coffee in my country. The latter finds more takers in southern part of the country while the former is very popular in rest of the country. My country is one of the largest producers of both the drinks and one gets a variety of flavours, each unique in taste and aroma.

### **3. Do you often go out for tea or coffee?**

Once in a while, I enjoy having coffee at cafes like Starbucks and Barista. I try to catch up with my friends at these joints because they serve excellent coffee and delicious snacks. But for me, I prefer making my own at my home.

### **4. What do you offer to your guests at home?**

Well, it depends on the choice of guests. Most of my friends are coffee-lovers so it is the obvious choice when they visit me. A normal unplanned visit is served tea.

### **5. Do you remember the first time you drank tea or coffee?**

I was around 6 years old when I had my first taste of tea. I was down with fever and had severe cough and cold. So my mother made a special tea for me, infused with ginger, cardamom, tulsi and some black pepper and gave it to me. That was my first experience of drinking tea and I fell in love with its taste.

## **41. Plan**

### **1. Why are plans made?**

Plans are made in order to for-see the events that will take place in the future. People are able to prepare for the same and feel secure knowing how and when things will unfold. People get mentally ready for future things.

### **2. How can a plan be made full-proof?**

In order for the plan to be fool-proof, the ideal situations should be favored and sufficient back-up measures should be kept. The plan should be followed up without any deviation. Every possibility should be regarded.

### **3. Why do plans fail?**

Plans fail because of the reason that it is not carried out in the manner that it is supposed to be enacted in. The poor execution leads it to the failure. Not implementing plans in day-to-day activities can also make them fail.

### **4. Have you ever planned something in past?**

Yes, I have planned a lot of things in the past as I did not wish to be surprised with challenges on the spot. I have planned all of my brother's birthdays and some of my family functions as well.

### **5. What factors should be considered while planning?**

When people plan for anything, they must consider the time duration and the budget that they would be having. The goals should be clearly set and the time allocation for activities needs to be done. The possible risks should be identified along with the measures to tackle them.

### **6.Are long-term plans successful? Why/ why not?**

Long term plans run for a long time, thus making it a challenge to be achieved easily. For it to become successful or not, depends upon how persistent the actions are. The person should not let the tiny failures discourage him/her. The motivation level should not fall down.

### **7.Do you have any short-term plans?**

Yes, I have some short-term plans such as score good marks in my upcoming exams/ clean my bedroom every weekend/ finish the book that I am reading, etcetera. Achieving such goals will help me become more confident and have faith in myself.

### **8.What are your long-term plans?**

In order to fulfill my dreams, I have made some plans for the future which run for a long duration of time. Getting my dream job in America is one of them. Other plans include having my own home and shifting to a foreign country. I also want to run my own business. In order to achieve these goals, I have to work very hard for a long period of time.

## **42.Cake**

### **1.On what occasions do people usually eat cake?**

People usually eat cake on certain occasions like birthday parties, wedding functions, get-togethers or during times when they are celebrating the success or some happy news like child birth, passing exams and so on. The joyous moments are often embraced by the cake-cutting ceremony.

### **2.Have you ever baked a cake yourself?**

Yes, I have baked cakes many times as I love eating them and the cakes that I make are loved by my family and friends. I know how to bake different types of cakes such as chocolate chip, date and almond, fruit, red velvet, vanilla and carrot cake.

**OR**

No, I have never baked a cake on my own as I am not fond of cooking and also do not know the whole recipe. But I have often helped my mother in the kitchen while she bakes it for me and my family.

### **3.Why do people choose to get cake from a professional rather than bake it themselves?**

For occasions when people need a cake for celebration, they usually prefer getting it from professionals because they are able to bake theme-based cakes which can be a challenge if tried at home. Such professionals have the right equipment and are aware about the right techniques as well, which the layman might be ignorant about.

### **4.Is baking a cake easy or challenging?**

Baking a cake requires certain steps which involve appropriate amount of raw material. This can suppose to be a simple thing for the person who is familiar with the procedure. Whereas it can be regarded challenging by ones who are either disinterested or unaware about the steps.

### **5.Do you have any cake shop in your neighborhood?**

The neighborhood that I live in is equipped with various facilities and has a very popular cake shop as well. That bakery serves delicious and soft cakes.

**OR**

No, there is no cake shop located in my neighborhood as it is quite small and only has one confectionary shop. I do wish that a cake shop opens near my house.

### **7.Are cakes a part of everyday meal in your country?**

Cakes are used for occasions when celebrations are being done. They are not a part of everyday meal as people eat things like jaggery and not cake after meals.

## **43.History**

### **1.What do you understand by the word ‘history’?**

According to my perspective, history is the investigation into the things that belong to the past. Such things cannot be changed or replaced. Thus, making history only an account of past happenings which are irrefutable.

### **2.What constitutes history?**

History is formed out of the historical facts and accounts of incidents and events that took place in the past. It can also be the past establishments or developments.

### **3.Are you aware about the history of your culture?**

Yes, I am aware about the history of my culture as I was taught about it in my school times and I still remember it. The cultural festivals refresh such teachings as the celebrations are made to cherish such historical achievements.

### **4.Should children be taught history in schools?**

Yes, children should be taught history in schools as it will make them aware about the things that took place in the past and appreciate the present things that they have. It can also help them to make futuristic decisions based on the past consequences.

**OR**

No, teaching history to school children has no remarkable benefit in later life as the circumstances in which the past things happened are totally different from the current situation. The low relevance makes history less important to study.

### **5.What are benefits of learning history?**

When a person learns about the historical aspect of anything, he/she becomes more aware about the true nature of that thing. Also, history makes it easier for people to make decisions by referring to the past consequences. They are able to fetch more knowledge to equip themselves with wisdom.

### **6.Does knowing about historical facts and happenings help in future?**

Yes, knowing about the historical facts help in the future as the person knows about the possible consequences of certain actions. This can save them from facing hard times as history tends to repeat itself.

**OR**

The history about past is not really helpful in future as both the conditions of the past and future are different. So different situations will yield different results. Also, future is unpredictable so something that has already taken place might not get repeated as it is.

### **7.Would you like to teach history? Why/ why not?**

Yes, I would like to teach history in schools as I am interested in this subject and find it quite intriguing . So, I will be able to make the students be fond of this subject as well.

**OR**

No, I would certainly no want to teach history as I find this subject to be quite boring and am myself not fond of it. Moreover, I am not someone who can make others learn so I would pass on this opportunity, if I ever get it.

## **44.Market**

### **1.Why do people visit market?**

The reason why people visit market is to meet their demands and to fulfill their needs of certain products or services. Other times, they visit market to see the trend that exists in the present times or to just rejuvenate themselves by taking a stroll in the market. It can also be the meeting place for some people.

### **2.Do you have any markets near your home?**

My home is well connected to all the facilities including a market which is at a walking distance from my house. They include some confectionary shops, car wash shops, furniture shops and some other service shops. They meet the needs of the people of my locality.

**OR**



The markets are located at a far off distance from my home and it generally takes 15-20 minutes to reach there as my house is situated on the outskirts of the city, whereas the markets are located in the heart of the city.

### **3.Are markets being replaced by malls?**

The increasing trend of malls have taken the customers away from markets as the target group is now being enticed by the comfort provided by malls. They prefer to buy everything under one roof rather than to move from one place to another.

**OR**

Even though the customer base was shaken with the establishment of malls, still the target group purchases from markets as the products in malls are costlier and also the accessibility is more for markets as malls are located in far off places and usually only sell branded products, not the affordable unbranded ones.

### **4.Do the villages have easy access to markets?**

The development has made it feasible for the villagers to reach market as almost every village nowadays has its own market to facilitate their needs. The villages are surely uplifting their standard of living.

### **5.What are the benefits of having market nearby homes?**

If markets are close by to the residential area, the needs of the people can be met quickly and they will have to spend lesser time and resources to reach market. They will not have to face any type of hassle when it comes to visiting the place repeatedly.

## **CUE CARDS**

### **2. Describe a change that has improved your local area.**

**What the change is**  
**how the change works**

### **what kinds of problems the change will solve and how you feel about the change.**

Change is an inevitable part of life. It is a law of nature which everyone needs to accept, irrespective of personal preferences. I live in Chandigarh, also known as “The City Beautiful” and it is one of the most well-planned and organized cities of India. The area in which I stay is equipped with most of the basic amenities that are a pre-requisite for comfortable living and it’s a blessing to reside in that area. The region has witnessed countless changes since its inception but here, I would like to mention about a particular and recent change that has made it even better and that is the introduction of low-floor air-conditioned buses for the general public. Earlier, most of the public accesses were non-a.c. and high floor buses which were quite a deterrent to the public, particularly the elderly, disabled persons and people travelling with children. Moreover, the extended summers in my area made travelling in summers feel like a hell in overcrowded and ill-maintained buses. The new facility is like a breather for the denizens. The state-of-the art interiors, increased frequency and quick service have made it very popular and have reduced the number of private vehicles on road, thereby reducing pollution too. The ride is comfortable and there is no fatigue. Recently, my grandfather visited us and I had to accompany him to a relative’s place. We travelled by the bus and he was really impressed by the new addition. It was easy for him to board and exit and the journey was memorable. I positively appreciate the efforts of the local council for giving the residents a remarkable facility and contributing towards the general welfare of the society.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What are some of the ways people can help others in the community? Which is the most important?**

I think there are many ways to help others in our local communities. For example, in the society where I live, some people volunteer to run activity clubs for children, or they help out in residential homes for elderly people. Others give money, food or clothes to organizations that support people living below the poverty line. In my opinion, there isn’t a scale of importance when it comes to helping others; all forms of help are positive.

#### **2. Why do you think some people like to help other people?**

Most people get a good feeling when they help others, and they understand that all of us may experience difficult times in our lives where we might need support. For example, we all grow old, and we all run the risk of losing our jobs or having a health problem that affects our ability to look after ourselves. So, I think people help others because they empathize with them.

#### **3. Some people say that people help others in the community more now than they did in the past. Do you agree or disagree?**

I disagree with that kind of opinion. It’s impossible to generalize about how much people help in their communities from one generation to the next, so I don’t think we should try to judge or compare how altruistic people are now or were in the past. There have always been those who help others and those who don’t.

### **4. Have things changed since your parents' time?**

In terms of people's status in a society, things have not changed much between my father's and my generation. The things that have majorly changed are the expensive technological gadgets and new brand names might have been added as part of people's status symbol; however, those could be classified as materialistic achievement which was also present in my parent's era.

### **5. Do you think advertising influences what people buy?**

Yes, I think advertisement has a huge impact on people's purchasing decision. It is quite natural that people would pick a known branded product than purchasing products from non-branded names they do not know about. Some advertisements even allure us to purchase products we actually do not need at all.

## **2. Describe an occasion when you lost something and then got it back?**

**What was it?**

**When and where you lost it**

**How you felt?**

I have a very forgetful nature and I often forget things but, I am lucky enough that most of the time I get things back as well. Right now I would like to share the experience when I lost mobile phone but fortunately, I found it later on. This incident took place approximately two months ago. When I was riding my bike and going to the local department store to buy some groceries. I was wearing loose pants and I never noticed when my mobile slipped out of my pocket. When I thought to call my mom and reassure the items, I found it missing. I told the sales guy to call on my number but it was switched off. Disappointed, I went home. As soon as I entered, my dad told me that he had received a call from a person who had found my phone and given him his address. I rushed to the address and was glad to find my phone, safe and secure. I felt so relieved and thanked that gentleman for his help. It was a lesson for me as well to be more careful about my belongings. So, that is the time I can still recall when I lost something and found it back.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1 What kinds of people may lose things often?**

Well, I think two groups of people may lose things often. Firstly are the careless people, they do not have the habit of putting things in order and they like leaving things around carelessly. Second group is the old people. Since they are quite old and they are not as energetic as they were before, most of them become more and more; forgetful as time goes by. So, I think the old people may also lose things often.

### **2 What can we do to prevent losing important things?**

I think there are several ways, if people want to prevent losing important things. To start with, they can develop a habit of putting certain things in the certain places. Secondly, they can write down the places where they put the important things in a notebook. Since most of the people are busy with their study and work, it is unavoidable that people sometimes tend to be forgetful when they are extremely busy. So, these are two ways to prevent losing things.

### **3 What would you do if you saw something valuable but didn't belong to you on the street?**

When I was young, my teacher had taught me that it was illegal to use the things of other people without the owners' permissions. So, I may pick up the thing and send it to the police station, and ask the policemen to find the owner.

### **4 What is the most valuable thing you have lost so far and how?**

Well, to be honest, I have lost many things so far but here, I want to mention about my cell phone. Unfortunately, I just lost my mobile phone last month. At that time, I was catching the subway to school. Since the subway was too crowded, and I just put it in my pocket, instead of my bag, when I got off the subway, I found that my mobile phone was stolen by the thief.

### **5 What do you usually do to look for lost items?**

Usually, I go back to the place where I lost the items to check whether the lost things are still there. Sometimes, I ask the people nearby whether they have seen my things. Finally, if I still cannot find it, I consider about buying a new one.

## **3. Describe a time when you were excited?**

**What you did?**

**Where and when you did this?**

**How did you feel?**

In life there have been quite a few moments when I was excited to do something new. Here I would like to talk about the time when I decided to go on a solo trip and that made me fall in love with myself again and with the world we live in. Last October, I chose to go to Himachal Pradesh, for my first ever solo trip, for the mountains were calling and I had to go. My well planned trip started from Delhi. I had booked a train from Delhi, and boarded a bus from Chandigarh to McLeodganj. As I reached the destination, a guide was already there to help me. I stayed in Zostel which is a chain of hostels all over the country. It is an amazing place to stay in, while travelling. I ended up meeting a lot of amazing people right from the owners to the fellow travelers. Most of them were boys who were travelling solo. Zostel walls and rooms tell stories of other travelers. It is vividly colored with amazing paintings and drawings on the walls. It was a 2 day trip

and I had lots of fun hiking, camp firing and made new friends. I also bought some souvenirs for my family and friends. It was one of the most exciting and amazing experience.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Why do you think some people like doing new things?**

Performing a new task has a different sort of pleasure regardless of mistakes or perfection. Thus, some people prefer performing newer things to taste the unknown pleasure. Doing new things is like an addiction for some people and accordingly, they invent newer ways to live better.

#### **2. What problems can people have when they try new activities for the first time?**

When it is the first time for something new, there may be different troubles. People might not come up with the changed situations or behaviors or the presence of something unwanted. The changes or the new things at the beginning may seem inappropriate or wrong and may also invite negative criticism.

#### **3. Do you think it's best to do new things on your own or with other people? Why?**

I think it is the best idea to do or practice the new things on one's own before making it public. The thing could be made public when it is in a perfect condition or may prove helpful to others or the community. If there are drawbacks with the new issue, it is imperative not to practice in public or you might be insulted.

#### **4. What kinds of things do children learn to do when they are very young? How important are these things?**

Usually, the children try to imitate the attitudes and behaviors when they are very young. They try to imitate the walking styles, eating styles, speeches, talking methods, reading books and handwriting and other habits. These things are significant as they are an exact replica of their parents' habits.

#### **5. Do you think children and adults learn to do new things in the same way? How is their learning style different?**

The learning methods for the children and the adults are not the same. Usually, the children learn from their surrounding environment while the adults mostly learn from trial and error basis. Moreover, children are quick learners and their grasping power is better as compared to the mature population.

### **4. Describe a time when you travelled by public transport**

**When and where you went**

**What kind of transport you used**

**How was your trip**

Public transports are the most common way to commute between cities in our country. Most of the people use public transports like city bus or inter-city buses to travel. Last month I had to go to Delhi to visit my

friend and planned to travel by a taxi. However, due to some reasons the taxi driver refused to come and I had to travel using public transport. I chose the city bus to reach the train station and then from there took the train to reach Delhi. Initially, I did not have seat for five minutes, but an old gentleman was kind enough to make changes in the seat arrangement and offered me a seat next to his. I got a window seat and was able to see the scenery outside. A religious group was seated in the next row and they were playing some musical instruments. Soon, some of them started chanting mantras and songs in praise of their deities. The entire environment was so soothing. I reached Delhi in about two hour and half and from there went to the metro station. On coming back, I again preferred the train as I found it really nice and comfortable.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. How can one encourage more people to take public transportation?**

Encouraging the public to make use of the public transit is quite a tough task as the facilities and infrastructures are not developed. So with a view to achieving that, there should be an increase in the number of public means of transport like buses, trains, and subways with better service quality so that the general population feels it worthy to leave their motorbike or car at home and make daily commutes by public transport.

#### **2. What measures should the government take to solve transportation problems in traveling?**

The government can do a lot to solve traffic problems. For example, better educations of the citizens to follow traffic rules, more provision of public transportation facilities, such as buses and underground railways, as well as broadening the roads or building skyways, can all contribute to the alleviation of traffic problems.

#### **3. What types of public transport can be found in your country?**

There's quite a mixed variety of public transport in my country. When we travel on the roads, it's easy to find mass of buses, taxis, or even trains. If someone wants to have an outbound trip, plane is available. However, the most commonly-used mode of transport is bus, since it is cheap and reliable.

#### **4. What type of public transport do you use most?**

As far as I'm concerned, I take buses more often than any other means of transport because in my city the availability of buses is very convenient. One can find buses every 15 to 20 minutes, thereby avoiding the overcrowding, too.

#### **5. Are there any public transport problems in your country?**



With an increase of private cars in my country, during the rush hour there are always jam-packed streets. People often go disappointed due to this, the road quality, furthermore, is too run-down to meet the needs of the overwhelming vehicular traffics. This might lead to the increase in drastic crash-ups recently.

### **5. Describe an experience when you played an indoor game with others**

**what the game was**

**where you played it**

**who played this game with you**

**and why you liked it**

I actually don't play indoor games nowadays because I don't have enough free time and whenever I have free time, I like to do reading and cooking, but there's one indoor game which I used to play when I was a child. It was a tricks and guess game; actually I don't know the exact name of game. I played this game with my parents and my brother. We used to play this game at weekends especially when my parents had free time. I enjoyed this game very much because we used to play in 2 teams. One member of one team had to make different gestures or do some movements and other team members had to guess it. At the end of each game a chocolate pack was given as gift. So I liked this game very much. Firstly it made us laugh so much because my mother used to make funny gestures sometimes and secondly, getting chocolates after winning the game was like a cherry on the cake. It relaxed our mind and we enjoyed very much.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Why are some sports fans so passionate?**

I believe some people love sports than other forms of entertainment and competition and they always follow their favorite sports on TV. 'Watching and playing sports' is their favorite leisure activity. Sportsmen are often idolized by youths and they love to follow their favorite sportsmen as enthusiastic followers.

#### **2. Is there any violence at sporting events in your country?**

Generally speaking, such violence is very rare in my country. However, a dispute among fans, that is more verbal than physical, is quite common. They often take social networking platforms and blogs to criticize their rivals.

#### **3. Do you generally read a lot of books or do you prefer watching TV? Why?**

I prefer reading books over enjoying random programs on television. However, that does not mean that I hate watching TV. I just feel that reading is a far better habit than watching TV. Every book gives us an opportunity to learn something new and the time spent on reading a book is more constructive.

#### **4. What kinds of books are considered good reads in your opinion?**

I believe books that are suitable for a reader's age and do not contain any hate speech or offensive materials are a good choice. Generally speaking, if a book can grab readers' interest, make them think, or help them learn something new, then it is a good read. However, I often enjoy books simply because they are educative and are based on real events.

### **5. Do most people have a computer at home in your country?**

Well, to answer this question, I should first mention that the ownership of computers is almost ten times higher in cities than that of villages in my country. Thus most of the families living in a city own at least a computer except for poor people while almost one in twelve families in rural areas have a computer or a laptop.

### **6. Describe any physical skill you learnt.**

**where you learnt it**

**why you learnt it**

**how long it took to learn**

I would like to tell you about the time I learnt how to box. I learnt this skill in physical education training class after school, and it was something I had always wanted to do. When I was younger, my parents didn't let me and throughout school I was a little embarrassed to do something the other teenagers were not doing. Anyways, I learnt from a strict and tough coach. I think he was disappointed, because I was really bad when I started. It took me good two years to learn it. I enjoyed every minute of it. The classes were hard, if my memory serves me well, we did a brutal 90 minutes every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, with a mixture of fitness, technique and in the final 5 minutes we spared. However, I wouldn't say I've mastered the skill because there is still a considerable amount left to learn. Eventually I'll back into it though, I'm certain. And that's my short presentation about a skill I learnt.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What type of skill may take a long time to learn?**

Writing skills like calligraphy take a long time to be learnt. It is a Chinese art that needs practice, training and observation. As a matter of fact any skill needs training and patience.

#### **2. Why would people spend a lot of time learning one skill?**

Some people are very passionate about their hobbies and they want to learn it to the levels of perfection. So people spend a lot of time learning that kind of skills that they enjoy doing.

#### **3. Do people feel happy after they have learned a new skill?**

Yes whenever you learn something new, there is a sense of achievement and you feel happy about it .So most of the people do feel happy when they learn a new skill. Simple procedures like cooking, stitching, and knitting provide immense happiness when they are tried for the first time

### **4. Why are some people unwilling to learn new skills?**

Sometimes people are unwilling to learn new skills because of the fear of going wrong or committing mistakes. Fear of failure should not be a hurdle to create something new. It is better to have tried and failed than not tried at all.

### **5. Do you think it takes a long time to learn a language?**

Ability to learn a language may vary from person to person. Some individuals learn languages very fast as they are pretty good at the uptake of new vocabulary, while other people might face difficulty learning new words. To gain superficial knowledge of any language is not difficult but to learn it fluently takes a long time.

### **7. Describe a time when you were sleepy but had to stay awake.**

**When did it happen?**

**Why you were sleepy?**

**Why you had to stay awake?**

**And how you stayed awake?**

There have been many times when I have stayed awake at night. I usually do so when my cousins come to stay over for the night at my home. We watch some movies and just have fun with each other. Here, I would like to talk about a time when I was really tired and sleepy, but I had to stay awake. It was the last day of my exams, and I hadn't slept the whole night before. As I was coming out of the examination hall, I was thinking I would go home and hit the bed. But when I came home, I was surprised to see a lot of my relatives at home. My grandfather had slipped in the bathroom and had injured himself. They had already taken him to the hospital and got his X-Ray done. There was no fracture, but perhaps a muscle tear in his ankle. The doctor had advised strict bed rest for a week. My grandfather needed a lot of care. He couldn't even go to the bathroom on his own. So, it was decided that we would all take turns to sit by his side and take care of him. But all relatives just left one by one. I love my grandfather so much that I forgot all about my tiredness and sleep and just sat next to him. He was in pain and needed medication from time to time. I was happy he did not have a serious fracture. I made a cup of strong coffee for myself and was able to stay awake till about 2 am. Then my father, who was sleeping in the next room, woke up and I went to bed. So, this was the time when I was very sleepy and yet had to stay awake.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

### **1. On what occasions do people need to stay awake even when they are tired?**

People need to stay awake when they have to prepare for exams, or when there is some function at home, or when there is a sick person at home, or when they are travelling.

### **2. How do they keep awake when they are tired?**

They have some tea or coffee, which helps them stay awake. They may also take a few steps and do some stretching to refresh themselves. They may wash their face or even take a bath to avoid sleepiness.

### **3. Do you suffer from nightmares?**

I don't remember having any nightmares, but there are times when I just wake up in the middle of night, having remembered nothing. But, there was friend of mine, who used to get scary nightmares.

### **4. Have you ever walked in your sleep? Do you know anyone who does?**

I don't remember ever walking in sleep, yet my friend told me about this guy from her college who used to walk in sleep and run across a certain tree until he got exhausted. Later, with the help of psychologist he was able to fight things back.

### **5. Are you a light sleeper or a heavy sleeper?**

I am definitely a heavy sleeper who has to go for light sleeping. I love to sleep and in my initial years of life I used to sleep a lot, but with later years coming in, I became more responsible and started sleeping only that much as was required by body.

### **8. Describe an experience you had as a member of a team.**

**When was it?**

**Who was with you?**

**What did you do?**

**How did you feel?**

Since my childhood, I have performed many activities. Some have required me to work alone while others have put me in groups, where I have worked with others. I remember one such activity where I had to work in a group with my classmates. This incidence dates back to the time when I was in my 10<sup>th</sup> standard. My school had organized a competitive cultural fest, where the different sections of the class had to compete with each other in a dance face-off. That time my team comprised of total 20 members who were my classmates. We were further divided into 4 groups of total 5 members each and were allotted different dance forms. My group was assigned to perform bhangra. Since it is my cultural as well as regional dance, I was very excited to perform it. We had divided ourselves on the basis of how well we could perform and at which position we were going to stand. Since, all of us were required to perform all the steps in sync, we practiced rigorously. The stay backs were fun as we not only shared our personally chosen steps, but also

## The Australian Academy

---

curiously saw the dance moves other teams had to show. Our team efforts bore the fruit when our class won the first prize in the competition and bhangra team gained a special appreciation for performing so smoothly and in alignment. The activity itself was enjoyable and entertaining that we did not realize how long and straining the whole procedure was. Being a part of team made me realize that I had some certain areas of perfection and other areas which needed improvement. It made me realize how important it is to work with others and be understanding. Being assertive, I learnt humility and appreciated other's efforts as well. This was indeed the best and most satisfactory team work I had been a part of.

### Follow-up Questions:

#### 1.What are the qualities that are learnt through teamwork?

Teamwork plays a crucial role in building the character of the person, it ensures group interaction which helps to build the confidence and makes the individual extrovert. Co-operation is also learnt through teamwork.

#### 2.What should be the environment of teamwork?

When multiple people are working together, they should be in a safe environment where all their needs are met and they are also given enough opportunities to explore new options. One's proposals must be respected and members should be encouraged to make efforts. Necessary rewards should be given to members who excel in their work.

#### 3.Should team-work be encouraged in schools as well?

Yes, teamwork should be encouraged when children are still in schools because it is their growing stage and they are all learning while sitting together. It is during this time, that teamwork, if carried out, will inculcate the habit of working together. They will better understand the group efforts and how co-operative efforts need to be carried out.

OR

No, teamwork should not be encouraged in schools because children are going there to learn and the teacher needs to focus on the children, individually. If they are put into teamwork, the school children might end up becoming self-conscious. So, work needs to be done by children on their own so they are able to know about their own caliber.

#### 4.Do you prefer team work or working independently?

I prefer working in a team because when people come together and work jointly, each person can be allotted work that they excel in, consuming less time and efforts. Thus, the output of teamwork is better and more efficient.

OR

I always prefer to work independently because when I do so, I am able to know about my abilities and capabilities. All my shortcomings can be improved and I am able to hone my skills. This helps to build my character and gives me confidence.

### **5. Give some examples of teamwork?**

Teamwork can be seen in areas such as the operating room in a hospital where the doctor along with nurses operates on patients. Teamwork is also seen in sports games like football, cricket and basketball.

### **6. Mention some qualities of a leader.**

The leader needs to be punctual, co-operative and understanding. Despite these qualities, a leader must be straightforward and remain unbiased. He/she must always be honest and speak the truth. Foresight should also be strong and he/she must adopt a rational approach.

### **7. How would you motivate your team members if you are leading a team?**

If I am leading a team, I would motivate my team members by making them believe in their abilities and giving them work only which suits their preferences. Timely rewards will also be awarded to the members who perform well. Beyond this, opportunities to explore their skills would always be provided to my team's members.

### **9. Describe a person who has apologized to you.**

**Who was that person?**

**What happened?**

**Why did he/she apologize to you?**

**What did you do after receiving the apology?**

To err is to human. This phrase means that errors are committed by humans. No human being is perfect in all sense as perfection itself is formed from imperfections. Such errors end in reparations. Throughout my life I have come across many instances where either I have made an apology or received it. Such instances are quite vague to be forgotten but one such incidence where I was apologized to, has not left my memory at all. I vividly remember that it was the time when I was in my final year of college and my practical was going on. During that time, the students were required to submit a 3D representation of any model from the syllabus along with a practical file explaining selected theories. Being one of the toppers of my batch I was the first one to submit the assignment. On the last day of submission, the class teacher called out those students who had not submitted the assignment and were disqualified from the finals. Among my classmates whose roll numbers were being called out, I heard my name being called out. As soon as she was done, I talked to my teacher about the assignments that I had already submitted on the very first day. The reply I was given shocked me and she told me that she had never received any assignment during the



first two days. Not wanting to be disqualified, I persuaded my class teacher into rechecking the assignment submission list. Receiving the same response, I was dismayed. My friends stepped forward into helping me and talked to the Head Master. They returned with the good news telling me that he had received my assignment submission entry on that list. When my class teacher got to know about this, he was embarrassed. He called me into the staff room and apologized for his negligible attitude towards his duties. This made me feel at ease, since he had accepted his ignorance. Yet, I felt flustered when he repeatedly kept apologizing and told me that he would grant me grace marks to compensate for his error. Even though I was quite delighted to hear this, I told him that his sincere apology was enough and that he evaluate my assignments without any favoritism. The absurd turn of events is what has made me remember this incident even till date.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. When do people usually apologize?**

People generally apologize when they have done something wrong, either intentionally or unintentionally. They also feel sorry, if just in case, they have offended anyone or hurt their feelings. In times of distress and when others have gone through something disastrous, others feel sorry for their loss and sufferings.

#### **2. What do you understand by apology?**

I consider apology as a gesture of conveying one's ignorance, commission of error or being sympathetic for someone's loss. In broader terms, I consider apology as a means to tell that one's mistakes will no longer be committed again or repeated under any circumstance.

#### **3. What are the reactions people receive when they apologize?**

When people extend their apologies, others quite often keep a casual approach and they just revert back saying that it is alright for them to have made a mistake and expect the person to never repeat it. But sometimes people do not accept the apology and lash out at the person for having caused an irreversible damage/loss.

#### **4. Do you prefer written apology or verbal apology?**

I have always apologized verbally and that is what I prefer. It is quick and the person being apologized to is able to know if the person really means it or not by analyzing their facial gestures. Also, it is quite convenient as both the parties are able to exchange messages instantly.

#### **5. Are apologies useful?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Yes, apologies are useful at times when the person wants to show regrets for making a mistake. Sincerity of the person is depicted and it is considered as a part of etiquettes that a person must display.

**OR**

No, apologies are at a lot of times not very useful as people mindlessly keep apologizing even for tiny things that do not require an apology. Many people misuse the word just to cool down the boiling temper of the person, only to keep repeating their mistakes.

### **6. In modern era, do people hesitate when offering apologies? Why/ why not?**

Indeed, modern people do hesitate when they are offering apologies as they feel it to be demeaning and many times find it challenging to face the person and own their wrongdoings. The millennials would rather turn a blind eye or play the blame game than to come forward and own their mistakes.

**OR**

The young minds are very open and accepting, thus making it quite easy for them to accept their mistakes and say sorry for the same. They are quite forward thinking when it comes to embracing their flaws and trying to improve.

### **10. Describe a successful small business that you know.**

**Where is it located?**

**Who owns it?**

**Why is it successful?**

**How did you come to know about it?**

Businesses are mushrooming these days than ever before. Both men and women are becoming a part of this endeavor. Business has diverse forms and levels such as entrepreneurship, joint family business, partnership, small-scale, large-scale and so on. In order to make a business successful, the forms do not matter as much as the deliverance quality, location and target group does. Personally, I have come across many business ventures which are running successfully but the one commercial setup which enticed me is rather small-scaled. It is owned by a young lady in my neighborhood and I came to know about it when one day at night I was taking a stroll in my neighborhood and stopped in my tracks when I got the whiff of a familiar aroma. Curiosity got the best of me and I started moving towards its origin that led me to a fancy entrance and when I approached it, I could see figures moving inside the room. Upon entering, I could not imagine the sight in-front of my eyes. The room was lit with lamps and the tables were carefully set in a setting making space for large plants and grapevines decorating the walls. I had crossed that path so many times but I had missed this small café as it was a hole in the wall. Since that day, I have been visiting this café frequently. It is quite popular among the people of my locality for its top quality baked items and its captivating environment. The vibe of this place is very comforting which provides the

## The Australian Academy

---

customers a homey feeling. The mouth-watering dishes are priced very nominally and even the teenagers can afford them out of their pocket money. To attract the youngsters, live band plays at nights and for readers, the walls are adorned with books of all genres. Even board games are available for times when customers want to have relaxing and fun time together. Amalgamation of interests of all age-groups has made this small business boom successfully in the area and also has earned appreciation in the local papers.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1.How can success be achieved?**

Success can be achieved after persistent efforts and hard work towards achievement of goals. Remaining grounded and not letting success get to the head are important as they do not stagnate a person's growth and makes him achieve greater heights. Success does not come overnight, regularity is needed.

#### **2.Is there any guaranteed shortcut to success?**

No, there is no such step which can guarantee success, let go having a short-cut to success because it comes unexpectedly and is only long-lived if gained by hard work and consistency. Shortcuts often lead to short-lived success followed by failure.

#### **3.What do you mean by – failures are the pillars of success?**

The lesson that this saying gives is that failure and success are both a part and parcel of life. But, generally failure is followed by success as people start putting in more efforts and with more determination are able to achieve success.

#### **4.What are the qualities that a businessperson should possess?**

Business-personnel are diligent and ambitious towards their goals. Being strong-willed they are never really put down by their failures. Having a charismatic personality, they motivate others to follow in their footsteps. Punctuality is a vital part of their personality and they most often have a schedule that guides their daily activities.

#### **5.How can a person own a business in your country?**

In my country, it is quite easy to own a business. The person must fulfill the legal requirements and register the company, legally. The land and assets need to be registered as well and after the sanction, the business is established. After a certain period of time, the business operations can start. Generally, different steps and procedures need to be followed for different business types.

### **6.Should consumers have a blind faith on businesses?**

No. Consumers should never trust businesses blindly as the sole aim of businesses is to earn profits and for this, they can also resort to illegal practices, if the consumers are ignorant. They need to be careful and let their conscience make decision and not be fooled by the businesspersons.

### **11. An important piece of news that you received via text message.**

**When was it?**

**Who sent you that message?**

**What was the news about?**

Many incidences take place and they are conveyed to people over different modes. People share not only good news but also bad news. Even in my life, I have received and delivered good as well as distressing news. For this, different modes were used such as, phone, e-mails and hand-written letters. I remember the time when I received an important piece of news through a text message. The incidence took place a couple of weeks ago when I was involved in an accident. Even though I had escaped unhurt, my car was badly scratched so I had to send it back to the agency for repair. I was informed about the total cost, which was quite huge. They told me that it would take a week's time to bring my car back to its original form. I was heart-broken when I learnt about this. After two days, I received a text from the manager of my agency stating that it would take more than a month for my car to be completely repaired as the parts had to be imported from United States and the shipment was slow due to the bad weather conditions. This news devastated me as my daily routine heavily depended on my car for commuting. The bad news escalated into a good one when I read the rest of the message. The company had informed me that due to my credibility, I was eligible for a hefty discount of 30% on the total cost of the bill. I celebrated with joy as this news proved to relieve me of the tension of the cost of repair burning a hole in my pocket. The news about lowered price overpowered the news of late arrival of my car. This piece of news is not only the recent one but also the most important one that I have received over a text message.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1.Are e-mails still used to send important information?**

Yes, e-mails are still used to send important information as till-date it is considered more professional and most of the times, companies use e-mails to make deals and do business. It is more authentic and widely

used for non-urgent communication. The follow up and audit is also quite easy as the track of messages is available. This ensures its use for sending important information.

### **2. Have you ever sent someone an e-mail?**

Yes, I have sent many e-mails till date. For submitting my assignments, applying for universities in foreign countries and sending my documents for official purposes, I have used e-mails.

**OR**

No, I have not made use of e-mail for any purposes as all the things were sent through social apps and important communication being established through phone calls. Rather, I have written letters during my school time when asking for leaves, but that too, rarely.

### **3. Do you believe text messages carry a personal touch?**

Yes, text messages do carry a personal touch from the sender's side as he/she can now add some emoticons to better facilitate the emotions while sending the messages. The sender is the person drafting the message himself/herself making it carry a personal touch.

**OR**

No, the messages sent over text do not carry any type of personal touch simple because the person is typing and the emotions are not being revealed. A lot many times, people type that they are laughing when they are not even slightly amused, not to hurt the emotions of the sender and he believes it without even realizing the truth.

### **4. What is the most suitable method of delivering important message?**

The most suitable method of delivering important message would be the face-to-face deliverance of message as it provides the transparency between the parties involved and the feedback can be received instantly along with the facial reactions.

### **5. Can you mention the important news that are shared by people nowadays?**

The important news that people nowadays share is about their life developments, promotions, good news and so on. The news about celebrations and functions is also quite important in the Indian culture.

### **6. What is the most recent news that you have received?**

The recent news that I received was a week ago when my result for my final exam was announced and I got to know that I had aced my exams with flying colors. That is also the happiest news that I have received till date.

## **12. Describe something you bought that was difficult to use at first.**

**What was that thing?**

**When and from where did you buy it?**

**Why was it difficult to use initially?**

**How did you handle it?**

With the advancement in technology, many new inventions are being carried out leading to introduction of modern products in market after a short interval. Being a tech savvy person, I keep updating my household equipments and carry out experiments by using all the newly introduced products. Usually, I do not face any problem with such gadgets but there was a particular time when I faced difficulty in using a product at first but later when I got the hang of it, I was able to use it pretty well. One day when I was taking a stroll in the departmental store, my attention was held by the shiny induction stove which looked appealing laying on the platform of the store. I wasted no time and grabbed it. Once I was home, I quickly unpacked it and rested it on my kitchen platform. Getting distracted by my work, I left the stove untouched for days. Finally, my curiosity got the best of me one day and I started reading its manual to better facilitate myself with its functions. Thinking I had figured it out, I plugged it in and started with the procedure. To my surprise, the stove did not work. Pressing one button after the other, it still did not start heating the food. I stopped trying and gave up thinking to try again later. The following day same scenario occurred. After persistently trying hard for a week, I was able to decode the uses of each button and how complex the whole procedure of heating the food was. I had to purchase certain other equipments to heat the food in less time. I realized that acing how to use the things I purchase is not a piece of cake as certain things are more complex than they seem. This was the only and only time when it took me so long to be able to use a product properly.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Why is it important to face difficulties?**

It is necessary to face obstacles in life for people to value the easy times they have had in their life. Difficulties and challenges give experiences which makes a person wise and strong. Such times give valuable lessons to a person and they are able to recognize their talents as well.

#### **2. Should we help people in time of distress or leave them on their own? Why/ why not?**

The people who are facing a tough time must be helped out as they might not be well-equipped to survive those challenging times. Good deeds always come around and bless the person so he/she must never shy away from helping those who are in a tough situation.



**OR**

The people who are facing a tough time should be left to themselves because that is their challenge that they have to fight alone in order to emerge as victorious and learn the valuable lessons. They need to figure the easy way out themselves and realize their potential.

### **3.What can be learnt from challenges?**

Challenges are quite an essential part of a person's life as it teaches valuable lessons such as never to take anything for granted, to express gratitude and to never lose hope even in times of distress. Challenges also make the person more confident and self-sufficient.

### **4.Is the grey generation able to cope up with the technological advances or not?**

The old people have lived in times when technological interference was at the minimal level. So as a matter of fact it is difficult for them to use technology efficiently but with the correct and timely guidance they can very well cope up with the technological advances.

### **5.Should people consult others before purchasing? Why/ why not?**

Yes, people should ask for other's opinions when purchasing anything as others can guide him if he should invest in that product or not. The pros and cons of the product can be analyzed better. The purchaser can also be introduced to other better things that he/she can buy.

**OR**

When purchasing, the buyer should refrain from asking others as their choices can deviate the purchaser from buying the product that he/she wishes to buy. Also, people might not relate to the purchaser's need of buying that particular product and may persuade him/she into dropping the whole idea. So, the individual should never ask anyone before purchasing anything.

## **13. Describe a situation when you were not allowed to use your cell phone.**

**When did this happen?**

**What did you want to use your cell phone for?**

**Why you were not allowed to use it?**

## The Australian Academy

---

A person's possessions are the most cherished things of an individual. I also own a lot of things. Some of them are used daily, whereas others are rarely used. One such possession of mine which I cherish the most is my mobile phone. It has been 10 years since I have purchased my first and only phone, and all those 10 years, not a single day has passed when I have not had my phone with me, except one disastrous day. I still remember that unfaithful day as if it was yesterday. During the course of my college life, many seminars had been conducted. One such seminar that I was overly joyous to attend was, "What is life?" In this seminar, all the renowned philosophers and psychologists were to gather and ponder over the concept of life. In order to book the seat, terms and conditions were required to be read and accepted manually. Due to my excitement, I skipped that important step and ended up signing the papers without even glancing at those papers. Soon the day came and enthusiastically when I was about to enter, the ushers stopped me and asked me to submit my cell phone. Me being me, I submitted my cell phone in an instant. Two hours passed and I was curiously listening to those intriguing talks when realization hit me that on that very day my cousin from California was arriving and he had asked me to stay on call with him and give him directions to help him reach home safely. I called out to an usher and told them about the whole situation and tried convincing them but all went in vain. I was in an ill-fated situation and scolded myself for being so ignorant towards those terms. I requested them dozen times but they could not break the rules due to my carelessness and as no other resort was left, I had to eventually give up that seminar and had to help my cousin. I immediately got my phone back and walked out of the seminar with a heavy heart as I was unable to attend the much awaited seminar for 10 long hours. That day I realized how important it was to always have my phone with me and how much I was dependent on it.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. For what purposes do people use cell phones for?**

Generally, people use cell phones for the purpose of making calls and having telephonic conversation. They also use it for the purpose of capturing moments either by clicking pictures or recording videos. Games are another favorite pass-time for which people mainly use phones.

#### **2. Are there any limitations of using a phone?**

Yes, surely there are some limitations of using a cell phone. Such as, it should not be used at a very close range from the eyes as the blue light which is emitted from the screens proves to be fatal as it damages the light-sensitive cells in the eyes. The brain's functioning gets hampered as well and sleep pattern of the person gets disrupted, making them feel fatigued.

#### **3. Is it vital to own a phone in today's era?**

Indeed, owning a phone in today's modern era is quite essential as it is the need of the hour and a lot of daily doings are dependent on the phones. It makes the working efficient by assisting people in their research and reminder works. It also provides a social standard to people who own certain top brands of phones like Apple, SAMSUNG and so on.

### **4. Do you think people are overly dependent on their cell phones?**

Yes, people are dependent on their cell phones to such an extent that they face certain problems such as addiction to their phones and weak eye vision. They cannot even imagine their lives without cell phones. They keep checking it after a couple of minutes even when they have not received any notification because they are simply anxious to check every update in the virtual world.

**OR**

No, I do not think that people are dependent on their phones in excess as they know the extent up-to which they need to use their phones and are also well aware of the ill-effects of using phones for long. They engage in many other things which keep them busy and away from their cell phones.

### **5. What do you think is the suitable age for owning a cell phone?**

As per my opinion, the suitable age for owning a cell phone is (18/21/etc) because when a person reaches that age, they are able to differentiate between the right and the wrong. They become independent and are able to make decisions for themselves which are rational and being aware about the limitations of the cell phone, they will refrain from using it in a foolish manner.

### **14. Describe a person in the news that you want to meet.**

**Name of that person.**

**What does he/she do?**

**How did you come across him/her on the news?**

**How would you feel after meeting him/her?**

News has a large platform from which it reaches the people. The source varies from paper to visual. I have been fond of watching news rather than reading as I am able to retain the date more that way. While watching news, the people I come across seem quite influential to me. One such person I remember watching is Greta Thunberg. She is a young 17 year old environmentalist from Sweden, who took the world by storm by her speech on the current degrading condition of the environment. I had come across her vibrant personality when I was shuffling between news channels to find something about the current world scenarios. Her speech was being telecasted on RussiaTV and her expressions of concern wooed me. She talked about how the current rate of destruction will not leave much for consumption for the future generations to come, and how the selfish world leaders have closely ruined her and many other teenager's future. I could relate to her so much so that since that day, she has become my role model and I have wished everyday to meet her. I would consider it my privilege to get an opportunity of sharing words with such a strong-headed girl. I would, firstly, tell her how much she has inspired me and my fellow age-mates. Her strong-willed efforts have motivated many young souls to come forward and voice their concerns over environment. If I am lucky enough to meet her, I would like to make a remarkable effort along with her to save the environment by raising awareness among the ignorant public. I would also want

## The Australian Academy

---

my friends to join us so that we would be able to make regional level impact in our society. I would be thankful if I am able to meet Greta and I hope that this dream of mine does come true.

### Follow-up Questions:

#### **1.Should public figures be their natural self or act in the domain of official decorum/capacity?**

Public personalities need to act naturally as the public expects them to be real and many times also follow in their footsteps. So, for this reason, celebrities need to be as real as possible so that they do not misguide the public.

OR

The public personalities need not act in their natural way as they have a certain image to uphold which can only be maintained by staying in a certain official decorum. The buzz and glamour around them does not let them be their natural self.

#### **2.Do you think journalists exploit the private space of famous personalities?**

It is a known fact that the journalists explore and exploit the private lives of the people who are famous. They get paid for the exclusive news that they deliver so many times this desire of getting more money makes them sneak into the private lives of famous people.

#### **3.Would you like to become famous?**

Yes, I would like to become famous as I, too would love to be recognized and have fame and money. I would live the life of a celebrity and make use of all the privileges that they get and be a role model for the general people.

OR

No, I would not like to be famous as I like the life that I am living right now. I appreciate the freedom and private space that I am having now.

#### **4.How would you react if you meet your favorite famous person?**

My favorite famous person is (name , eg- Lee Dong Wook) and if I ever get the privilege of meeting him, I firstly would be star-struck. Seeing him in front of my eyes will not be something that would be easier to believe since he is such a big star. I would express my pleasure of meeting him and would like to show him my collection of all achievements. I would also like to have a meal with him and get to know him better. I would click many pictures and also ask him to give me his signatures on his limited edition poster that I had spent all my savings on.

#### **5.Are famous people real or fake?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Famous people are pretty much real because they are also humans and have real needs and habits. This makes them similar to the public. They keep on motivating the people to excel in their field of work and are grounded as well. This adds up in making them a real person.

**OR**

The famous people can very well be regarded as fake because they have a certain image to maintain and for this, they sometimes act in a particular manner to form a certain type of impression on the people. This makes the public form a different personality of the person in their mind whereas in real, those famous people are nothing like that. They put on an act just to meet the standards set by the society and be acceptable by the public.

### **15. Describe an article that you read from a magazine or newspaper.**

**Name of the magazine/ newspaper.**

**What was the article about?**

**When did you read it?**

News is a piece of information about the happenings in the surrounding of an individual. News is of many types such as regional, national and international. Further, news articles are about crime, business, politics, situation vacant, events and so on. I have read a lot of news articles from various sources. Some have been beneficial for me, which have given me contentment, whereas others have taken me by surprise. One such article I remember reading was from The Chandigarh Tribune, of The Tribune series, which is a very popular newspaper among the denizens. I must have come across that article couple of months back, since it was regarding my final board exams and I was about to appear for the same, 2 weeks from the day I read that article. The headline of the article was intriguing which made me read the full article. As far as I recall, the headline of the article was, "Wash down the blues of exams". The way this headline was written caught my attention and I ended up reading it all. The article's main focus was on eliminating the exam stress and giving some methods which students can resort to in order to feel less pressurized. I read how short breaks in between long hours of studies proves to be beneficial and how students can learn quicker and maintain their concentration level. Moreover, water intake had to be made regular as it also results in better grasping of concepts as the body is kept energized. The article explained how exams should not be considered as the end evaluation process and be taken very seriously. It encouraged students to give their best and be cool with the results that they face. Certain counseling contact numbers were also provided for further assistance of students to better deal with the nerve-wrecking feeling of exams. After reading this article that day, I forwarded it to all my friends and classmates who were going to appear for the exams. All this information made this article quite useful for me and proved to be one of the most informative ones I have read till date.



### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1.Name some magazines/ newspapers that are read in your country.**

In my country, many magazines are popularly read by people such as Forbes India, Vogue India, India Today, Filmfare, GQ, Elle, Femina, The Week and so on.

**OR**

In my country, many newspapers are widely read by the people, namely The Tribune, The Hindu, The Economic Times, The Hindustan Times, The Statesman, Mumbai Mirror, Dainik Bhaskar, Amar Ujala and many more.

#### **2.Why do people read magazine/ newspaper?**

The main reason due to which people read magazine/ newspaper is because it gives them information about the happenings of the society and makes them aware about new additions as well as modifications made. Not only does it makes them more informative but also brings them closer to the society that they live in.

#### **3.Is newspaper facing any competition?**

Yes, in today's era, newspaper is facing a tough competition. News channels telecast the daily happenings in fraction of seconds due to which people prefer news channels than newspapers to gather information. Not only this, but news channels also provide news quicker, making people avoid reading the same news from the papers.

#### **4.Why do people dislike reading newspaper?**

The main reason of people disliking newspaper is because it takes a lot of time to read the news. Lack of time makes them restless and unwilling to read the news. Moreover, people believe that all news is not authentic. They do not have faith in journalists, making them avoid reading newspapers.

#### **5.What are your opinions about e-newspaper?**

In my opinion, the evolution of e-newspaper has been due to the need of the hour as it is quicker in deliverance of news and it is more feasible as well. People can access e-newspapers from anywhere and are not required to carry it with them as they are available over the net, thus, making it popular and widely acceptable.

#### **6.In your opinion, are newspapers more popular or magazines?**

As per my perspective, magazines are more popular as compared to newspaper since every magazine separately focuses on a different topic. Magazines such as Elle, Femina and Vogue, being women-centric are popular among females and Forbes, India Today and The Week being widely read by males.



OR

According to me, newspapers are more popular as compared to magazines as the former is cheaper and covers every aspect. Whereas, magazines are not only expensive but also cover a single issue. Newspapers are also present in multiple languages whereas it is quite challenging to find the same magazine in another language.

### **16. Describe a time when you were cheated or someone did not tell you the complete truth?**

**What was the occasion?**

**Who was the person?**

**What did he or she do?**

It is fairly a common experience to go through cheating, being cheated on is one of the worst experiences one can go through. The time that comes to my mind is when I completed my 12th grade. I can vividly recall the moment because it felt really bad. It was the time when I had just passed my 12th with good marks and insisted my parents to buy me a phone, although I did not have much knowledge about the electronic goods however I managed to search a good phone. The Samsung J phone costed me up to 14500/- and the store keeper offered me 500/- off. I was full of enthusiasm to unbox my new phone, but was suspicious about the price. I bought it for, so I asked few of my friends and searched it on google. To my surprise the price I purchased it for was higher than its actual cost as the original price was 12500/- the shopkeeper cleverly sold it to me for 14500/-. I hurried up to the shopkeeper but he refused to pay me back and did not have any clarification for what he did. I was really upset with the experience I had, that was the time I felt cheated and helpless and realized how it felt to be cheated.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Do you think people cheat intentionally? How can we secure ourselves by any kind of cheating?**

In my opinion people do not cheat intentionally but in contemporary world everyone follows the survival of the fittest and has become more self centered, so if one wants to secure oneself from cheating I will say trust yourself.

#### **2. What type of person cheats more?**

## The Australian Academy

---

It is hard to say what type of person cheats the most but I think the one who prefer to take short-cuts to accomplish their goals tend to cheat more often.

### **3. If somebody cheats us what can we learn from that?**

According to me every mistake is a lesson, so one must learn from that to avoid doing the same thing again, we can learn to take responsibility and keep promises. Moreover we can learn to trust ourselves.

### **4. What do you think: cheating can be intentional or by mistake?**

In my opinion, it depends upon the situation to accomplish his / her need the path that a person decides may lead him to cheat intentionally.

### **5. Do you think the person who cheats also suffers a lot?**

In my opinion, yes the people who cheat also suffer a lot. Firstly, it's hard for the person to face the person he / she cheated or moreover my grand-mother told me that what goes around comes around.

## **17. Talk about someone who encourages you to achieve goal**

**Who is the person?**

**How is he/she related to you?**

**How does he/she encourage you?**

I believe that everyone has that special person who always supports and encourages you to become better. For me that person is my mother. I was pretty good at school but somehow that didn't translate to good performance at work, at least when I first started working. I thought it was because I hadn't found the true calling, that one line of profession that really suits me. So, there was a period of time during which I changed jobs rather frequently. You know, it's not easy being a newbie in a field; you have to start from scratch, work hard but earn little. During this whole time, my mother was nothing but supportive, she didn't even complain at all. And I am really thankful for that, because in my country when you've graduated from college you're expected to have a stable job and support your family immediately. My mother was generous and let me experiment with whatever I felt like doing for some years. Without her financial and emotional support, it's likely that I would be doing something that I have no interest in just to make ends meet.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What is the difference between school and university education?**

## The Australian Academy

---

There is a myriad difference between school and university education. The predominant difference is university education is the first step in taking control of your own learning. Unlike high school, where you study certain subjects because they're compulsory, at university you can choose a course that suits your interests and abilities. The other differences can be about size, contact time, responsibility, research, restrictions.

### **2. Are there any changes that would need to be intended in teaching system?**

There are various changes that can be made to improve the teaching system. Firstly, there should be replacement of the back dated syllabus and there should be career oriented learning system and also educate the parents. There should be more focus on rural education and other ideas like introducing smart class and library also.

### **3. How do people decide for a course when they go to university?**

Before applying for studies in university, students try to figure out what they want to do in life. According to their choice, taste and passion they choose the career which they want to continue. The other factors like name and fame of university, their reputation, teaching staff, work placements etc. also play an important role.

### **4. Do you think academic degree is necessary for the success?**

All in all, university education is not the only way to success. Working hard, social skills, prominence, experiences and enthusiasm are more important than a degree. There are many successful people who do not hold a bachelor degree. To become successful in a profession, degrees are important. But to become successful in life, a degree is as important as money is to become happy.

### **5. Do you think play way is a better technique to teach the students?**

Play is the work of the children. Schools who are using play way method believe that learning is best through play activities. It rejuvenates the children in their leaning. It enhances their learning abilities. Play-way method of teaching give free reign to a child's curiosity and helps a child to grow and bloom. A child understands his needs and goals while playing. So play can be an effective way of teaching children.

### **6. What is your opinion of modern education in schools?**

I think that modern day education has changed for the better. The schools today have smart classes and technology has been incorporated really well in the classroom. Also, focus now is also shifting from an exam-based approach to a more learner friendly approach.

### **7. What school subjects do you think are more important? Why are they important?**

I think that all the subjects currently a part of school curriculums are essential for the holistic development of a child. These subjects range from science, languages, literature, history, social science, moral science, etc.

### **8. What school subjects do you think will be most useful in adult life?**

I believe that all the subjects that we are taught in the school time help lay the foundation of a good citizen. Through mathematics we learn to do everyday calculations, through history we stay connected to our roots, through social sciences we get to know about society, laws, and rules and so on.

### **18. Describe your idea of a perfect home or dream house?**

**Where it would be?**

**How big would it be?**

**What would it contain?**

Home is where the heart is, well I like the house I currently live in but it is not the ideal home. I have in my mind. As I hear the word perfect home, various images come in my mind but to start with, I would prefer my perfect home would be far away from the city crowd and pollution. I can picture a house filled with inner and outer happiness at a wonderful location with fancy interiors and spacious, with all the luxuries in it, a small library and a music station with a large screen and some gaming devices. On the exterior a lawn and a swimming pool with a sunset view on the seaside. I would love to live with my family and I would often invite my friends and relatives to have parties at our house. Moreover being a health conscious person. I would prefer a personal gaming section and basketball court. I think there are many aspects to it which are missing but this is what my idea of a perfect home is.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What are the difference between flats and individual houses?**

According to me house is a self contained dwelling with its own individual entrance, it is completely separated from neighboring house, whereas flats are small apartments in a building. This is the difference I see between flats and individual houses.

#### **2. Why are there congested houses in metro cities?**

Shelter is the basic human requirement and the problem of congested houses in metro cities has further been compounded by rapid increase in urban population which causes unbearable strain on urban housing and basic services.

#### **3. Do people love to live in joint family in your city?**

According to me, no, nowadays people do not like to live in joint family due to increase in the trends of nuclear family, the major issue person faces in joint family is understanding and adjusting.

#### **4. Do all the people have their own home in your country?**

To be honest no, people in my country do not have their own homes even I read it in newspaper that around 31% of people are landless in my country.

### **5. Is it costly to build a house?**

Personally speaking, yes of course it is costly to build a house in today's world due to increase in the expenses and low wages. It is really tough to own one's own house.

## **19. Talk about a gift for which you spent long time to choose.**

**what the gift was?**

**for whom did you want to purchase?**

**Why did you take long time?**

The art of giving and receiving things which provides happiness and joy is known as gifting. In my country, people exchange gifts on various occasions like birthdays, festivals and on other moments to say thank you and to share gala moments with their near and dear ones. These activities also make our relationships stronger with them. That is why, gifts are also called as token of love. Here, I would like to talk about the moment when I spent long time to choose a gift. I vividly remember that my nephew got first position in his Matric examination and his family organized a sit-together for kith and kin to celebrate this gala moment. I was confused and perplexed to choose a gift to congratulate him to make him feel happy and special. But, I was unable to find anything useful as there is a lack of shops near the place I live. Then my alter ego suggested me to go to Central mall to purchase something useful and appealing for my loved one. I thought for many things as a gift for him, but I rejected all those ideas considering ins and outs of my choices. After searching for 3 days, finally I found a dictionary which looked very captivating by its color and shape. I found this present quite important and efficacious and according to his taste. When he received this gift he was so elated and the smile on his face provided satiation to me. He was so grateful to me as he didn't have the dictionary. Now, if I think about that moment, my body fills with joy and I feel so confident that I have the ability to choose gifts for others according to their needs and choices.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What does a gift show?**

Gifts are sincere expressions of love and affection that giver has for the receiver. Certain feelings and emotions are expressed with the help of gifts when people find it a herculean task to speak in words like proposing one's love of life for marriage by offering a ring. Gifting is an excellent way to please or cheer someone special.

#### **2. What do you think about the future of trend of giving gifts?**

I personally feel that future of gifting is going to be bright enough as advancement in technology has offered endless and never exhausting variety of gifts. Even people need not visit personally to offer a gift,

they can place an order online and gift would be sent by the online trading companies on the desired day and date which will further going to be all the rage.

### **3. How do you compare gifting in the past and now?**

With the passage of time, the craze for giving gifts has increased tremendously. Gone are the days, when people used to have limited occasions to give gifts, however in today's world due to globalization people have started celebrating foreign festivals as well. Therefore, more gifts are given now as compared to yesteryears.

### **4. Who do you think is more prone to gifts youngsters or old age people?**

No doubt, young age people are always behind gifts as they are full of energy so they keep on finding reasons for gifts. They go through several transitional phases of life at that time where they befriend with strangers and get separated from their close friends. In order to make their friendship long-lasting they are more indulged in exchanging gifts. However, old age people have traditional mindset and value occasions and money as well. So they only give gifts on gala days.

### **5. In modern era, companies distribute gifts to their employees. Why do you think they give gifts?**

Employees are the valuable assets for the company so in order to make them feel special companies distribute gifts. Moreover, it strengthens the bond between employers and employees by nurturing the sense of belongingness. Gifts spread happiness among the workforce thus their dedication and loyalty increase from bottom of their heart.

## **20. Talk about a toy you liked in your childhood.**

**What the toy was?**

**Who gave it to you?**

**Why did you like it?**

Toys are objects which are made for child to play with. There are multifarious toys available in the market to purchase such as dollhouse, a stuffed animal or a set of blocks these days. Playing with toys can be an enjoyable means of training young children for life in society. Here, I would like to talk about my favorite toy that was a doll. I distinctly remember when I was five years old my grandmother brought a doll for me from Shimla. It looked so attractive because of its curly brown hair and deep grey eyes. I literally paid a lot of attention to her semblance and liked to dress in the latest and most excessive fashion. I had given her a name Razi. I always treated her as my daughter. I used to feed her before taking my food. Even, I never slept without her. Once, I took her to school and was scolded by my class- teacher also. A lot of memories are attached with that doll. I never shared my doll even with my alter- ego. I learnt to develop my cognitive, fine motor and self-help skills. What I found very interesting was I loved to practice my skills on her before applying on someone. By taking care of her, I learnt how to take care of my grandmother. Nowadays, I have placed this doll in the showcase of my room. She reminds me about my grandmother. A



lot of my memories are attached with this precious gift. I still cherish every moment of my childhood when I have a glimpse on this. Moreover, I will always carry this doll with me in my future wherever I go as I have a special attachment with this toy.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Do you think that children should play more rather than adults?**

According to me yes of course children should play more than adults as it is their growing age and physical exercise is must whereas adults have many other activities to do thus its hard for them to invest energy in playing.

#### **2. What kind of difference have you noticed in way of entertainment in children in past 10 years?**

There is huge difference which can be seen in the ways of entertainment in children as earlier kids use to have more physical activities and stayed healthier but nowadays children spend more time on phones and gadgets rather than playing outside.

#### **3. Do you think sports reduce mental pressure?**

I personally feel that when one is physically active, your mind is distracted from daily stressors. Sports are natural mood-lifters that can keep stress and depression at bay. Physical activities such as sports stimulate the body's production of chemicals that are responsible for the positive changes in an individual's mood.

#### **4. What is the difference between traditional and modern games?**

Earlier, people used to play games like ludo, carom board, snake ladder, kho-kho, kabaddi where there was no need of technological equipments but physical efforts while in this modern era, most of the games are played with the help of electronic gadgets .Traditional games help in health development of children while modern games help just to pass time and make them lethargic.

#### **5. People believe that outdoor games are more efficacious rather than indoor games.**

##### **What is your perspective?**

Yes, outdoor games such as basketball, cricket and badminton are more beneficial because these help in overall growth of the body. It helps in blood circulation, stretching the muscles and increasing the height of person.

#### **6. How sports and games help children to galvanize their mind?**

Sports and games rejuvenate the children's mind because these act as a stress buster. Moreover, these are source of amusement and help in getting rid of one's tension.

#### **7. What are the common games which children like to play in their childhood?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Children in their childhood play various games such as hide and seek, hopscotch or stapoo, marbles, kho-kho and other video games on computers as well as on other electronic gadgets.

### **8. Why some people pursue their career in games and sports?**

People like to have their career in these fields because they want to get name and fame across the world. Furthermore, they can get a handsome amount of money like an eminent sportsperson. In addition to it, they can also get respect in the society.

### **21. Describe a picture or photograph in your Home.**

**What is it about?**

**Where is it in your home?**

**Why do you like it?**

Mobile phones have made taking pictures a child's play these days. We can take numerous pictures, however there are always a few selected pictures which are close to our heart and we love to frame it and hang it on the wall of our home. I would love to talk about a family photograph here which holds a special place in my heart as well as at my home. This picture enhances the beauty of our living room along with a couple of other photos. It has always been a cynosure for visitors at my home. Their eyes stay glued on it for a while. To tell more about the picture, it's of my husband, my son and I. It was taken at night time under a tunnel. The foreground of the picture is covered with the all three. I am slightly leaned against my husband who holds me from behind. I have put my arms around my son. My son is in playful and cheerful mood. A blissful smile can be seen on his face which is otherwise very rare. The picture has a yellow tint all around which is all due to yellow coloured lights on the ceiling of the tunnel. Car we were travelling in is also in the background. The picture quality is matchless since it was taken from an excellent quality camera. Entire innocence and some adventurous experience of visiting the newly built and longer tunnel can be seen on our face. I have made this picture wallpaper for my mobile phone. I remember it because it brings back great memories of an amazing holiday which is rare in hectic schedule of work these days.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What differences have you noticed in the way of taking photographs in the past years and now?**

If I say about past years, photographs were taken by professionals only and with the traditional cameras only on special occasions which was very expensive but nowadays people have their mobile phones and they love to capture each and every moment of their life.

### **2. Who do you think take more photos and why?**

Honestly speaking, it is youngsters who love to take a number of pictures. However, old age people are not much into taking pictures. Youngsters don't even leave a chance to take pictures wherever they are. No doubt, the trend of taking selfies is also gaining ground because of teenagers.

### **3. Why do you think people sometimes delete the photos?**

There can be different reasons for deleting pictures. The first one which I think is, photos are not clear or the blurred one. Sometimes they find that their phone memory is running out of space so they have to delete it.

### **4. Why do you think people are so much crazy to take photos these days?**

People have become insane to take their selfies. In fact, I have heard many cases where they have lost their lives since they were taking selfies at the deadliest places, might be on the hilltops or amid the rivers.

### **5. What kind of changes would you expect in the way of taking photograph in future?**

I'm not much into technology but what I can expect is in future people will be behind live photos and they would love to capture live photos only. Another thing that might happen is that various filters would be added to the camera of the mobile phone to the extent that instead of taking help of other photo editing apps, people would love to take pictures using filters instantly.

### **6. Do you think children should learn photography?**

Yes of course. Children can make their career in photography. They can earn handsome amount of money by adopting photography as a profession. Photography provides them various options to showcase their talent of taking pictures. Plenty of exhibitions are organised which display wildlife, landscape, culture and traditions of a particular region and in fact the real picture of society.

## **22. Describe a special day that made you happy.**

**When was it?**

**What was the occasion?**

**Why did it make you happy?**

I am a jovial and good-humored person so I remain happy and delighted almost all the time. Today, I would like to speak about the day which holds a special place in my heart. It was 2 years back after completing my post graduation. I still remember the day and date vividly, since I got my first salary on that day. After completing my education, I started working in a school in my hometown as a teacher. It was my first job which was making me confident with each passing day. Time passed swiftly and the day arrived when I was about to receive my first salary. My heart beat increased like anything. As soon as, I received salary in my hand, tears rolled down my eyes as I could not control my emotions. All my seniors

congratulated me and gave me best wishes for my future. I felt like on seventh heaven. I felt like I could purchase the whole world from that money. When I reached home, I handed over all the money to my mother and touched her feet to seek blessings. She hugged me and showered blessings on me. Though, I only got 5000 rupees but it was like winning a gold medal for me. My mother suggested me to use this money for helping the poor and needy people. So I went to orphanage with some sweets and some toys for children over there. They all seemed extremely delighted upon receiving sweets and toys. Their smile filled a sense of satisfaction in me. In the end, I would like to say that memories of that day would always remain fresh in my mind.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Why do some people like to do parties while others hate it?**

According to me, some people like to celebrate their happiness with family and friends through parties. They throw these parties to spend some time with their close ones and also like to connect with them at that time. They also like to show their status whereas some people don't like to do parties because they think it is a waste of their time and money.

#### **2. What do people like to do in parties?**

In my opinion, People like to mingle with other party members and enjoy their time which they often don't get due to their busy schedule. They like to gossip and tell each other what is happening in life and also about their happy and sad moments. They mostly enjoy the company of others and also enjoy the lively environment.

#### **3. What type of clothes people like to wear in parties?**

People like to wear clothes as per their choice. Elderly people mostly prefer to wear traditional clothes according to their religion but younger people like to follow fashion and wear western clothes which are in the trend. Some parties are theme parties in which there is a particular dress code that people have to follow.

#### **4. What do you do if guests feel bored?**

Firstly, I think people will not feel bored if there is a proper arrangement of their entertainment. But if this ever happens, I try to cheer them up by playing games. I also try to arrange some games which they will enjoy and have fun or we can do some dancing competition or music which will definitely diminish their boredom.

#### **5. What is the difference between birthday and marriage party?**

In my opinion, birthday parties are held on the day of birthday or weekend when most people are available. There are arrangements of food, music and games while marriage parties describe people in wedding such as bride, bridegroom, maid of honor, best men etc. There is also reception party which is extravagant and held in grand hall and there is massive cake and food and also DJ party.

#### **6. Which generation like to do parties and where?**

I think younger people and adults like to do most parties as elder people do not like these noisy parties. Young generation, mostly like to enjoy parties outside their home as there will be no supervision by their parents. They mostly enjoy the places like clubs and restaurants where they can have loud music as well as food and can enjoy their time with friends.

### **23. A time when you first met someone:**

**Who the person was?**

**When and how did you meet him/her?**

**How did you feel after meeting?**

Honestly speaking, I am truly a vivacious person and due to this reason I always make new friends wherever I go. I vividly remember that last year I enrolled in art and craft classes in the afternoon session. And on my very first day I interacted with a boy who was also there to learn craft work. So, being an extrovert I took the first move to begin the conversation and with the passage of time we made strong bonding in helping each other for any difficult task. The reason I got fascinated to talk to him was his decency and dressing style. Further, I got to know that he is a theatre artist and therefore, he has good hold on his native language and appearance wise, he has a charismatic personality. In addition to this, I have realized that in past one year we both have certainly grown as a human being, the reason is art and craft means skillful brilliant work, where flawless efforts, patience, keen observation and above all passion is needed to activate the mind in such a way that a person gains unique as well as lifelong art to beautify things. I remember correctly that after five weeks when the course was completed we both appeared for the final test whereby our course tutor was supposed to assess our knowledge about craft and how flawlessly the learners are able to showcase their ability, talent and potential of giving life to a creative, innovative work. Finally, we faced the challenge of making best out of waste and the participants had to select material and on the spot took decision of what exactly their outcome means final item would be. I can clearly recall that moment, when we exchanged glare and decided what exactly we will produce out of discarded material. As per the result we both stood second and till now whenever we meet, there is always a room for conversation about the overall experience we gained through those invaluable classes. And finally, I can say that we meet in person and are also connected through social media and we still share any new learning experience which we gain to broaden our horizon.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Do you think every person must have an ideal person?**

It is hard to say if every person must have an ideal person but in my opinion once and then everyone admires a person in life that they want to be like it can be anyone their family member, actor or actress.

#### **2. What types of people are liked?**

## The Australian Academy

---

In my opinion people who are extrovert and benevolent by nature are mostly liked by the people but on the other hand it may also differ from person to person as everyone has their own personal opinions to like someone.

### **3. Which types of people are not liked?**

According to me the people who are arrogant and annoying are not mostly liked by the people as it is hard to find people with same interest these days.

### **4. Do you think one can improve his or her performance?**

Improving one's performance is not a difficult task as learning is the aspect in life which has no end to, so yes of course one can improve one's performance at anytime.

### **5. Do you think time management also plays a good role in workplace?**

In my opinion time plays a vital role in everyone's life. On the other hand managing time plays a significant role in every aspect and work place as time management is a key to success.

## **24. Describe the happiest day you had.**

**When it was**

**Where it was**

**What you did**

**And explain why it was the happiest day for you.**

Life has treated me beautifully and I have been through many delightful moments but here I would like to talk about a time which was indeed the best day of my life. Last Monday, I had to appear for a driving test to get my driving license issued. I was already taking classes for the past one month and practicing twice a day to polish my steering control. I braced myself with road rules and regulations also. My trainer had full confidence in my driving but I was not very sure as I had already failed once. On the fateful day, I reached the test circuit and got all the formalities done. I was all jittery inside but somehow tried to keep myself calm. As soon as I turned on the ignition, I gathered all my confidence and started driving. I kept following the instructions and completed the test. As soon as I alighted from the car, the instructor handed over my result sheet. My hands were trembling and I could not muster enough courage to read it but then eventually when I did, I was elated. My happiness knew no bounds when I saw that I had cleared all the levels without any fail. I could not control my happiness and tears started rolling down my eyes. For a moment, everything seemed like a dream. I reached home and shared the news with my parents. My mother hugged me but my father went inside his room without saying anything. I was a bit perplexed by his reaction. Before I could say anything, he came and handed me the keys of his car. That was it...the best and the happiest moment of my life!



### Follow-up Questions:

#### 1. Do you think money can buy happiness?

Money can help us in procuring materialistic things. To a certain extent, the fulfillment of needs and comforts brings happiness but it is short-lived. The real joy lies in spending quality time with near and dear ones and to be able to enjoy life's little pleasures which are priceless.

#### 2. What do you do to make yourself happy?

I am a very content soul. I appreciate the small pleasures of life and do not complain. Since I am very passionate about cooking, preparing a tasty and delicious dish makes me happy. Listening to soulful songs, painting a few strokes with brush or even watering the plants brings a smile on my face.

#### 3. Do you think children are happier than adults?

Childhood is an age when one is free of any worries. There are no deadlines to meet and the mind is not racing against time. They are not burdened with any responsibilities and can relish the smallest of happiness, without being judgemental. So yes, definitely they are happier than adults.

#### 4. What is more important, success or happiness?

A happy individual always feels successful but the converse is not always true. To be happy is the ultimate aim of every person but being successful is not a reflection of happiness. Sometimes, in pursuit of goal achievement, one tends to deviate from the focus leading to disillusionment and dissatisfaction. Happiness, being long lasting and limitless, scores above success.

### 25. Describe a difficult challenge that you completed.

**What it was**

**Why it was difficult**

**How you did it**

**And explain what you learnt from that challenge.**

Life is not always perfect. One can never be sure of what's in store. There are days when everything goes perfect; life is actually bliss but then there are times when we have to confront a challenging situation. Here, I would like to talk about a difficult situation I was thrown into, all of a sudden. Last year in the month of January, I was driving to Kasauli with one of my friend. The weather was perfect with low lying clouds against the backdrop of hilly terrain. We were having a gala time when suddenly the car started

wobbling. Immediately I slowed down and parked before the next turn. On getting down, we noticed a flat tyre. Gosh, that actually scared us because none of us had changed the tyre before. I tried calling 24X7 helpline but the network did not support the call. It was already 3 pm and it gets dark early in the hills. We thought of taking help from the passers-by but unfortunately, there weren't many. With no help at hand, I suggested to give it a try myself. I had a rough idea about the procedure but still I asked my friend to search it on You Tube. Initially, setting the jack and taking out the flat tyre seemed like impossible but with continuous efforts, I finally managed it. My friend was constantly guiding me and gradually, things fell into the right place. After a lapse of around 90 minutes, it was done. I was totally drained out physically, but the contentment and happiness of task-accomplishment was beyond description. It was a learning experience for me as well. I realized that it's very important to be aware of all the aspects of car. It taught me of my potential to handle difficult situations and my strength, both physical as well as mental.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1.Do most of the people love challenges?**

Most people are conservative and risk-averse. They have a following-the-herd mentality. They are happy and content in their own comfort zones. It takes a lot of guts to go against the conventions and challenge the set-up.

#### **2.How difficult it is to move out of your comfort zone?**

It takes a lot of courage to move away from the secure environs. The ones who are enterprising and have a far vision are the ones who dare to scale the mountains of unconventional. The rest prefer to be in their comfort zone.

#### **3.What can one learn from a challenging situation?**

A challenging situation exposes you to real-world problems. It is actually a test of your capabilities. The mistakes you commit make you a stronger person and you emerge from the situation as more learned and mature individual.

#### **4.Why do people fail to reach their target?**

Lack of planning is the primary reason for missing the target. People have faulty execution, may be because of haste or due to lack of periodical monitoring of progress. People do not take corrective action for the deviation in the path to their goal.

### **26. Describe a crowded place you have visited.**

**Which place it was**

**When you visited it**

**Why you visited that place**

**And explain how you felt while you were there**

## The Australian Academy

---

I would like to talk about my recent movie-watching experience that was truly unforgettable due to the massive amount of people I encountered while I was there. My favorite cine-star is XYZ and I am his biggest fan. I always watch first day first show of all his releases. Likewise, this time also I was super excited as it was coming after a gap of two years. I had booked my online tickets in advance. When I reached ABC Mall at 11:00am, I was amazed to see the euphoria. It seemed as if the whole of city had flocked together. Somehow, I managed to get a parking in the second basement. When I reached the elevator, there was a serpentine line of youngsters waiting to get in. It was quite frustrating to wait for my turn as the clock was ticking. It was already 11:30 and the show was scheduled at 11:45. I did not want to miss the opening scene. I jostled through the crowd and entered the lift. I was feeling claustrophobic inside and could hardly breathe. I could not bear the conflicting smells of sweat and perfume and felt like puking. All my excitement was dwindling and for the first time in my life, I repented my decision of watching the first day first show. Even inside, I was not comfortable and during half time, I just got up, took my car and drove back home. I fell on the couch and slept. It took me two hours of sound sleep to shake off that nightmarish experience.

### Follow-up Questions:

#### 1.What places do you think are often crowded?

Usually, one can see a swarm of people at transportation hubs like metro stations, airports and bus terminals. Commercial centers, movie theatres and exhibition grounds are also crowded.

#### 2.Are there any risks in crowded areas?

Getting lost, getting pick-pocketed and getting hurt are some of the major risks associated with crowded places. One can contract contagious diseases and thus fall sick. Crowded places also tend to become a feeding ground for rumour-mongers.

#### 3.Why do people avoid going to populous places?

People refrain from thronging populous places to avoid getting hurt or lost. No one wants to jostle to access the basic necessities like food, water or sanitation facilities. The fear of being robbed puts off many an individual from crowded places.

#### 4.What are the occasions when people love to throng crowded areas?

Music concerts, religious processions, political rallies and carnivals are some of the occasions which attract a large number of people. The arrival of a celebrity, be it a sportsman or a movie-star, also brings zillions of people at one place.

### **27. Job you would not like to do in future.**

**What it was**

**Why you took that job**

**How you felt**

**And explain why you disliked that job**

Education equips an individual with certain kind of knowledge that assures him or her, a fulfilling career. When I completed my MBA in Marketing and Finance, I got a job offer from a renowned FMCG company. My happiness knew no bounds because this company was a name to reckon with in the field of marketing and getting to start one's career with a brand name was like a dream come true. I was baby-stepping into the world of marketing with a corporate giant. With a gleam in my eyes, I reached the office. After a brief orientation, I was assigned a list of 50 distributors in North Delhi whom I had to physically visit, take note of their stock supplies and promote a to-be-launched product of the company. The deadline was of 3 days. They gave me a heavy bag full of promotional products along with the necessary documents and here I was, out on the busy roads of Delhi. My first destination was around half an hour drive from the office. On reaching, I was told that the concerned person would arrive in afternoon and the junior staff was not willing to help. A little disappointed, I moved on to the next one and I thought of calling him beforehand. Getting a confirmation lifted my spirits and with renewed enthusiasm, I reached his shop. All said and done, when I asked him to provide a display space for the new product, he blatantly refused and instead, returned me the previous stocks and supplies. I was shattered; tears welled up in my eyes. Never before had I faced so much rejection and failure and I really doubted my capabilities. Braving the heavy traffic and scorching sun, I continued but till late evening, success eluded me. More than physical exhaustion, I had mental fatigue. The clock was ticking by but the next two days were even worse. I was a complete failure at convincing people. I realized marketing was not my cup of tea, so I offered my resignation and vouched never to try my hands at it again.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What is more important, money or job-satisfaction?**

Earning money is the primary motive for taking up any job. After all, it fulfills the basic survival needs of life. In the initial years of career, money is more important but gradually, job satisfaction gains a priority. Age is another element that advocates the importance of job-satisfaction over money.

#### **2. What kinds of jobs people don't want to take up in your country?**

There are a few professions which do not have any takers. Jobs that require physically-strenuous activities like construction, mining and even overnight driving are not preferred easily. Similarly, menial jobs like sanitation, cleaning sewers, garbage collection etc are also low on the list.

### **3.How can one ensure good work-life balance?**

In the modern fast-paced epoch, work seems to have taken precedence over everything else, be it family or entertainment or even creativity. The desire to succeed professionally has overtaken our emotional well-being. In order to create a harmonious work-life balance, one should prioritize the needs. Instead of striving for perfect schedule, one should aim for realistic goals. Timely sabbaticals, vacations with family and not attaching undue importance to money can surely help in attaining work-life equilibrium.

### **4.Who is a better advisor about choice of job: teachers or parents?**

I believe that parents are a better advisor vis-à-vis teachers because they know the ins and outs of their wards. A teacher spends limited time and that too, in the capacity of specialized knowledge. He may not be aware of the emotional attributes or background of the student whereas parents, though not always technically-sound, are the best judge of their offsprings. They can motivate their children more effectively and push them beyond their limits more convincingly.

### **28.Describe a uniform you wear at your school or company.**

**What it is**

**Why you wear it**

**How often do you wear it**

**And explain how you feel when you wear it**

Uniform refers to a set of standard clothing that is worn by members of any school or organization. It is a representation of an institution and highlights its image, which is easily recognizable and distinguishing. Usually, the armed forces, schools, medical workforce, police, emergency services and manufacturing units have a uniform. Here I would like to talk about my school uniform. I studied in a convent co-educational school. The uniform comprised of white shirt and navy blue pleated divided skirt for girls and trousers for the boys. A blue belt with school emblem engraved on it along with blue and white striped tie was compulsory to wear every day. The look was complemented by black leather shoes and white socks. This was a regular uniform for all five days but on Saturdays, the navy blue attire was replaced by white and instead of black shoes, white fleet shoes were worn. In winters, there was a navy blue blazer and sweater. While in school, I was not always very cool about wearing uniform but now, as an adult I realize it's worth. I can proudly relate to it and feel a sense of solidarity. Moreover, it instills a notion of equality and brotherhood amongst all and also saves one from the effort of choosing what to wear. It creates a sense of belonging that is crucial for team-building and productivity. So, I can easily say that uniform has played an imperative role in my life.

### Follow-up Questions:

#### 1. For which jobs are people required to wear a uniform in your country?

Generally, the armed forces and service sectors like police, medical staff, fire fighters, hospitality industry and people working in factories are required to wear uniform. Apart from these, workforce in food, sanitation, public transport, pest control, construction and mining are also governed under this dictum.

#### 2. What are the benefits of having a uniform at work?

Uniform denotes equality. It projects unity and team spirit. It is the face of any institution or organization. It makes one stand out in a crowd and also takes away the financial burden of buying clothes every now and then. So, it is definitely very beneficial.

#### 3. Is there any change in people's behavior when they wear a uniform?

Donning a uniform inculcates a sense of pride and belongingness in an individual. It fuels the feeling of loyalty and a keen sense of responsibility towards the organization. There is no behavioral discrimination as uniform brings everyone on the same platform, thus ensuring mutual growth.

#### 4. Should school uniforms be enforced on students?

Yes, I agree that there should be an emphasis on wearing same clothing on all students in a school. It inculcates a sense of unity and discipline in the students. It reduces the possibilities of bullying and peer pressure owing to kind of clothes one wears. Uniforms help them to focus on their studies rather than on fashion. So, in my opinion, they should be made mandatory.

### 29. Describe a situation or a time when you helped someone.

**Who you helped**

**When you helped them**

**How you helped them**

**And explain how this person benefitted from your help.**

Help is a noble virtue which was deeply instilled in me right from my childhood by my parents. Whenever I see anyone in need, I cannot resist helping. I feel very content if my small contribution can bring a smile on someone's face. Here, I would like to quote an instance where I lent a helping hand to an old couple. I was travelling from Chandigarh to Delhi by train. I had booked a window seat and was settled comfortably. The rest two seats were vacant. After an hour, the train stopped at Ambala and I saw an aged



couple searching for particular seats, which were actually next to me. The porter was in a hurry so he had left their luggage at the entrance. They were struggling to push the heavy suitcases. I could feel their misery. When nobody around offered to help, I immediately got up and reached to their rescue. First of all, I requested them to be seated on the berth lest they fall because the train had gained speed. They were reluctant as their entire focus was on their luggage. I tried to calm them down and started placing their suitcases near their seat. It took a while to settle everything but eventually it was done. The lady wanted to confirm to her son that they had safely boarded the train but unfortunately, her phone battery was discharged. Sensing her anxiety, I offered my phone. It took a lot of coaxing but she did make a call using my phone. The couple was so overwhelmed by my gestures that they thanked me repeatedly, showering me with the choicest of blessings. We started talking and they shared funny anecdotes about their life which were hilarious. Time just raced by and it dawned upon me that I had to alight at the next stop. While I was getting ready with my luggage, both of them took my hand in theirs and thanked me again. Tears welled up in their eyes and I could feel the emotional connect. It was the most magical feeling I've ever had and I thanked God for letting me do this.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. Why do people help others?**

Majorly speaking, people help others because it gives them happiness. They get a sense of satisfaction when they are of some good to others. It brings out a better version of their self which is beneficial for everyone as a whole. Some people help others for mutual benefits too.

#### **2. Do you think that the virtue of helping others is slowly fading?**

The present day human has become too materialistic and self-absorbed. He will remain immune to others' needs and wants as long as he is not affected directly but the moment it concerns him, he doesn't shy from being selfish and extends his help. The desperation to get richer and more successful than his contemporaries has made one emotionless and lead to the downfall of noble virtues in society.

#### **3. What are some of the ways in which people can help others?**

Help doesn't always equate monetary support. A few kind words, a gentle hug or even lending an ear to someone's grief can make a huge difference. Giving appropriate guidance, helping someone cross the road, offering a lift or by just being empathetic towards one's miseries are some of the ways to help.

#### **4. How can you encourage children to help others?**

Children are a true reflection of their parents in the society. They replicate the behavior and moral values which are instilled in them by their guardians. Involving them in household activities is the first step in this direction. Parents can also teach them by volunteering and donating as a family. Asking the kids to shell out a small part of their piggy-bank savings for the needy will develop it into a regular habit.

### **30. Describe an indoor game that you liked to play when you were a child.**

**What the game was**

**How and when you played it**

**Who you played this game with**

**And explain why you played enjoying this game**

Games and sports have always been an integral part of my growing up years. I used to play both indoor and outdoor games with my friends but here I would like to mention about an old but popular indoor game which I was addicted to. It is a pen-paper based game known as Name, Place, Animal and Thing and can be played with 2 or more players. It is a fun mind game wherein one is challenged to write in all the categories with a particular alphabet, chosen randomly, as fast as one can. The moment a player finishes writing in all columns, he or she stops other players from writing. For every correct answer, 10 points are rewarded and if there is a tie, each gets 5 points. Similarly, an invalid answer or a blank is awarded 0 points. I remember playing this game with my bunch of school friends, incidentally my neighbors too, during summer vacations. Daytime used to be very hot outside and we were bored of typical board games, so it turned out to be a good alternative. The game was both fun and educational in the fact that it enhanced my vocabulary and broadened my horizon of English as well as General Knowledge. We were always eager for new words and their synonyms. With time, we developed modified versions of the game by introducing new rules and categories that increased its complexity as well. It's been ages since I played this game but given an option, I would definitely be game for it, anytime.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1. What kind of games do children play these days?**

Computer gaming is the latest fad amongst children these days. They are glued to their smart phones, laptops or gaming consoles to play technology-based games.

#### **2. Do you think that winning is the ultimate goal for playing games?**

Winning is important but it should not be the only goal for playing games. There are other important attributes like team-spirit, co-operation, acceptance of failure, strategy-building and implementation which one learns while playing.

#### **3. How can one handle failures?**

The first thing to do is to own your failure. Accepting it as a temporary defeat, yet maintaining a calm demeanor is the next step. Keep the communication channel open, ponder over the factors that lead to the failure and taking them as a stepping stone to success can help in overcoming failures.

### **4.Do you think the children are losing interest in physical activities in your country?**

Honestly speaking, it pains me to say that the children in contemporary era are not keen on physical activities in my country. They are addicted to screens, be it a laptop, mobile or console. They have become couch potatoes because of this tendency which is reflected in the rise of lifestyle diseases in children.

### **31.A performance you recently watched.**

**What kind of performance it was**

**When and where you saw it**

**Who the performer was**

**And explain how you felt about this performance.**

Right from my childhood, I was interested in theatrical performances and I vividly remember watching many live performances, held in my city, with my parents. But now, due to paucity of time, I rarely get time for such creative pursuits although I seriously yearn for them. Recently, I had gone to Delhi to visit my brother. My niece, who is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, had her school annual function on Sunday and since I was staying over the weekend, she requested me to come along. I was both eager and excited to watch her perform. On the D-day, we reached her school auditorium and settled in the front row so that we could record her performance. The theme of the show was “Indian Mythology- churning of the ocean” and the stage was beautifully decorated. After the initial formalities of lighting of lamp and welcome speech by the Principal, the program began. The colorful costumes, crystal-clear acoustics, laser lighting, make-up, and back-ground score- it all seemed magical. It was a perfect display of Indian ethnicity coupled with stellar performance by all the students. The audience was in awe of the grandeur of the show. I was anxiously waiting for the solo performance of my niece. Finally, that moment arrived. As she began dancing, I was impressed by her flawlessly graceful moves. Her expressions were fabulous and she performed with a rhythmic flowing finesse that was worth a standing ovation. It was like a cherry on the cake. The audience did not stop applauding for a good 10 minutes and I felt very proud of my niece. I literally thanked my brother for letting me be a part of this wonderful and eclectic visual treat.

### **Follow-up Questions:**

#### **1.Do you think theatrical arts should be a part of school curriculum?**

There is no denying the fact that theatrical arts act as a stress-buster and help in rejuvenating the mind. They act as a gateway to our rich cultural heritage. They are crucial in understanding the human development, hence, should be an integral part of school curriculum.

#### **2.Does the government in your country support cultural activities?**

Of late, there has been a multi-fold increase in the government support towards cultural activities. The art galleries have earned the patronage of local governing authorities. Art and culture are being promoted as plausible career options and are competent enough to generate a sustainable income.

#### **3.If given a choice, which performing art would you like to pursue?**

I appreciate art in all forms of expressions but given an option, I would like to pursue dance form. I would use my facial and body movements to convey my emotions. It would also help me to explore and approach situations in an array of manners, thereby bringing out my creativity.

### **4.Do you think children can learn some attributes by watching theatrical performances?**

Being involved in music, dance and drama results in numerous benefits in children. They build upon their social, emotional and physical skills. They improve on their articulation and presentation traits as well. It gives them a respite from their hectic study schedules and could be helpful for their career too.

### **32.Describe one of your family members you spend most of your time with.**

**Who is that person?**

**How are you related to him/her?**

**How do you spend time with that person?**

Family is the most significant part of life. It stays with a person, right from the beginning till the very end. Family is a universal concept but is diverse in nature as it exists in different forms such as joint family, nuclear family, childless family, extended family and so on. But each family has some certain set of members who constitute this social group. I come from a nuclear family and we are 4 members. My relation with everyone is harmonious and transparent but I have always been closer to my mother. Even though my father and sister are able to support me in a very loving manner, my mother has always been the most closest to me, of them all. Since childhood I have spent most of my time with her. We have bonded over the cooking lessons she used to give me and times when she helped me in my studies, since she is an intellectual and an avid reader. Being her elder daughter she has always tried to fulfill her dreams with me. I take after her and we share all hobbies and preferences. My day starts with helping her in making breakfast and preparing lunch box for my father and little sister. Later in the day, we engage in gardening and take our dog for a walk. I am with my mother for most part of the day and due to these activities we have established a strong bond. Her non-judging nature has helped me share everything with her. My mother is also my closest best friend and the time spent with her is the most cherished part of the day.

### **Follow up questions:**

#### **1. When do people in your country spend time with their family members?**

## The Australian Academy

---

In my country, people remain busy either in their work or studies. So, it is only during the evening or the night time that they are free and come together to spend time with each other. They relax and share their day's happenings with their family members over dinner.

### **2.Is the busy schedule of today's life killing communication?**

Yes, the hectic routine of today's life is limiting the communication as people are engaged in their work or academic commitments and are barely left with any free time. Even if they do have some vacant time, they prefer to unwind and relax rather than to talk to others. This has led to limited communication, increasing misunderstandings as well.

### **3.How can the family relations strengthen?**

Family is the most close-knitted relational group. In order to strengthen the relation of family members, they need to spend time together and bond over meals. They should sit together in the common place in home and open about their problems or challenges. Transparency and faith among the members will prove to bring them close to each other.

### **4.Are you more close to your family or friends?**

Comparatively, I am closer to my family because I have spent most of my time with them and they are the ones who are always there for me and have stood by my side, guiding me in the right direction. I can ask them for help without the fear of judgment or shame. It provides me a safe environment guided by trust and transparency.

**OR**

Out of the two, I am closer to my friends rather than my family because my friends are of the same age as me and they are able to understand me clearly. I do not face any type of pressure from my friends as they are very cool-headed.

### **5.What can one learn from their grandparents?**

There are lots of things that one can learn from their grandparents. They teach valuable lessons that they themselves have learnt from their life's experiences. Some of these teachings are to never have regrets in life, always be grateful, be independent, maintain the youthfulness, and know the value of good times, never to underestimate oneself and not to take life too seriously.

### **6.Can a person survive without family?**

No, a person cannot survive without family as it is the primary social group in which a person enters after birth. Family tells them about the basic skills and etiquettes needed to exist in the society. It teaches these things to them and ensures their proper development, thereby making them independent enough to move and grow in the society.

### **7.What are the things that can be learnt from family?**



Family teaches people the importance of relations and how to build as well as maintain those connections. It keeps the members secure and familiarizes them with the norms of the society that they need to carry out. Family makes the person humble and understanding. It helps in building the character of its members.

### **33. An important journey that was delayed.**

**When did this happen?**

**Where were you going and with whom?**

**Why it got delayed?**

People go on voyage for various different purposes such as leisure or work. In, my life I have also gone on a lot of journeys for similar reasons. Each of them has been quite memorable for me, despite one journey which stings me every time I recall it. It dates back to 4<sup>th</sup> of January this year as my long cherished dream of working with a renowned international company was about to come true as I was shortlisted and had to go to Jaipur for my final interview. My father was going to accompany me on this journey because he had his business partner residing in Rajasthan. The preparations were done and we were about to leave home when I received a call from the manager of the company informing me that the date of the selection process was pushed forward to a week. She told me that their company was holding an important event for a foreign delegate and would be preoccupied with it. I broke the news to my father and told him the reason this journey had to be postponed. I was excited to visit Rajasthan and see the exotic locations and cities but this plan had to be carried out after a while. That was the only instance in my life when such an important journey was delayed. I hope it does not get repeated in near future as once the preparations are done, it riles me to have to make the plan again and start preparing for that journey all over again.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1. Why do people go on journeys?**

People travel to places due to plethora of reasons such as work commitments, leisure purposes or when they are migrating from one place to another. The underlying reasons for people choosing to travel can also be because they want to have a broader perspective and learn about diverse cultures and traditions. It relaxes and rejuvenates travelers.

#### **2. Name some places in the world that are popular among youngsters for travelling?**

The young people being enthusiastic love going on adventures. The places such as Santorini in Greece, Seoul in South Korea and Las Vegas in America are quite popular for their scenic beauty, exotic food items and cultural diversity. Natural places like Zermatt in Switzerland, Rotorua in New Zealand and Juju-Do in South Korea, also score high on the travel itinerary of youngsters.

#### **3. What are the deciding factors when choosing a tourism destination?**



## The Australian Academy

---

Before narrowing down the place for a tour, the traveler must, firstly, decide the amount of time that is going to be spent there, along with the budget that is set. The weather of that place also plays a key factor when people choose their destinations. If the place is known for something special, it motivates them to go travel to that particular region.

### **4.Are tourism companies popular among people of your nation? Why/ why not?**

The denizens are more interested in moving out and seeing different places than ever before. Their needs have given birth to the tourism industry which has flourished over time. People prefer travelling through these companies as it relieves them of the duty of making an itinerary and calculating amounts.

**OR**

The concept of tourism companies has not been established in my country. People like to travel in the traditional way. Even though a bunch of such companies exist due to the developed tourism industry but their demand and acceptability is bleak among Indians.

### **5.Would you like to go on a journey alone or with family?**

I would prefer to travel alone because it would give me a chance to explore myself and help me gain more confidence as I will be making every decision independently and will not have to face any type of criticism. This would also ensure that I become decisive and assertive.

**OR**

Having company while going on a journey is always a better option for me because it helps to kill time smoothly and the sense of safety is always there. Having my family members on a journey would bring us closer to each other and would multiply the joyous feeling.

### **6.What are some of the popular means by which people of your city travel long distances?**

When it comes to travelling, the citizens of India prefer public transport such as rail due to its economic fares and good quality service. Besides this, air travel is quite popular among Indians despite the fact that it is expensive. The water transport such as ships is catching the attention of the people when it comes to travelling to far off places.

### **34.Describe a goal that you achieved which was set by you.**

**When did you set it?**

**Why did you set that particular goal?**

**How were you able to achieve it?**

## The Australian Academy

---

Goals are the futuristic achievements that the person aspires to meet and the fulfillment of which shall provide certain kind of a satisfaction. People set some goals so that they are able to have a clear direction in their life. This also saves them from going astray. For the same reason, I have also set some realistic goals in my life. Some have been met whereas others are yet to be achieved in the future. Among all the objectives that I was able to meet, a particular aim has been the only one that was set by myself. It was during my 10<sup>th</sup> board exams that I challenged myself and aimed at scoring 90% overall. I was motivated by my teachers and my classmates had raised the bar by preparing for exams in a strenuous manner. Even though I am not a very intellectual person but considering how well I had been performing in my exams, I knew this was a really big chance to prove my caliber. Getting the right amount of guidance from my trainers, I set the bar high enough to be achieved. I started waking up early to do self-study, attended extra-classes at school and stayed late at nights to revise the day's learning. Even though my schedule became hectic, the quest for knowledge did not make me feel any type of fatigue. I had prepared so well that in my exams after reading the questions, I not only knew the answer to it but also the page number on which that topic was written in my textbook. My confidence blossomed the day my result announced the news of me scoring 95% in my board exams. This was the most memorable day of my life and the goal which I set for myself was achievable only through my own persistent efforts and hard work.

### Follow up questions

#### 1. Why do people set goals?

When goals are set, people get a direction which paves a path for them to follow and it ensures that the actions are also carried forward that will help them to achieve their aim. Goal setting helps to keep a clear conscience for successful attainment of those objectives.

#### 2. Should individuals achieve goals by themselves or let others help them?

When it comes to achieving the set objectives, the person must try to engage in the actions himself, without hoping for any external help for assistance. This will make the person gain more self-confidence and know about his strengths along with working on the weaknesses.

**OR**

Fulfilling one's dreams is not an easy task as he/she is welcomed by challenges which pose as a hurdle in the progression. In order to meet one's goals, they should not shy away from asking for a helping hand as it will make it easier to meet their objectives. It will also take away the pressure of achieving success as it will be divided with others.

#### 3. How can goals be achieved?

The set goals need to be realistic and measurable, meaning that they must be achievable and the progress should be able to get identified in order to motivate the doer to keep pursuing his/her dream. The person needs to be constant and confident enough to not get affected by negativity and challenges.

#### 4. Should people always have realistic goals?

Having realistic goal helps the person to know that his/her aim is quite achievable and makes every small progress seem significant. Knowing they can attain their goal, keeps up the motivation.

### **5.Why do childhood dreams rarely get fulfilled?**

Most often, as a child, an individual tends to have an unrealistic approach towards life and are enticed by everything glittery. Being unaware of their interests, they set a lot of goals without considering the amount of hard work and time they would be required to put in. So when they grow up, their interest deviates to something else and they are not able to fulfill their childhood dream.

### **35.Describe one time when weather changed your plan.**

**When did this happen?**

**What was the initial plan?**

**Why did it change?**

**What was the new plan?**

I am a travel enthusiast who loves to visit different places for exploration and relaxation. Every single trip has been memorable for me as it carries with it some certain moments, both sweet and sour. The plans that I make usually get followed up without any changes but there are times when these plans are either not enacted or get changed due to some reasons. One such incident took place last winter when my cousins had visited India from USA. They were excited to visit all the regional places and the itinerary was prepared keeping all such destinations in mind. Half of the places were visited and the day came when we had to leave for Sanawar so that my cousins could see my childhood school which was located amidst the beautiful valleys. The news of fresh snowfall of the season made us even more thrilled to visit Sanawar. A day before we had to leave, the news channels flashed the distressing news of landslides. Due to the heavy snowfall and hailstorm, it was quite unsafe to visit the hills. People were discouraged from going uphill as traffic jams had made the movement of motor vehicles difficult. This forced us to change our plan on the last minute. We decided not to waste our precious days and switched the destination to Ajmer. Even though the gloomy feeling was somewhere in the heart but it soon got overpowered by the exhilarating feeling of visiting Ajmer. This was the only time when the changed plan proved to be better than the initial plan.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1.Why is planning important?**

Planning ensures that the person is ready for the futuristic happenings that might or might not be in the favor. If things go as per the planning that success is achieved but if something goes wrong, proper

planning makes sure that the backup plan is able to neutralize the situation. Planning also enables the person to evaluate the good and bad impacts and to finalize if the concerned action should be carried out or not.

### **2.Which is your favorite weather?**

My favorite weather is spring because during those months, nature renews itself and all trees bear new leaves and flowers blossom everywhere. The hibernating animals awaken and the days are longer. This beautifies the environment and fills it with the chirping sound of birds. Walk in the countryside is my favorite part of spring season.

### **3.Is the weather of your town predictable?**

I reside in Chandigarh and the weather of my town is very predictable based on the forecasts made by the weather department. The reports that they present quite often take place on the same lines. The weather remains stable and pleasant making it easy to predict.

### **4.Are there certain festivals associated with specific weather in your culture/region?**

I belong to Punjab which has a number of festivals associated with various customs and historical events. There are some festivals linked with weather as well. The most popular one is Baisakhi, linked with the ripening of rabi crop and its harvesting. It denotes the onset of summer season. Lohri is also another festival which signifies the retreat of winter season.

### **5.Is planning always fool-proof?**

Most times, planning tends to be fool-proof since it creates all the possible scenarios and keeps the safeguarding plans ready to be used in desperate times. Planning tells before-hand the resources needed and method that can be used. In this manner, planning helps to be fool-proof up to a large extent.

### **6.Should people make plans according to weather? Why/ why not?**

Yes, when it comes to making plans, people should consider the weather conditions as they might abrupt the schedule in itinerary. They need to see the weather state of the place they are visiting as it will affect the clothes they need to carry and activities that they might choose to indulge in.

### **36.A person who taught you something important.**

**Who is that person?**

**How are you related to him/her?**

**What did they teach you?**

Teachings can be imparted from any source, be it nature, life, people, experience, failure or others. A person should always be ready to learn as every component in the environment has one or more lessons to teach. I have also learnt innumerable lessons in my life till now. Many have been learnt unconsciously but some were forced upon me or taught by other people. There is one teaching in general which has proved to be the most impactful one. This lesson was taught by my mother who has raised me and my younger brother single-handedly. She is an epitome of strength and compassion. Since my childhood, she has been confident enough to provide us with a luxurious life. She has managed to send us to the best schools and has taught me to never give up. My mother has always favored hard work over luck and this perspective of hers is adopted by me and my brother. We have been raised under the influence of a strong lady who has been our ideal. In my life, I have always worked hard and felt contentment knowing that it is only due to my persistent efforts that I am able to live such a comfortable life full of amenities. My mother's teachings are always going to stay with me as they have shaped me into the person that I am today. I shall always be grateful to her.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1.What lessons can be learnt from grandparents?**

Grandparents are like long standing trees that have existed for long and are a store house of wisdom and life lessons. They are the ones who teach about morality, respect, understanding and knowing about the difference between right and wrong.

#### **2.Does life teach lessons as well? What are those?**

Yes, life teaches innumerable lessons. As everyone leads a different life, the lessons which their life taught them, are always unique to other's life lessons. Life tells a person to value time as it never comes back, to appreciate the things they have and be grateful as adversities can be faced anytime. Also, it teaches to have faith as karma rules and guides the actions of the people.

#### **3.What do we learn from failures?**

Failures are an important part of journey for achievement of goals. When people fail, they identify their shortcomings, get motivated to do better and recognize their strengths. Downfall also provides motivation to people to push their boundaries further and challenge themselves.

#### **4.Why should we not have regrets?**

A person should not have regrets as they do not want to look back and feel distressed of not doing something when they had the opportunity and time to do so. Regrets bring sufferings which shake the peace of mind of a person. If an individual wants to pursue something and has the time and opportunity of doing it, they should not shy away from restraining themselves and do it irrespective of the consequences it might hold.



### **5. Have you taught someone something valuable?**

Yes, I taught a valuable lesson to my younger brother when he failed his exams and I told him that that was not the end of life and he should rather take failure as his motivation to score good marks in his next exams. He has learnt to believe in himself.

### **37. Talk about an interesting conversation**

**Who is this person?**

**How you met him?**

**Explain why he's interesting?**

In our daily routine, we enjoy conversations with many people. But there are very few conversations which are interesting and fascinating and we tend to remember throughout our life. I met an old person a year ago. I don't think of this person as old but I suppose he will be 90 next year and that certainly is a good age. His name was Mr. Kulwinder Singh. I was traveling to Delhi by train. An old man occupied the seat in front of me and was finding it difficult to manage his luggage so I helped him. Soon we started talking about hobbies, studies and work. As we both were heading to the same destination and it was a long journey, he told me that he was a retired army officer and began to tell me stories of war, which were just amazing to hear. He also told me that he served in Sikh regiment, coupled with heroic stories of the military galore which protected our nation. It was an honor for me to meet a person like him. He was an interesting man who had lots to share; he was like a book full of experiences. Moreover, I have never seen an old man who is as fit as he was. Being a member of old age society, he had vast knowledge to share. He was a valuable source of information for me and I am still in touch with him.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1. Do you think old people are neglected in your country?**

It is difficult to say, if the old persons are neglected. In fact, they are respected as children love to take care of their grandparents and are attached to them.

#### **2. Do you think in your country experienced persons are more preferred?**

According to me yes the experienced are preferred. If I talk about the family life, grandparents are preferred to take decisions due to their ability to understand the situation and take over full responsibility.

#### **3. Do you think behavior of old person and child is same?**

In my opinion, I don't feel the same because old persons have much more experience and wide knowledge where as a child is yet to explore things but one thing I would say is common that they need both attention and care.

#### **4. Do you think old persons need more care?**



Whether we like it or not, but I feel old age is the most sensitive stage in life, so yes of course old persons need more care because everything around them becomes quite challenging/difficult and they tend to become more dependent on other people.

### **5. Why do some people keep their parents in old age home?**

According to me some people keep their parents in old age homes to avoid responsibility of caring for terminally sick parents who are seeking for attention and care. Moreover, I think that in order to avoid constant clash of views of old and younger generation, people send their parents to old age homes.

### **38. Describe a film you would like to share with your friends.**

**which movie is it?**

**where you watched it?**

**why you want to share it with friends?**

Movies sometimes represent the social reality in such a manner that people understand and realize the social issue effectively. I am a movie- freak and have a deep passion for watching new released movies only. So I recently watched a movie named Dream Girl which was released on 13th of September 2019. It was the first day of the movie. I found the name of the movie quite enchanting and fascinating so instead of waiting for time or a friend to go with me I went to watch this movie all alone. I went to watch it in cinema in my hometown since movies spellbind me and captivate me only on bigger screen; not at home. Ayushmann Khurrana imitates a girl's voice with utmost perfection for his character named Puja in this movie. He works sincerely in a friendship based call centre and listens to everyone's problems and tries to soothe the listeners who call her, by her melodious voice and love. He leaves no stone unturned to please the customers. It presents a social message that must be realized by everyone and the message is that among thousands of virtual friends, people still feel lonely and unloved from inside. They find themselves all alone having no one to share their true-self. Many people in the movie fell in love with this fictitious character because of the love she shares. The reason for me to share this movie among my friends is the perfect blend of comedy and reality that the movie presents. I had a belly laugh by watching this movie. Finally, I would say that my friend and others should watch this movie for ventilating their mounting stress level and self-realization.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1. Do you think it is expensive to watch movies in the theatre?**

Yes, I think watching movies in theatres is digging a hole in people's pocket as people have to pay hefty amount of money on purchasing eatables without which people find it next to impossible to enjoy the movie. For luxury seats and commuting extra charges are included.

#### **2. Do you think children should watch the movies?**

I personally think that children should watch movies which are inspirational, historical and

autobiographical. These movies will positively influence their mindset. They will learn about history with a lot of interest instead of merely thinking it as a boring subject.

### **3. Why do you think youngsters love to watch movies on the mobile phones instead of watching in theatres?**

There are various reasons why youngsters love watching movies on mobile phones. The prominent one which I think is its cost- effectiveness. Since teenagers don't have a lot of money with themselves so they prefer to watch movies on mobile phones. Telecommunication companies are offering huge internet data these days at negligible cost so youngsters watch movies by lying on either their sofa or their bed very much comfortably. They have a lot of free time also so to utilize that leisure time they watch movies. During travelling also, it is one of their favorite pastimes.

### **4. Do you think these days meaningful movies are less liked by people?**

In my opinion, people prefer to watch movies to release their mounting stress. It is a great source of relaxation and rejuvenation. They just want to laugh a lot with their family members and enjoy variety of eatables. It does not matter for them whether the movies they are watching are meaningful or not. The motive behind watching movie has changed drastically.

### **5. Do you think the availability of movies online will stop people to go to theatres in future?**

There is no doubt that people are attracted towards online movies since they are easily available and people need not spend huge amount of money in watching movies. There are many online platforms such as Netflix and Amazon Prime which have made it possible for people to watch all types of movies at their mobile phones only. However, this will not stop people completely from going to the theatres. The experience of watching a movie on a big screen is matchless.

### **6. Which type of movies will become popular in future?**

In future, the trend of movies will change greatly. People will shift their interest towards watching web series which capture the attention of the viewers for a long time. Moreover, these are in a sequence so people feel more connected in watching web series rather than watching any other new movie.

### **39. Describe a place where you read and write, apart from your home.**

**what is it?**

**where is it ?**

**why do you go there to read and write?**

Reading and writing are the skills which undoubtedly brighten the future of a person. I am an avid reader and fond of writing as well. The place where I love to read and write is a park named City Park which was built during my childhood. It is just a 2-minutes walk from my home or in other words, it is at a stone's

## The Australian Academy

---

throw from my home. So I find it feasible to frequent that park. I find great peace of mind over there. It provides serene and tranquil ambience which is the basic and fundamental requirement for reading and writing. I always prefer visiting this park in early morning for my reading and writing since there is no rush at that time. There are only a handful of people, over there, who are busy in their walking or jogging. I enjoy chirping of birds over there which is soothing and calming to my mind. I don't feel tired or exhausted even after reading or writing for a long time. I feel colorful blooming flowers always make me delighted. I love to write on nature so, that is a true inspiration for me. This Park stimulates me or galvanizes me for reading and writing. Cool breeze blowing in the park ventilates my tiredness. I love to be in lap of Nature. Earlier I used to go to library but I felt myself becoming bookworm over there as I was always surrounded by books so I stopped visiting there. Especially in winters, I enjoy basking as well so it is like killing two birds with one stone; I am reading and writing as well as basking in the sun. Eventually, I would like to say that I have improved tremendously by reading and writing in the park.

### Follow up questions

#### 1. Why do people visit park and sports centre?

According to me with modernization and lack of leisure time in the fast-paced life, health has taken a backseat. Thus, to improve their health, people often visit Park and sports centre.

#### 2. Do you think that it is necessary to take exercise?

In my opinion, exercising is very important as healthy mind resides in healthy body, thus it becomes very important to stay fit to keep away from the diseases.

#### 3. Do you think that children should play more rather than adults?

Yes of course, children should play more than adults as it is their growing age and physical exercise is must. Adults have many other activities to do thus it's hard for them to invest energy in playing.

#### 4. What kind of difference have you noticed in way of entertainment in children in past 10 years?

There is a huge difference which can be seen in the ways of entertainment in children as earlier kids use to have more physical activities and stayed healthier but nowadays, children spend more time on phones and gadgets rather than playing outside.

#### 5. Do you think sports reduce mental pressure?

I personally feel it does reduce pressure because it keeps both mind and body active. It diverts the mind from all the stresses and has a soothing effect. One can redirect all the worries into playing and hence, take off the mental pressures to a certain extent.

### 40. Describe a school you went to in your childhood.

**name of the school?**

**what it was like?**

**how you felt about it?**

School is undoubtedly a place which lays the foundation of our bright future. I went to a famous school of my hometown in my childhood. The name of the school was Nehru Memorial Children School. It was well-renowned of its time and beautifully built. It had more than 30 rooms, a computer lab, a library, science labs, four big playgrounds and lush green lawns. It had a separate primary wing which was decorated with colorful pictures and paintings. It was affiliated to CBSE New Delhi. Students from different places came to study there. We had a bus facility also for the students who lived far away from the school building. My school not only focused on studies but also had a special timetable for variety of extra-curricular activities which were necessary for the holistic development of children. Badminton, football and cricket training were also available in my school at no extra cost. Our school cricket team won many inter-school matches at that time. My school principal was uncompromising, authoritarian and strict; even parent didn't have courage to talk to her. To take admission in this school was a dream for every child. There were veteran teachers who provided quality education. They taught each and every topic carefully and nicely that students could understand it in one go. It inculcated moral values and discipline in me. I felt grateful and thankful to my teachers who have made me what I am today. Finally, I would say that I would recommend this school to my nephew and niece as well because I don't think so there is any other school in the vicinity where my nephew and niece can get better education than this.

### Follow up questions

#### 1. Why most of the students don't take interest in study?

In today's era, kids tend to get attracted to the distractions of the things going on in the outside world, so they switch focus from study to other things.

#### 2. Which is better: theoretical or practical knowledge?

To be honest, practical knowledge is a must and is way better as one can experience it and tackle the challenges which come along, in a better way.

#### 3. Should we keep on learning new things?

According to me, learning new things brings new challenges and teaches on how to tackle them. Moreover, learning new things widens up the knowledge.

#### 4. Who learns faster, children or adults?

In my opinion small children seem to learn very quickly, while adults sometimes appear to lose the ability to pick up new subjects which may be language, music, game etc. So I think it is undoubtedly true that children seem to learn very quickly.

### **5. Do you think learning can be a hobby?**

According to me the confidence we can gain from challenges and learning new things help in preparing for a bright future so yes of course learning can be a hobby.

### **6. Do you think teaching someone is a difficult task?**

Teaching in my opinion is a tough task because one must have a deep and wide knowledge of the content to teach someone. Moreover one should have interesting ways to explain the things and make learning an enjoyable experience.

### **41. Describe a person who likes to travel by plane.**

**Who is the person?**

**What he/she does?**

**How do you know him/her?**

**Why he/she travels a lot?**

Travelling by air is a wonderful experience. I know a lot many people who often travel by air for different purposes. Here, I would like to talk about my sister-in-law Maninder Kaur who is in her mid 40's. She is a beautiful lady with charming personality. She is a fitness-freak and very strict about her diet. She always prefers to keep herself perfect. Apart from being very intelligent person, she likes to do many activities such as yoga, walking and travelling. She did a lot of struggle in her life. Now she is doing really well. She is working with a multinational company. She has been in this job for last 8 years. She carries an image of a very strict boss who is very disciplined. She is helpful by nature and always helps the needy one. She has to travel a lot as she is involved in different projects of the company. She has to travel by air to save down her time and increase productivity. She is dedicated to her work and does not like to reach late at her destination. This is one reason she likes to travel by plane. Before this job, she was working in Oman where also, she travelled a lot. She is an inspiration for all of us and I see her as my role model. She is a perfect blend of beauty with brain. Because of her hard work and dedication she has achieved her goal. May God bless her.

### **Follow up questions**

#### **1. What are the benefits of tourism to the local people?**

There are many benefits to native persons. Tourists spend money on food, souvenir, travel and other shopping, which makes the region progress economically. When some new infrastructure is developed for the tourists, it is the local people who benefit from it as they get to use and enjoy those amenities too. Thus that increases their standard of living and they are able to earn more and more from tourism.

#### **2. How visiting new places help someone in growing interests?**



When we go on educational trips in our school or college days, these visits play a vital role in giving us a better understanding of our own self. One can find out more about our fields of interest and thus pursue to have a good career in it. As, if one likes to study about the space and science, then visiting “Nehru Science Centre” in Mumbai will definitely enlighten us.

### **3. How to prevent tourist destinations from getting polluted?**

Regular events should be held to promote “Clean n Green Environment”. Proper garbage collection facilities should be provided on multiple spots so that waste is collected and handled in perfect way and tourists should be made aware that nature is their own home (by boarding signs, personal interactions or other kinds of means).

### **42. Talk about a time when you admired the sky for the first time:**

**When you admired?**

**How you felt?**

**Why you admired?**

I guess this is a tough question to answer as I have to think really hard and retrieve my childhood memory. When I was in fifth standard, it was late in night and due to power cut, my mother took me and my brother to the terrace so that we could have fresh air and enjoy pleasant weather. Initially, my brother refused to go upstairs as he was quiet young at that time and was scared of darkness. But somehow, my mother and I convinced him. While looking up, we saw the mesmerizing sky which was full of sparkling lights of countless stars and brightness of moon was really astonishing. We both were completely awe-struck as the view was truly unique and could not be compared with any manmade creation. Being a child I was so curious to know the source of that shining beauty of stars and why they were only visible at night time. Now I am able to recall that, though after having a hectic schedule still my mother answered all my queries and not only did she reply, she tried her level best to satisfy my hunger of knowing more about the incredible gift bestowed by nature that was dazzling beauty of stars. At present I am fully occupied with my employment and immediate family but still if once in a blue moon I get the dynamic opportunity to visualize the splendor, I cherish it. I believe due to intrusion of technological innovations people have forgotten the true colors of nature. I think in the fast pace of life every individual should spend some time in isolation so that they can get inner peace as well as mental nourishment by enjoying the nature which is exceptionally adorable.



### Follow up Questions

#### 1. Is star gazing popular in your country?

According to me, star gazing is not a very popular hobby but there are few enthusiasts who love to stare at the sky. They can imagine a lot of things and every individual has his or her own interpretations regarding it. On a clear-night sky, it is bedazzling to watch zillions of stars, scattered far and wide and twinkling in the vast sky. They have a religious significance too, where they are fondly gazed by one and all.

#### 2. Do you think people enjoy the beauty of nature?

In my opinion, there is not a single soul on this earth who cannot appreciate the marvels of nature. In earlier times, people had spare time and they were not entangled in the technological and materialistic advancements. They enjoyed being close to nature and were dependent on it to a large extent for the fulfillment of their needs. They even worshipped the natural forces. But in modern epoch, natural beauty has taken a backseat and overtaken by artificial pleasures.

#### 3. Which is more beautiful: day sky or night sky?

That's a tough one to answer because they are both beautiful sights. For me, I think the best time is right about when day turns into night. It seems that it's hard to resist the beauty of just simply sitting outside and soaking up a nice sunset. Appreciating the spectacular colors in the sky gives me a warm feeling, which helps me forget about past troubles.

#### 4. Do people believe in astrology in your country?

Yes, definitely. People have a lot of faith in astrology in my country. There are many who do not take any decision without consulting their astrologers. They are very particular about the auspicious times. But then the modern generation is practical in thinking and lays more stress on hard work rather than celestial influence in the attainment of success.

#### 43. Talk about a leisure activity that you do with your family.

**What activity it is?**

**When do you do it?**

**With whom do you do it?**

**Do you enjoy doing it?**

My family is my life. Family that eats together stays together. I try to spend my leisure time with my family. As I am working so I get lesser time during weekdays. Only on weekends, I have spare time for my family. I would like to talk about an activity that we do as a family on weekends that is going for picnic to nearby sports where we spend quality time together. I wake up early and prepare all the meals which we need to carry along with us. I have always been very keen to prepare variety of dishes so it is my responsibility to prepare the food items for the picnic so that our enjoyment can be enhanced. We all get ready in the morning and leave for the picnic spot. I prefer to carry my all stuff with me. At the spot, we play board-games as my son loves to play Ludo. My husband and my son play cricket as well. After that

## The Australian Academy

---

we take our meal, talk about ourselves and play word games as well. These kinds of games help us in strengthening the bond of family and work as a way to interact more so that the communication among the family members increases. That ultimately enhances the harmony among all of us which we cannot do at home because we get busy with gadgets at home. Children should be made to play such games through which they have to learn something and also spend quality time with near and dear ones. Spending some time in the lap of Nature work as a stress-buster for us and we can ventilate all the mounting stress which might have been piled up during the working days. Finally, I would say that picnics are the best ways to rejuvenate and replenish our energies and we should plan to go for picnic quite often with our loved ones.

### Follow up Questions

#### 1. What are the outdoor activities in which you like to participate?

Well, there are a number of things which I like to do when I am free. For instance, I like to read books in my leisure time in the garden. Other than this, I like to go for cycling with my friends and sometimes, we also play football and cricket on weekends.

#### 2. Do you like outdoor activities? Is there any particular outdoor activity which you like to do alone?

Yes, I do like to participate in outdoor activities. An activity which I like to do alone is jogging or running in the early morning, it helps me in keeping myself fit and agile. I do it alone because being an early bird, I usually wake up early at 5 o'clock in the morning.

#### 3. How often do you do that?

Well, I go for jogging regularly except Sundays. Generally, I like to go for a jog around my house or in the nearby park in the morning. So that I can have some physical exercise while taking in the fresh air, but many a times I invite some of my friends so that I can have some fun with them.

#### 4. Do you play any outdoor sport?

I am a sports enthusiast who loves playing both indoor and outdoor games. I do invite my friends for playing football in the evening on weekends. I go for a simple football match with them because football is a team game, it requires many people to play. It also helps me in making new friends and is great for physical fitness. I do these physical exercises from time to time.

#### 5. What kind of outdoor activities are famous in your area?

Well, there are myriad of activities which are famous in my area. For instance, old age people are generally interested in jogging and going for a walk or doing yoga in the park or garden, where as youngsters are more interested in playing sports, and physical exercises, such as running, swimming, cycling and many other activities.

### 44. Talk about a place which is full of color.

**What the place is?**

**when did you visit there?**

**How did you feel there?**

India is a land of diversity. There is a plethora of colorful places in my country. Here I would like to talk about one of the most colorful places in the world, that is, the land of five rivers- Punjab, the most fertile and agriculturally rich state in India. Nothing gets better than witnessing the picturesque landscape of widespread mustard fields. I vividly remember, last Sunday I went to Amritsar with my grandfather. It was my first time in the state of Punjab. Although I thought I knew what to expect from all those Bollywood movies I had seen, the beauty of nature was just amazing. I was mesmerized with the outstanding view. The first two nights of our tour were spent at a farm house in the northeast of Amritsar. It was damp and dreary when we arrived as it had rained heavily the night before, and the dark clouds still hung over rural area. We enjoyed the rustic hospitality at a popular roadside spot that's been serving up variety of cuisines. The villages of this place hold a special place for me because it was here that I was finally able to drape a long white dupatta on my shoulder, I ran through colorful mustard field in imitation of Bollywood movie. Apart from this, we chatted with the farmers over cup of tea. The golden blooms spread over acres were bringing a smile on everyone's face. Moreover, listening the chirping of birds and the sounds of gurgling water from the tube-well enchanted me. I thanked almighty for such a wonderful view in front of me and I told myself this is true incredible India right here in mustard fields as I watched the sun slowly vanish behind the golden fields and slowly the mist rose as the heat escaped from the beautiful land. By the time we left that place, I felt fully immersed in the pastoral pleasures of Punjab.

### Follow up Questions

#### 1. Why most of people love to live in city?

Well, I think most of people who are living in the villages are highly disappointed with the dearth of employment opportunities in their areas which forces them to work in city to support their family. And on the other hand, amenities provided in cities also attract people to come in the city.

#### 2. Why people prefer to live in cities rather than in rural areas?

People want to live in cities because of myriad facilities such as education, transport and medical. To raise the living standard, people move to urban areas from countryside. Moreover, cities have better employment opportunities and infrastructure.

#### 3. What are the merits and demerits of living in cities?

There are umpteen benefits and drawbacks of living in a city. The prominent benefit is that city provides major facilities and there is availability of food outlets at stone's throw. Moreover, city life is safe as police do patrolling round the clock. The major demerit of city is that cost of living is higher than rural

areas and there is no availability of fresh fruits and vegetables.

#### **4. Since last decade, what type of changes have you observed in your city?**

I have observed many changes in my city such as increasing area and population. Due to modernization, the overall infrastructure of commercial plazas, residential spaces and educational institutions has improved.

#### **5. What type of problems will you see in your country in next ten years?**

Well, it is very early to say anything right now but I can just suppose that in my country the pollution levels of metro cities like, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Ludhiana, Hyderabad and many more, will be at peak. I think traffic problems like jam and parking will also be enhanced, adding to our troubles.

#### **45. Describe an experience when you were with people and you got bored.**

**where and when was it?**

**why did you get bored?**

**how did you feel about that?**

There are several situations in life when we get bored and feel hapless or helpless to overcome it. The same happened with me last year. What actually happened is my brother got married to a Gujarati girl. No doubt the marriage function was a unique experience for me. It was full of fun and frolic with vibrant ambience. I relished Gujarati food and folk dance. Looking at people around me wearing their traditional dresses which were different from ours, felt amazing. But one week after marriage, I went to my brother's in-laws' house along with him. It is a custom in our religion that after marriage we go to the in-laws' house to accompany the bride, back home. Everyone was speaking in Gujarati that was next to impossible for me to understand. A large number of relatives had gathered there who were laughing, talking and sharing their emotions. Everybody around me seemed happy and delighted except me. Since my brother had spent 4 years in Gujarat so he was able to speak and understand Gujarati well; however I felt bored. So I started playing games on my mobile phone. Though they used Hindi with me whenever they were talking to me or they wanted to ask something to me but that was not sufficient to cheer me up. Somehow we got free from there and left that place. On the way back home I felt joyful and elated as we three were there at that time so we talked a lot in Hindi and we enjoyed to the fullest. Finally, I would say that all is well if end is well.

#### **Follow up Questions**

##### **1. What qualities should a true friend have?**

If I talk about the qualities, trustworthiness is the most desirable quality which must be possessed by a true friend or best friend. Secondly, I think he or she must be the one with whom we can share our feelings freely, without being judged. A true friend is a friend who is always with us in gala days as well as in rainy days.

### **2. Do you think that meaning of friendship has changed these days?**

Well, I think so because in the materialist world where everyone is running behind his or her personal gains and most friends are with us just for the sake of money or time pass. Once their motives are met, they just vanish from our life. Sometimes they give such deep wounds that are incurable.

### **3. Who is more important to you, friends or family?**

Well, it is a very tricky question. It is difficult to say who is more important. According to me both are important to us as there is a well-known saying that “You can choose your friends, but you can’t choose your family”. We can keep the friendships that make us feel good. Family, on the other hand, is like a strong pillar which will always be with us. They can be helpful and enjoyable too.

### **4. Do you think friends are very helpful to avoid loneliness?**

Definitely, friends don’t completely cure loneliness but they do help us during lonely times. We learn how to accept kindness and also to reach out when we need help. Those painful times when we might be without friends also help us to appreciate the real value of friendship that comes in and out of our lives.

### **5. Do you agree that friends improve the quality of our lives?**

I fully agree with this statement. In my opinion friends can change our value system so we learn to infuse more meaning into our lives. In spending time with friends, we fill up our lives with great conversation, heartfelt caring and support, and laugh out loud fun. During hard times, friends are there to put things in perspective and help us. When we have success, they’re smiling at our good fortune. With down-to-earth, positive people in our life we will be more mindful of gratitude and doing nice things for others. We don’t just live when we have healthy friendships, we thrive.

### **6. Do you think online friends are also helpful?**

If we have some unique concerns, online friends from a specialized group can provide empathy from their own first-hand knowledge of what we are going through. They can be of great support as they come from a varied background and may be more experienced. Additionally, they don’t have the fear of being judged by the family members as well.

### **46. Talk about a famous product of your region:**

**What product is that?**

**How you came to know about it?**

**Why it became famous?**

Thank you for giving me this cue card. Honestly speaking, I have keen interest in buying varied beauty products and here I would to talk about fuller’s earth that was introduced to me by my grandmother. She



used it generously in my childhood for numerous purposes. It has manifold benefits. The most conspicuous one is its purity as mixing it up with rose and aloe vera gel, a paste is formulated which can be applied not only to the face but also can be wisely applied on a child's body as well due to its advantageous characteristics. Additionally, it can be used as anti-tan, which is an alarming concern for many individuals. Also, the ultra-violet rays of sun are extremely harmful and it darkens the skin forever if no preventative measure is taken. Hence, fuller's earth is really considered to be a boon as it gives confidence to an individual, which enhances the personality and makes a person appealing or attractive. Another key component is it acts as a deterrent to many types of skin allergies. By this I mean, in the era of modernity there are umpteen products available which have medicinal properties but this traditional product has its own true essence, since times immemorial and without any adulteration, uncountable people have experienced remarkable results. Last but not the least, I recently read an article in a renowned newspaper that, after seeing the incredible results people across the globe have started ordering this product from our specific outskirts areas. Overall, I can proudly say that the results of using this commodity are two folds as per my experience. But, I believe that it has the tendency to solve enormous problems and thus, it will definitely gain more popularity than ever before.

### Follow up Questions

#### 1. Do you think these days it is difficult to find a correct thing?

In my opinion, these days there are variety of products available in the market which ultimately makes it difficult to find the correct thing as one gets confused about what to buy and what not to buy.

#### 2. What is the difference between online and offline shopping?

According to me there is not much difference as both are done for shopping purposes however online shopping makes it more comfortable to shop as one can shop any time anywhere. Moreover one can get the updates of the seasonal offs.

#### 3. Which shopping do people prefer: online or offline shopping?

I have different opinion on this because some prefer online shopping whereas on the other hand some people prefer offline. Everyone has their own experience with shopping and accordingly they decide.

#### 4. What are the disadvantages of offline shopping?

In my opinion offline shopping is time consuming. Moreover one has to travel in search of the perfect choice whereas in online it can easily be done by sitting at home.

#### 5. Do you think kids tend to spend lots of money these days?

To be honest, yes kids spend lots of money due to the up gradation in the technology. There are products which are eye candy for the kids and tend to fascinate them.

### 47. A celebration organized after an achievement:



**What was the occasion?**

**how did you celebrate it?**

**How was your experience there?**

I would like to share an auspicious occasion where I attended a grand celebration. Undoubtedly, I can retrieve each and every moment of that celebration. Last month, I got an invitation for a party from my bosom friend because he had successfully achieved his desired scores in IELTS exam and shortly he would be flying to his dream destination. I read the invitation letter again to check if there was any particular theme or a specific dress code. I made all the arrangements of selecting a suitable present for him which I could carry to the party to send my warm wishes to him. On the special day, I went to Royal Paradise, a renowned restaurant, situated in the heart of my city. I dressed up formally as per the dress code. I reached in fact before time and gave him a tight hug for his accomplishment. I must say, I was completely taken aback by the marvelous decoration done by the most popular interior decorator of my city; I was completely amazed by the colorful flowers, decoration pieces and a big display wall of his glorious achievements which he had accomplished so far, either in academics or recreational adorned the centre space. And I did not hesitate to take selfies of every nook and corner of that overwhelming decoration. The event began at 8:00pm with the cake cutting ceremony and snacks and hot cold beverages were served which was followed by delectable main course. Afterwards, the hall was left with the family members and some of our common friends who were genuinely happy for his achievement. This was not the end because soon after, my friend's father made an announcement of a bachelor's party in the next week. We were all in seventh heaven and we cherished every moment of that party.

### **Follow up Questions**

#### **1. Why do some people like to do parties while others hate it?**

According to me, some people like to celebrate their happiness with family and friends through parties. They throw these parties to spend some time with their close ones and also like to connect with them at that time. They also like to show their status whereas some people don't like to do parties because they think it is a waste of their time and money.

#### **2. What do people like to do in parties?**

In my opinion, people like to mingle with other party members and enjoy their time which they often don't get due to their busy schedule. They like to gossip and tell each other what is happening in life and also about their happy and sad moments. They mostly enjoy the company of others and also enjoy the lively environment.

#### **3. What type of clothes people like to wear in parties?**

People like to wear clothes as per their choice. Elderly people mostly prefer to wear traditional clothes according to their religion but younger people like to follow fashion and wear western clothes which are in the trend. Some parties are theme parties in which there is a particular dress code that people have to follow.

#### **4. What do you do if guests feel bored?**

Firstly, I think people will not feel bored if there is a proper arrangement of their entertainment. But if this ever happens, I try to cheer them up by playing games. I also try to arrange some games which they will enjoy and have fun or engage them in some dancing competition or music which will definitely diminish their boredom.

### **5. What is the difference between birthday and marriage party?**

In my opinion, birthday parties are held on the day of birthday or weekend when most people are available. There are arrangements of food, music and games while marriage parties describe people in weddings such as bride, bridegroom, maid of honor, best men etc. There is also reception party which is extravagant and held in grand hall and there is massive cake and food and also DJ party.

### **6. Which generation likes to do parties and where?**

I think younger people and adults like to do most parties as elder people do not like these noisy parties. Young generation mostly likes to enjoy parties outside their home as there will be no supervision by their parents. They mostly enjoy the places like clubs and restaurants where they can have loud music as well as food and can enjoy their time with friends.

### **48. Describe an advice you received on your subjects or work.**

**What the situation was?**

**Who gave you advice?**

**What the advice was?**

**How useful that advice was for you?**

Advice is an opinion that someone offers you about what you should do or how you should act in a particular manner in a difficult situation. Sometimes a piece of advice from others makes an arduous task a piece of cake. Here, I would like to share my experience when I got a good piece of advice from my cousin. I vividly remember the day I was preparing my final assignment which was to be submitted by the next day. I was typing my assignment and a lot of pages were left to be typed. It was already 9:00 p.m. My aunt and my cousin came to our place. I was in my room completing the assignment and the entire room was messy. Sheets were scattered all over as I was typing rigorously and panicked as well, since typing was not my cup of tea. My cousin saw me in that situation and advised me to use speech-to-text app on my laptop. This is an app which recognizes the speech and its notepad types with one's voice in any selected language. I used it and it was both easy and fun to use. Within minutes only, my assignment was completed and I was on cloud nine. I hugged her tightly and thanked for the wonderful guidance. I submitted my assignment on time and got excellent grades. This advice helped me a lot. Now, whenever, I

need to type, I always use this app. It makes typing a pleasurable task and I suggest this app to my friends too, to make typing effortless and speedy.

### **Follow up Questions:**

#### **1. Do you generally find it easy to ask other people for help?**

Yes, in general, I don't have a problem in asking for help. It's usually quicker and easier if someone can at least guide you in the right direction or advise you how to deal with something, so that you can get on with whatever you need to do.

#### **2. What do you think are the most important qualities for friends to have?**

I prefer friends who have the same interest because there is a saying that "birds of the same feathers, flock together". Furthermore, being patient is also essential, for I believe that it is an important key to a long lasting friendship.

#### **3. Do you think nowadays people are more interested in volunteer work?**

Volunteer work is also an important part of one's life. Volunteer work provides an organization with free resource to help it meet its mission or goals, which often include filling the gap between an individual or community's resources and those provided by the government. Moreover, sometimes charity work, such as renovating a playground, benefits the broader community. And while volunteer work is important for the individuals and communities served, it also benefits the volunteer.

#### **4. What important things do you consider while taking a big decision?**

The decisions I take mostly depend on the existing and potential circumstances. For example, whenever I have to buy anything which is expensive, I always check my financial budget that I have enough money to buy things or not.

### **49. Talk about a thing you borrowed from someone**

**What did you borrow?**

**When did you borrow it?**

**Why did you borrow it?**

**Whom did you borrow it from?**

**And explain how you felt.**

There are many times when people borrow things from others. I also borrow things from my friends and relatives whenever I require. Here I would like to speak about a pen that I borrowed from my friend. I was in the boarding school where I lived with my friends. My 10th class exam had started. On the day of my first exam, I was very nervous and in tension because I got up late in the morning. I went to school in hurry. We entered the examination hall and exam started. Around half an hour later, my pen started

leaking. I had a spare pen but it was also not working. I could not understand what to do at that time. Examiner was also angry with me. Then my friend gave me a pen and I started writing again. Somehow, I managed to complete my paper and it was such a big relief. Once outside, I thanked my friend for lending me a pen. Sometimes borrowing small things from others are of great significance. In my exam, that borrowed pen played a vital role. Usually, I do not borrow things from anyone; I had to do so on that day because of my bad luck and my negligence as I did not check my pens before an exam. But I am still very thankful to my friend. If he had not lent me a pen, it would have been very difficult for me to complete my exam.

### Follow up Questions

#### **1. What are the common things people like/need to borrow?**

Humans have basic needs and to satisfy these needs they work hard. But in certain circumstances, either due to lack of time or money, they need to borrow some things from their friend or family. The common things are books, CDs, formal wear, videogames, musical instruments, luggage, extension ladders, car and sometime money also.

#### **2. What are your thoughts about borrowing or lending things?**

I am an enthusiastic borrower and lender. Not only does borrowing save me money, but lending items actually feels good because it gives me more satisfaction. As long as it is done politely, borrowing and lending build a sense of community among friends and family.

#### **3. What are the things one should consider before borrowing?**

We should remain cautious before borrowing things and take into account some considerations like never borrow anything that you can't return as soon as you are done with it. If in case, things break or tear, a sincere apology and further compensation by buying the same item for the lender will be a good thing. One should avoid borrowing money from friends because it can jeopardize the friendship.

#### **4. What are the risks associated with borrowing money?**

The first and foremost risk is outdoing it, borrowing more than one can offer to repay. Another one is if one doesn't make payments on time, then it will damage their credit record and also there are chances of losing money on account of late fees. Additional interest needs to be paid in some situations.

#### **5. In what situations people borrow things?**

In my opinion, people usually borrow things if there is an emergency or they need that item immediately like students need to borrow books from their seniors for upcoming exams or in case of problems like money, time or other issues.

#### **6. Should people borrow to do the work of the Lord?**

No, I don't think so. It is wrong, no matter how noble the purpose is. Borrowing things in the name of God is not at all advisable so we shouldn't ask for that reason. It must be done as per one's own will and capacity because God never asks to do so. Some people borrow things for the work of God for their own benefit and use it for their own purposes.

## **50. Talk about a public facility that improves / influences the quality of local life.**

**What the facility is**

**How does it improve the life**

**How you feel about it**

India is a developing country and government is providing many amenities to the citizens, but one public facility that improves local life quality in my opinion is public transportation. A lack of proper transportation system poses a higher risk of safety and security since they are overcrowded. The problem worsens in developing countries due to lack of suitable and integrated approaches. People from various classes and economic conditions use these buses but the difficulty aggravates when it comes to insufficient service and poor maintenance of the buses. People travelling on the roof of buses are prone to mishaps and the risks multiply for the people who travel every day. Thus, improvement in the public transport facility would positively influence the local life quality. In addition, government should also have a regular check on the conditions of the buses and maintain them well as it is well said that you can't understand a city without using its public transportation system.

### **Follow up Questions**

#### **1. How can the government improve the facility for common people?**

In my opinion government must ensure that public facilities should be people friendly and not dedicated to a particular section of public. Moreover just making the plans cannot improve the facility. The concerned authorities must ensure that the plans are executed too.

#### **2. How people can help government to reduce pollution?**

According to me people can help government to reduce pollution by following the plans which are laid down by the government. They can contribute by planting more trees, using public transport instead of their private vehicles and following the 3Rs, i.e. reduce, reuse and recycle.

#### **3. Do you think children should be taught regarding environment in school?**

Environment studies in my opinion should be made mandatory in schools as it will help in creating awareness in the students regarding their surroundings. Moreover, they will also join hands with the government to protect the ecosystem.

#### **4. Do you think by paying tax people can improve facilities?**

To be honest, I think paying taxes has a great impact on the country's economy. The amount collected as



tax is used as public expenditure for hospitals, schools and transport, thus it is beneficial for the improvement of facilities.

### **5. Do you think plastic should be banned?**

According to me plastic should be banned as it has many negative impacts for us. It not only pollutes our land but water too. It is non-bio-degradable and is harmful.

### **51. Talk about an interesting animal which you looked for first time.**

**What is it?**

**Where did you see it?**

**Describe it briefly.**

**Why did you find it interesting?**

The clearest way into the universe is through a forest wilderness. I am very captivated with animals that live in the wild as they are just like humans, struggling every day to live on the blue planet. The animal which fascinates me the most is Wolf. I saw it for the first time in Chatbeer Zoo. Before that, I had never seen a wolf in my life. It looks exactly like an overgrown Husky which is a breed of dog with similar features. It can vary in colors like Grey, brown and black. They are usually found in deep forests. They are the most vicious animals on earth. Lion is known for being the king of the wild but even it can be tamed and put in circus to dance on the commands of its tamer. It is only a wolf that can never be tamed and never can a human catch it. There is no other animal I have ever heard about that a man had not managed to get under his fist. A wolf would kill a person even if they want to help it. But that is not what allures me towards it but the way it behaves in its clan. They live in packs which can have 4-42 wolves ranging in gender and age. They live with so much unity and loyalty towards each other which cannot be seen in any other species, not even humans. They are like humans in a lot of aspects like they are caring and protective towards their young ones, they have a single mate for their whole life and when one mate dies they mourn for it for the rest of their life. If any harm is done to any pack member, they stand together and fight the enemy. There hardly comes a time when wolves leave their packs. It is generally due to violent surroundings or lack of prey that they have to leave their packs for a safer and better life. Wolves are territorial too and only invite pups and not a mated pair to their pack. In the end I can definitely say that wolves are more humane than humans themselves.

### **Follow up Questions**

#### **1. Besides the animal you just spoke about, what other wild animals are there in your country (or, around where you live)?**

There are many other wild animals in my country such as tigers, leopards, snakes, camels, deer, giraffes, rhinoceros, lions, hippos, alligators, crocodiles, monkeys etc. my country boasts of a rich and varied fauna.



### **2. How do people in your country feel about wild animals?**

People have different feelings for wild animals. Some people are scared of them; some worship them, some like them and specially go to the zoos to see them. Some even hunt wild animals for their body parts. There are some who kill them just for the sake of enjoyment. But government has made many strict laws to restrict this behavior.

### **3. Do you like (all) wild animals? (Why/Why not?)**

Yes, I like all wild animals but from a safe distance. I love to see programs of wild animals on the Discovery Channel and the National Geographic Channel and I even enjoy watching them in the zoos.

### **4. In general, do you think people like wild animals?**

Yes, I think they do. The Discovery Channel and the National Geographic Channel are very popular. People even go to the zoos to see them. Whenever I went to any zoo, I see a huge rush of people there. In many countries people love to pet wild animals too like snake, leopards, lions and many more.

### **5. What about lions and tigers, do you like them? After all, they sometimes eat people.**

Normally lions and tigers are happy eating other animals of the wild like the zebras. They are amazing creatures on the earth. Our nature is really very beautiful we must protect all the animals because they are very important to balance our eco-system. We should never interfere in their natural territory for our personal gains, lest they counter-attack us.

The Australian Academy