

Family Questions

Wednesday, 30 May 2007

1. Do you live in a big or small family?
2. Would you like to live in a big family?
3. What do your family do?
4. Do you live with your parents?
5. Would you like to spend more time with your family?
6. What family members do you live with?
7. What does your family usually do at weekends?
8. Do you like going out with your family? Why?
9. Who would you most like to go on holiday with?
10. Can you tell me about your family?
11. Now are you enjoying family life?
12. Where are your parents from?
13. Why and when did they come here?
14. Do you live in a one-parent / single-parent family?
15. What kind of jobs get very high salaries in your country?
16. Who's the breadwinner in your family?
17. Do you usually have a family get-together?
18. Do you often see your family at weekends?
19. Do you have strict parents?
20. Are your grandparents alive??
21. Do you think your parents are proud of you?
22. Who do you like in your family more? Why?
23. Can you get along with your parents / brothers and sisters?
24. Have you got any step-brothers or sisters?

25. Who does your brother / sister take after?
26. What's your brother like?
27. Do you know the family next door?
28. What's the relationship between you and Mr. Watson?
29. Where does your mum work?
30. Do you live by yourself or with your family?
31. Is your family with you?
32. What do your parents do for a living?
33. is the generation gap between you and your parents a big problem for you?
34. Are your grandparents still alive? Can you tell me about them?
35. Are you married? What does your husband ! wife do?
36. Are you happy with the life you have with your husband wife?
37. Can you get along with your in-law?
38. Do you agree with arranged marriages?
39. What do you think of polygamy?
40. Where and when did you get married Do you remember how you felt at that time?
41. How would you describe your lifestyle?
42. Do you have any English speaking friends?
43. Do you live close to your family? Can you tell me about your fame members?

Last Updated (Wednesday, 30 May 2007)

Hobby Questions

Thursday, 14 June 2007

1. What do you like doing in your spare time?
2. Have you got a hobby? If so, what is it?
3. Is it an expensive hobby in your country?
4. What do teenagers like doing in your country?
5. What hobbies are usually expensive in your country?

6. What do you like about your hobby?
7. How much time do you spend on your hobby?
8. Is your hobby a common hobby in your country?
9. Are there any new hobbies that you would like to take up?
10. Have you ever been abroad?
11. What other countries have you visited?
12. Are there any countries you would like to visit?
13. What do you find interesting / difficult about travelling?
14. What is your preferred method of travel?
15. Who would you like most to go on holiday with?
16. What was the best / worst holiday you've ever had?
17. How would you like to travel around?
18. Are there any games / sports that you watch but don't play / do?
19. What games / sports do you play / do?
20. What games / sports are you good at?
21. Are there any activities that you hate? Why?
22. What games are not played much in your country?
23. Which sport is the most popular in your country?
24. Which sport is the most dangerous in your opinion?
25. Which game or sport requires the most strength?
26. Which sport has the biggest crowds in your country?
27. Would you prefer to go to the cinema or theatre?
28. How often do you go to the cinema?
29. Who's your favourite actor / actress? Why? What do you like about him / her?
30. Would you like to be an actor / actress? Why?
31. Do you like watching TV?
32. What's your favourite newspaper / magazine?

33. What do most people do at weekends in your country?
34. Would you prefer to stay home and relax or go out with friends at weekends? Why?
35. What do you usually do during most flights? Do you always eat the food they give you?
36. Is there anything about flying that frightens or worries you?
37. Would you like to have a sightseeing holiday? Where?
38. Why do most people go to seaside resorts?
39. Have you ever been in a boat when the sea was rough? Were you seasick?
40. Imagine you are on holiday, would you prefer to eat in a restaurant or have a picnic in the open air? Why?
41. Would you prefer to stay in a hotel or rent an apartment?
42. Would you prefer somewhere quite lively, or somewhere quiet? Why?
43. Would you prefer to stay in one place, or would you rather go to different places?
44. Are there any special places you like to go when you go out?
45. What indoor activities do you enjoy?
46. Do you watch much television? What do you like to watch on TV?
47. Do you like travelling? What interesting places have you visited?
48. What method of transport do you use most and why?

Home Town Questions

Wednesday, 06 June 2007

1. Where do you live?
2. What part of your country do you come from?
3. What nationality are you?
4. Can you describe your city / home town / village?
5. Can you describe where you live?
6. What other countries have you visited?
7. What do you like about where you live?
8. What do you find difficult about living in your home town?
9. What town or city do you come from?

10. What type of restaurants are there in your city / town / village?
11. Do you like shopping? How are the shopping centres in your home town?
12. How are the people in your home town?
13. What do the majority of people do to make a living in your home town?
14. Do you live in the capital of your country?
15. How long have you lived Here?
16. Is the place you live a nice place? What's it like?
17. Are you here (in your host country) alone?
18. Do you like living in this country / your home town?
19. What do most teenagers like doing in your country?
20. When did you set up house?
21. Have you met your next-door neighbours yet?
22. Is there a supermarket in the neighbourhood (where you live)?
23. Are you a native of Aberdeen?
24. Would you like to move house to a bigger area?
25. Can you get along with your neighbours?
26. When did you settle in this town?
27. What are some of the problems of urban life?
28. Would you like to be inhabitant of a small village?
29. Which part of town do you live in?
30. Have you ever lived in the suburbs?
31. Do you like living in the centre of a big city?
32. What social problems do you think we have in your society?
33. How do you define a good society?
34. Do you consider your home town as a cultural spot?
35. What are the cultural values of your country?
36. Do you like living in a multicultural society?

37. How do you define a traditional society?
38. What makes an advanced industrial society?
39. Do you belong to a very close community who would find it difficult to accept too many newcomers?
40. Are there many different social classes of people in your country?
41. Do most people in your country own their house? Why (not)?
42. Is it easy to find accommodation in your home town?
43. What kind of place are you living in at the moment?
44. Who do you live with and why?
45. Are there any advantages of living where you are at present? What are they?
46. Can you describe your study room / bedroom to me?

IELTS Speaking : Family

Tuesday, 29 May 2007

1. I live in a one-parent family / single-parent family.
(a family where the children live with only one parent)
2. I really enjoy my family life.
(the way a family lives)
3. I come from a big family of eight children.
(the group of people who are related to you)
4. I grew up on a farm.
(develop from being a child to being an adult)
5. I grew up knowing that my elder brother would take over the family business one day.
(the job your parents and probably your grandparents used to do)
6. Nuclear family
(a family consisting of mother, father and their children)
7. Extended family
(all the people in a family including aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.)
8. Family background

(the sort of family you come from)

9. She's / he's family (infml)

(used to say that someone is related to you)

10. A large household

(all the people who live in one house)

11. My domestic life isn't very happy.

(connected with the private family home)

12. I live on my own. I haven't got any family.

(the group of people who are related to one another)

13. We've got the same name but are not related.

(the way you are connected)

14. He lives with us, but he's not related / unrelated.

(a person who is not a member of your family)

15. He is a close / distant relative of mine.

(near or not in a family relationship)

16. I really take after my mother.

(to look like or be like a parent or older member of your family)

17. All the men in our family are bald. I support it's hereditary.

(a quality which is passed from parents to children)

18. All her children are very artistic. It must run in the family.

(something which is passed from parents to children and their children's children / a common feature in a family)

19. Bringing up / raising children is never easy.

(to look after children in a family until they are adults and to teach them how to behave)

20. My parents really tried to give me a good upbringing.

(the way somebody is brought up)

21. My father recently lost his job, so my mother's the main breadwinner now.

(a person who earns all or most of the money in family)

22. I need a job, so I can support my family.

(to have enough money to be able to look after a family)

23. I am getting married next year and hope to start a family straight away.

(have children)

24. My father is really a family man.

(a man who enjoys being at home with his wife and children)

25. He's got some fatherly concern and duties.

(behaving like a father)

26. Motherhood really suits her.

(the state of being a mother)

27. She is a motherly sort of person.

(behaving like a mother)

28. Danny is my foster brother.

(having different parents, but being brought up in the same family)

29. My step father is a nice man.

(the man who is married to your mother but is not your father)

30. Paul is my big brother / older / elder brother.

(older than you)

31. Anna is my little sister / younger sister.

(younger than you)

32. We're identical twins.

(twins who look exactly the same)

33. My twin sister is a dentist.

(either of the children who have the same parents and are born at the same time)

34. She doesn't get on well with her in-laws.

(the parents of your husband or wife)

35. Next of kin

(your closest relative, who should be told if you are injured or killed)

36. I closely resemble my father.

(to be closely similar to, or look like someone)

37. You can see the resemblance between Susan and her sister.

(a similarity between two things, especially in the way they look)

38. He bears a remarkable resemblance to my father.

(to be or look somebody / something else)

39. My parents live apart from each other.

(if married people decide to separate, then they live apart)

Last Updated (Thursday, 14 June 2007)

IELTS Speaking : Hobby

Thursday, 14 June 2007

1. I've joined a club where I can play chess.

(become a member of a club)

2. I'm a philatelist. I collect all sorts of stamps.

(a person who collects stamps for pleasure)

3. I often go camping in the summer.

(to live in a camp or outdoors)

4. I do a bit of / a lot of climbing.

(go mountain climbing)

5. I make my own clothes.

(I make clothes for myself. I don't buy them.)

6. I like photography.

(the skill or process of taking photographs)

7. I'm mad about DIY. I think this is a very good hobby for people who have a house but don't have much money.

(do it yourself; the activity of making and repairing things yourself around your home)

8. I took up golf when I was at school.

(to start a hobby for the first time)

9. I gave up photography.

(to stop doing a hobby)

10. I collect antiques. I really enjoy going round the shops looking for a bargain.

(you collect stamps, coins, antiques)

11. I try to practise playing the guitar everyday.

(to make music with a musical instrument)

12. I usually go jogging two or three times a week.

(run slowly, especially as a form of exercise)

13. I took up hiking because I wanted to get more exercise.

(a long walk in the country)

14. I don't really do anything in my spare time.

(time when you are not working)

15. In winter, I do quite a lot of skiing.

(in English you normally do a lot of / a bit of sport)

16. In summer, I play tennis and cricket.

(in English you normally play a game)

Holiday making

17. My aunt is a great traveller: she's been to every country in Europe.

(a person who is travelling or who often travels)

18. We toured / went / were on a tour round the United States last summer.

(to make a journey for pleasure during which you visit many places)

19. I will be going overseas in my new job.

(to travel to another country across the sea)

20. The island's economy is heavily dependent on tourism.

(the business of providing Holidays for people)

21. We went on an excursion to the mountains.

(an organized trip with a group of people)

22. I'm not taking any holiday / vacation

(time when you do not go to work for a special reason)

23. I'm taking a short break and going to my sister's for a few days.

(a short period of time when you do not work)

24. You look exhausted. You should take a few days off and relax.

(not present at work)

25. I can't come I'm afraid. I'm on holiday / off that week.

(to leave your home and go somewhere else for a holiday)

26. We're only going away for a few days.

(to live in the place where you leave at least one night)

27. We've booked two weeks in Australia in July.

(to reserve and pay for a holiday before you go)

28. They run a small resort hotel in Vermont.

(a place where a lot of people go on holiday)

29. I brought a model of the Eiffel Tower as a souvenir of Paris.

(something that you buy on holiday [for your friend] as a reminder of that place)

30. We travelled overland to Delhi and then flew on to Singapore.

(by road or rail)

31. The voyage from England to India used to take six months.

(a long journey by sea)

32. We decided to go cruising in the Mediterranean.

(to travel by sea, visiting a number of places as a holiday)

33. We take / get / catch the train / bus, to Leeds and then got a bus to where she lives.

(to travel to a place by train, bus, plane)

34. We headed for / made for (informal) the town centre.

(to travel towards somewhere)

35. We stopped off in Paris en route to Nice.

(on the way to somewhere)

36. The travel agent suggested some changes to my itinerary.

(a plan of a journey, route, etc.)

37. One of the most famous landmarks in London is Nelson's Column.

(an object especially a building, that can be seen from a distance)

38. We had been on the move for twenty four hours and were absolutely exhausted.

(to be travelling)

39. We made a stopover at Frankfurt on the way to Tokyo.

(a short stop on a journey)

40. I'm learning Spanish, just for fun.

(you do something for enjoyment and pleasure)

41. I think I get more pleasure out of doing my garden than anything else.

(the feeling of being happy)

42. Let your hair down (infml) for once!

(to allow yourself to enjoy something freely, without worrying about what other people think)

43. We had the time of our lives.

(to enjoy something very much)

44. There isn't much entertainment for young people in this town.

(things to do that interest and amuse people)

45. I had a great time last night.

(to get pleasure from doing something)

46. I have to amuse myself for a few hours while I waited for her to arrive.

(to keep yourself entertained)

IELTS Speaking : Home Town

Wednesday, 30 May 2007

1. We left home and set up house together in another part of town. (infml)

(begin to live independently in a house)

2. The first thing you must do is to find some accommodation.

(somewhere to live or stay)

3. The town has 20000 inhabitants.

(people who lives in a country, town, etc.)

4. Are you resident in the UK.

(If your home is in a particular country, town , wtc. you are a resident of that place)

5. I haven't met my next-door neighbour.

(a person who lives in the house nearest to yours)

6. I am native of London.

(a person who was born in a particular place)

7. If you get lost, ask one of the locals.

(a person who lives in a particular place)

8. Homelessness is a growing problem in inner-city areas.

(the condition of being homeless)

9. A lot of people / homeless sleep rough / live rough in cardboard boxes.

(you sleep outside because you have no home)

10. The families were evicted for not paying the rent.

(to force a person to leave the building or land where they live)

11. We're moving house next week.

(you go and live in another house)

12. We must vacate the flat by the end of the year.

(you stop living in a house and take your belongings away)

13. We haven't met the people who have moved in next door.

(you bring your belongings to a new house and being to live in it)

14. We have got used to a better standard of living.

(the level of money and comfort that people have in their everyday lives)

15. Some people live on bread and water.

(to have something as your only food)

16. In most big towns, there is a commercial centre.

(an area with lots of banks and company offices)

Some useful words to describe cities.

17. People who prefer the countryside to big towns often say towns are noisy, dirty and polluted, stressful, and crowded; however, the

countryside is quiet and peaceful, clean; calm and relaxing, and has lots of open space and is safe.

People who prefer big towns have a different point of view. They say, in towns, there are plenty of things to do, and life is exciting; there is a wide

range of shops and lots of night - life; however, in the countryside, there's nothing to do; it's boring, and there are only a few shops; there's no

night-life.

18. Everyday, particularly in the rush-hour, we are / get stuck in a traffic jam.

(the times each day when there is a lot of traffic because people are travelling to or from work; not able to move because of heavy traffic)

19. The streets get so packed with traffic that travel is very slow or even comes to a standstill.

(extremely crowded; a situation in which there is no movement or activity at all)

20. This is really stressful for commuters who travel to work in the town..

(someone who travels a long distance to work everyday)

21. Vandalism is one of the major problems of big cities.

(the crime of deliberately damaging things, especially public property)

22. He grew up in the East London slums.

(a house or an area of a city that is in a very bad condition and is poor)

23. A picturesque new England village in the fall.

(pretty and interesting, especially in an old-fashioned way)

24. These are a lot of historic buildings in the village.

(old)

25. I've had a pretty hectic social life.

(very busy or full of activity)

26. In big towns, you can see a continual bustle of people coming and going.

(energetic activity)

27. It is a run-down inner-city area.

(an area that is in a very bad condition)

28. A lot of people are moving out of rural areas to urban areas.

(connected with a village: connected with a town or city)

29. It's a city of six million inhabitants / citizens.

(a person who lives in a town or city)

30. The (whole) town was on the streets.

(the people who live in a town or city)

31. We're moving downtown.

(to or in the centre of a city)

32. Which part of town district do you live in?

(an area of a town)

33. Many people live in the suburbs and travel to work in the centre of town.

(an area of a town where people live, outside the centre)

34. I live on the outskirts of Bradford.

(the parts of a town or city that are farthest from the centre)

35. We lived on the other side of the square.

(an open space in a town or city that has buildings all around it)

Last Updated (Thursday, 14 June 2007)

IELTS Speaking : Job

Sunday, 27 May 2007

Have a look at the phrases and sentences below and practise using-them with a partner. Then with the help of your partner answer the follow-up

questions to test yourself. Remember that these questions are only sample questions designed to promote your spoken English ability in those

areas and facilitate the task and may not necessarily be the questions being asked in the actual test.

What you do

1. I'm a / an (+ job).

e.g. a nurse / an accountant / a builder

2. I work in (+ place or general area).

e.g. a hospital / an office marketing / social

3. I work for (+ name / place of the company).

e.g. Union Bank / IBM / Fiat / an international bank

What your job involves

4. I'm in charge of

e.g. a big company

5. I'm responsible for

e.g. some workers in that department

6. I have to deal with

e.g. any complaints / overseas clients, mainly

7. I run

e.g. the company / a restaurant

8. I manage

e.g. a shop in downtown

Daily duties / routines

9. I have to go / attend (fml)

e.g. (to) a lot of meetings / conferences

10. I visit / see / meet

e.g. patients / clients

11. I advise

e.g. people / clients and give them help...

12. It involves

e.g. writing letters / filling in forms / doing a lot of paperwork / using computers a lot of the time

Getting a job

13. It's not easy to get / find work

e.g. in big cities / round these parts

14. I'd love to do

e.g. marketing / this kind of work

15. It's difficult to make a living as a / an

e.g. freelance writer

16. I've been offered a job

e.g. in that company / in London

17. I've applied for a job

e.g. in a local company / in the accounts department

Working hours

18. I have a nine-to-five job / I work nine-to-five

(regular working hours in Britain)

19. I do / work shift work.

(nights one week, days next)

20. I am on flexi-time.

(flexible working hours)

21. I have to do / work overtime.

(work extra hours)

22. I only work part-time / take a part-time job.

(part of a day or a few days a week)

23. I am a workaholic. I work full-time.

(work too much)

24. I took early retirement.

(retire at 55 in Britain)

25. I am on / take sick leave.

(a period spent away from work, etc. because of illness)

26. I am on / take maternity leave.

(expecting a baby)

27. I gave up work

e.g. in order to study

28. I was laid off (infml)

e.g. when the factory went bust

29. I was made redundant.

(no longer needed and therefore out of work)

30. I was dismissed (fml)

e.g. for refusing to obey orders

31. I was fired (infml)

e.g. for always being late

32. I am on / off duty.

(to be working / not working)

Other useful phrases

33. We usually take a break

e.g. for lunch / for ten minutes

34. We normally knock off work (infml)

e.g. about 5:30 p.m. and go off to a restaurant nearby

35. I get some rest.

(a period of time when you relax after working)

36. I was rather inexperienced

e.g. for that kind of work

37. I have a lot of experience

e.g. in this area / of this kind of problem

38. I am sufficiently qualified

e.g. for this position

39. This is a job requiring

(a period of time when you relax after working)

40. I try to be hardworking.

(work hard)

41. I'm quite competent

e.g. at my job

42. I try to work efficiently.

(work quickly without making mistakes and wasting time)

43. Efficiency is very important

e.g. in my job

44. A lot of people do voluntary work.

(you want to do it and you're not paid)

45. I was promoted.

(get a higher position)

46. It is a demanding job.

(needing a lot of effort, care, skill)

47. I fill in for / stand in for / cover for

e.g. her while she is off sick

48. I am acting

e.g. as a manager for the next couple of months

49. I will take the place of

e.g. our manager when he leaves

50. I this morning shift takes over from

e.g. the night shift t 9 a.m.

51. It is greate teamwork

e.g. that helps get the job done on time

52. We teamed up

e.g. with another group to finish our project

53. We cooperate

e.g. with a German firm on this project

54. I was employed

e.g. as a secretary for a couple of months

55. I do casual work.

(not regular, usually paid hourly)

56. I've got a temporary job

e.g. working in a newspaper office

57. This factory has 200 employees.

(a person who is employed)

58. The staff

e.g. are so polite and friendly

59. They promoted

e.g. me to office manager

60. I'm on leave

e.g. at the moment because...

61. The post has been vacant

e.g. for some time

62. I turned it down.

(to refuse one's offer)

Payment

63. I am paid

e.g. every months and this pay goes directly into my bank account monthly

64. My salary

e.g. is 20.000\$ a year

65. I earn

e.g. 200\$ a week as a hairdresser

66. With many jobs you get holiday pay and sick pay.

(when you're off duty or ill)

67. I'm going to a pay rise.

(my pay goes up)

68. My average income

e.g. has risen 2% this year

69. I'm poorly paid / badly paid / don't earn much.

(I'm paid very little money)

70. I have a high income / earn a lot / am well-paid.

(I'm paid a lot of money)

71. My take-home pay / net income is 150\$.

(money left after deductions)

72. My gross income is more than that.

(before deductions)

IELTS Speaking : Study

Wednesday, 13 June 2007

1. The government wants to make it possible for most people to go onto higher education.

(education at a university)

2. He went to Oxford University, but I don't know which college he was at.

(an independent institution which has its own teachers, students, and buildings)

3. I'm in the department of sociology.

(one of the parts into which a university is divided)

4. You should start revising for your exam as soon as possible. Any delay will result in vital time being lost.

(to read or study again something that you have learnt, especially when preparing for an exam)

5. The candidate paced nervously up and down waiting to be called for the interview.

(a person who is taking an exam)

6. Unless you pull your socks up, you've got no chance of passing the exam.

(to achieve necessary standard in an exam, test, etc.)

7. He is the dean of the Arts Faculty.

(the head of a faculty [a group of related departments in a university])

8. The academic year begins in October.

(the part of a year at university when students have classes and exams)

9. They're advertising a lectureship in the Sociology Department.

(the position of a lecturer)

10. I've just been appointed to the chair of/professorship of European History.

(the position of a professor)

11. She's giving a series of lectures on molecular biology.

(to talk to a group of people on a particular subject)

12. All the students have to give a seminar paper at least once.

(a talk which is given for a seminar)

13. She was my tutor at Durham.

(a person who teaches a small group of students)

14. My dissertation is being supervised by professor Holroyd.

(to work as a supervisor)

15. I'm not happy with the supervision I'm getting.

(when you supervise someone)

16. I'm doing some research into animal behaviour.

(to study something carefully and in detail)

17. I'm a university student.

(a person who is studying at a college or university)

18. I'm doing an undergraduate course.

(a student who has not yet taken his or her first degree)

19. They have brought new computer facilities for the postgraduates in the department.

a student who is studying for a second degree at a university

20. I'm planning to spend a year abroad before I go to university.

(to attend university regularly as a student)

21. I got a place at Manchester University.

(an opportunity to study at university)

22. I live in hall.

(to live in a hall of residence [university building where some students live])

23. This course consists of six modules.

(a part of a course [a complete series of lessons or classes])

24. I need another four credits to complete this course.

(a part of a course that a student has completed and that appears on his / her record)

25. I have to take a maths exam.

(to take a written, spoken, or practical test of what you know or can do)

26. I have to hand in an essay on biology.

(a short piece of writing on one subject)

27. You need to do well in your assignments as well as in the exam.

(a piece of work that you are given to do by university teachers which counts towards your final degree)

28. I'm writing my thesis at the moment.

(a long piece of writing on something which you have studied or researched, especially as part of a university degree)

29. I've got a degree in psychology.

(a qualification gained by successfully completing an academic course at a university)

30. I'm majoring in English.

(to study something as your main subject at college or University)

31. I've got a diploma in hotel management.

(a qualification of a lower level than a degree)

32. I'm a graduate in engineering.

(a person who holds a (first) degree from a university)

33. I graduated in History from Sussex University.

(to receive an academic degree or diploma)

34. After graduation, I plan to do a postgraduate degree.

(the time when you complete a university degree course)

35. I've got an upper second in politics from Surrey University.

(Grades for a university degree in Britain: first (class), (upper) second (class), third (class) e.g.: a first class honours degree)

36. I've got an MA (Master of Arts) in English literature.

(a degree taken after a first degree in an arts subject)

37. MSc (Master of Science)

(a degree taken after a first degree in a science subject)

38. BA (Bachelor of Arts)

(a first university degree in an arts subject)

39. BSc (Bachelor of Science)

(a first degree in a science subject)

40. PhD, Dphil (Doctor-of Philosophy) / (doctorate)

(the highest university degree e.g. to get a PhD, to work for a doctorate)

41. I'm hoping to get a student grant.

(money that is given (by the government) to help you for a university or college education)

42. She's won a scholarship, to study music.

(an amount of money that is given to a person who has passed an exam or won a competition in order to help pay for their studies)

43. He started university but dropped out after two years.

(to leave university without finishing your studies)

44. I'll have to read up on (infml) the third chapter for my exam.

(to read a lot about something so that you learn about it)

45. I did (infml) Archaeology for two years at university.

(to study a particular subject)

46. I'm afraid I don't know much about that. It isn't my field.

(a general area of study or knowledge)

47. There are a lot of people with expertise in this field.

(special knowledge or skill which a person has)

48. She specializes in family law.

(to give most of your attention to one subject)

49. I've done a study of modern American society.

(a piece of scientific research into a particular subject)

50. I've collected a lot of statistics relating to air pollution.

(information about something in the form of numbers)

51. We are gathering data on graduates without jobs.

(facts or information used in research)

52. Data collection has already finished; I'm doing the analysis now.

(studying or thinking about the different parts or details of something in order to understand it better)

53. The theory needs to be tested by experiment.

(a thorough test using scientific methods to discover how someone or something reacts under certain conditions)

54. Joule carried out / performed a series of simple experiments to test his theory.

(to do a task or something)

Last Updated (Thursday, 14 June 2007)

Job Questions

Monday, 28 May 2007

1. What do you do?
2. What's your job?
3. What do you do for a living?
4. What are your main responsibilities?
5. What do you do every day?
6. What are your duties?
7. What is your daily routine?
8. What does your job involve?
9. How many people does your firm employ at present?
10. Can you have some time off whenever you want?
12. Why don't you apply for another job?
13. Have you filled in the application form?
14. If they offer you a well-paid job. will you take it?
15. How much holiday do you get / How many weeks holiday do you get?
16. What are normal working hours for most office jobs in your country?
17. What kind of jobs get very high salaries in your country?
18. What is the minimum amount of income tax you have to pay?
19. What jobs often involve shift work? Would you like to do one?
20. Is flexi-time common in your company?
21. What are your working hours?
22. Do you do / work any overtime?
23. Teachers don't earn very much, do they? Why (not)?
24. When were you last promoted?
25. Why / When did you apply for this job?
26. Why did you take an early retirement?

27. Why did you resign?
28. Did they give you a lot of training before getting the job from the company?
29. Did you do / go on any training courses for this job?
30. Have you been promoted since you started in the company?
31. Do you normally get a good pay rise at the end of each year?
32. How do you feel about your future prospects in the company?
33. Are you happy in the job or do you feel it is time for a fresh challenge in another company?
34. What exactly are your duties as a nurse?
35. Who do you work for?
36. Are you usually busy at work?
37. What do you find difficult about working there?
38. Can you describe your place of work?
39. What do you like about your job?
40. Do you usually cover for a colleague when he is on leave?
41. How do you find visiting a lot of people / clients?
42. Who will take your place when you leave? How do you feel about this?
43. What kind of jobs are you good at?
44. Can you tell me about your boss? What kind of a person is he / she?
45. Have you ever had any serious problems at work?
46. Do you work at the moment? Tell me about the work you do.
47. Have you ever had any other jobs?
48. Would you like to do the same job as your mother / father?

Last Updated (Wednesday, 30 May 2007)

Study Questions

Wednesday, 13 June 2007

1. What are you studying?
2. Do you have higher education?

3. What do you like about your studies?
4. How often do you use English?
5. What languages can you speak?
6. What subject would you like to study at university?
7. When does the academic year begin?
8. Have you ever lectured at university? Can you tell me about it?
9. Have you ever done a research? What was your research on?
10. What's your field of study?
11. What do you find difficult about your field of study?
12. What do you like about it?
13. What subjects will you take when you go to university?
14. Which courses are you doing this term?
15. How do you find them?
16. How's your course going?
17. How many modules does the course consist of?
18. How many other credits do you need to complete this course?
19. Do you think you're going to do them successfully?
20. Which exams do you usually find difficult?
21. Do you need to do well in your assignments during the course?
22. Do they count towards your final degree?
23. Have you started writing your thesis? What's it about?
24. Do you have to give a seminar paper during the term?
25. When have you got to hand in your essays?
26. What marks did you use to get at university?
27. Have you ever won a university scholarship?
28. What are your future plans after graduation?
29. What are you majoring in?

30. Have you got any other diplomas or degrees?
31. Which subject did you study at university?
32. Are there many people with expertise in your field in the country?
33. Can you tell me about the education system in your country?
34. What types of school are there in your country?
35. What different exams must students take in your country?
36. What's the reason you're taking this exam?
37. Are you studying now? Describe the course you are studying?
38. What do you most dislike about your study / course?
39. What are the best things about where you study?

Last Updated (Wednesday, 13 June 2007)

IELTS Speaking Test #1

Saturday, 16 June 2007

Part 1

- Please come in and take a seat. I can see your name here. What would you like me to call you?
- Well, can I see your passport, please? I need to look at it for security purposes.
- Thank you.
- Where do you come from? Tell me about your country.
- What is your general opinion about your home town?
- What are the things of interest in that place?
- Do you live with your family?
- What do your parents do?
- Would you like to do the same job as your parents?
- Do you have a large or small family?
- Who does most of the shopping in your family?
- Do you enjoy shopping?
- Do you work at the moment?

- Have you ever had any other jobs?
- How will IELTS help you in the future?
- What are your main interests?
- What other indoor activities do you enjoy?
- How would you describe your life style?
- What is life like for you in your home town?
- Are you married?
- Are you happy with your marital life?

Part 2

Try to discuss points about marriage ceremony. You should include:

- what happens at a typical wedding ceremony in your country?
- how is it different from a typical wedding in Britain?
- do you have any memories of your / your friend's wedding ceremony?

Part 3

- What roles do men / women typically play in families in your country?
- How different is your life from the lives of your parents / grandparents?
- How have these roles changed recently?
- Entertainment is a very important part of our lives. Most people listen to the radio or watch television. How did people entertain themselves before these things came into existence?
- Do you think radio and television have had a positive effect on the world?
- Has television stopped family members from communicating with each other?
- Is there too much violence on television these days?
- Does violence on television or on video contribute to violence in society?
- Thank you and good luck.

IELTS Speaking Test #2

Saturday, 16 June 2007

Part 1

- Please come in. Why don't you take a seat?
- First, let me have a look at your passport. It is for security purposes.
- Good. What's your full name?
- And you are (nationality of the candidate).
- Which part of your country do you come from?
- Describe your home town to me.
- When choosing a place to live, what do you consider most important?
- What do you like or dislike about living in your town or city?
- What changes would make your home town more appealing to people of your age?
- Would you prefer to live in a traditional house or in a modern apartment?
- Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which one do you prefer?
- Some people are always in a hurry to go to places and get things done. Other people prefer to take their time and live life at a lower pace. What do you prefer? Do you work at the moment?
- What are the best things about where you work?
- What do you dislike most about your work?

Part 2

Discuss points about life in your country. You should mention:

- what you like or dislike about it
 - what the biggest social problem of your country is
- ... and what you would regard as the most significant events in your country's recent history

Part 3

- Do you think that people and situation have changed since you were born?
- How and in what respects?

- What are some of the main industries in your country?
- How serious is unemployment in your country?
- What do you consider as the main cause?
- What role does religion have in everyday life in your country?
- Compare the media now with how it was a generation ago.
- What kind of effects do the media have on children and young people?
- Can you tell me about your childhood?
- Can you remember a toy you were given when you were a child?
- Who gave it to you? And what was the occasion?
- What did you do with the toy?
- What do you think you can learn from your toy?
- Do you think there is a difference between toys chosen by females and males?
- This is the end of your interview. Thank you and good bye.