

Mock Test 1

Questions

Part 1

- Free time: What do you usually do in your free time? Do you prefer spending it alone or with others? Has your idea of relaxation changed as you've gotten older?
- Food: What's your favourite type of food? Do you enjoy cooking? Do people in your country eat out often?
- Weather: What's the weather like in your country? Do you have a favourite season?

Part 2 – Cue Card

Describe a place you visited that left a strong impression on you. You should say:

- where it was
- when you went there
- what you did there
- and explain why it left such a strong impression on you

Part 3

1. Why do you think people enjoy travelling to new places?
2. Do you think tourism has more advantages or disadvantages for local communities?
3. How has technology changed the way people plan their trips?
4. Do you think it's important to learn about a country's culture before visiting it?
5. Will travelling become more or less common in the future, in your opinion?

Model Answers

Free time I try to spend most of my free time outdoors, honestly — going for a run or just sitting in a park with a book. I do enjoy the odd social gathering, but I find I actually recharge better when I have some time to myself.

Cooking I'd say I'm a fairly enthusiastic but inconsistent cook. When I do cook, I lean towards experimenting with spices, though I'll readily admit half my attempts don't turn out quite as intended.

Weather We get quite distinct seasons where I'm from, but if I had to pick a favourite, it'd be autumn — there's something about the crisp air and the change in scenery that I find genuinely calming.

Part 2 A place that's stuck with me is Rishikesh, a town in the foothills of the Himalayas that I visited about three years ago with a couple of close friends.

We went primarily to do some white-water rafting, though what ended up leaving the biggest impression wasn't the adventure activities themselves but the atmosphere of the town. It sits right on the Ganges, and there's this constant blend of spiritual serenity — with ashrams and evening prayer ceremonies along the riverbank — alongside the adrenaline-fuelled tourist crowd there for rafting and trekking.

What I did there was fairly varied: we rafted during the day, wandered through the local markets in the evenings, and one night we simply sat by the river and watched hundreds of little floating lamps being released as part of a ceremony, which was oddly moving even for someone who isn't particularly religious.

It left such a strong impression, I think, because it was one of the first times I properly disconnected — no constant phone checking, no deadlines — and I came away with a sense of perspective that's honestly hard to replicate in day-to-day city life.

Part 3

1. Why do you think people enjoy travelling to new places? I think it largely comes down to a break from routine — there's something inherently refreshing about unfamiliar surroundings that jolts you out of autopilot. Beyond that, I'd say curiosity plays a big role; people are naturally drawn to experiencing how others live.

2. Do you think tourism has more advantages or disadvantages for local communities? It's genuinely a mixed bag. On one hand, tourism can be a significant source of income and employment for otherwise underdeveloped regions. On the other, unchecked tourism often drives up living costs for locals and puts considerable strain on the environment, so I'd say it depends heavily on how well it's managed.

3. How has technology changed the way people plan their trips? Enormously, really. Where people once relied on travel agents or guidebooks, now everything from flight comparisons to restaurant reviews is available instantly, which has made travel far more accessible but arguably also less spontaneous.

4. Do you think it's important to learn about a country's culture before visiting it? I'd say it's more important than most travellers give it credit for. A basic understanding of local customs not only prevents unintentional offence but also tends to enrich the experience considerably, since you start noticing things a purely surface-level tourist would miss.

5. Will travelling become more or less common in the future, in your opinion? On balance, I think it'll increase, particularly as travel becomes cheaper and more accessible in developing economies. That said, growing awareness of tourism's environmental footprint might push people towards more mindful, less frequent travel rather than the mass tourism we currently see.

Mock Test 2

Questions

Part 1

- Music: Do you like listening to music? What kind of music do you prefer? Did you learn to play any instrument as a child?
- Neighbours: Do you know your neighbours well? Is it common in your country to socialise with neighbours?
- Shopping: Do you enjoy shopping? Do you prefer shopping online or in physical stores?

Part 2 – Cue Card

Describe a person who has influenced you in a positive way. You should say:

- who this person is
- how you know them
- what qualities they have
- and explain how they have influenced you

Part 3

1. What qualities do you think make someone a good role model?
 2. Do you think celebrities have a responsibility to be positive role models?
 3. Is it more common nowadays for young people to look up to family members or public figures?
 4. How important is it for children to have mentors outside their family?
 5. Do you think social media has changed who young people consider to be role models?
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Model Answers

Music I listen to music pretty much constantly, actually — it's almost background noise while I work. My taste is fairly eclectic, though I gravitate towards indie and classic rock more than anything. I did try learning the guitar as a kid, but I'm afraid it never really stuck.

Neighbours Not particularly well, if I'm honest — city life tends to be a bit more anonymous that way. It's a shame, really, because in smaller towns back home, neighbours are practically an extension of the family.

Shopping I'm firmly in the online shopping camp these days, mainly for the convenience, though I'll still browse physical stores for things like clothing, where trying it on beforehand matters.

Part 2 The person who comes to mind is my former manager, Priya, whom I worked under for about two years at my first job out of university.

What struck me most about her were her patience and her willingness to explain the reasoning behind decisions rather than simply issuing instructions. Even when I made fairly costly mistakes early on, she'd sit down and walk through what went wrong without ever making me feel incompetent, which, looking back, is a rarer quality in a manager than I initially appreciated.

She's influenced me in a couple of concrete ways. Professionally, I picked up her habit of backing every decision with data rather than gut feeling, which has genuinely shaped how I approach my work today. On a more personal level, though, I think she taught me that leadership isn't about having all the answers but about creating an environment where people feel comfortable admitting when they don't.

Part 3

1. What qualities do you think make someone a good role model? I'd say consistency between what someone says and what they actually do is probably the most telling quality. Beyond that, humility matters a great deal — someone willing to acknowledge their own mistakes tends to be far more relatable and, frankly, more trustworthy than someone projecting an image of perfection.

2. Do you think celebrities have a responsibility to be positive role models? This is a bit contentious, but personally I lean towards saying their responsibility is somewhat overstated. They didn't sign up to be moral guides — their public visibility is largely incidental to their actual profession. That said, given the influence they wield, particularly over younger audiences, a degree of accountability does seem reasonable.

3. Is it more common nowadays for young people to look up to family members or public figures? I suspect public figures have gained ground, mainly due to social media giving people unprecedented access to influencers and celebrities' daily lives, which can feel more immediate and aspirational than, say, a parent's more mundane, everyday example.

4. How important is it for children to have mentors outside their family? I'd argue it's quite important, actually. Family, understandably, tends to view a child through a somewhat protective lens, whereas an outside mentor — a teacher or coach, for instance — can offer a different, sometimes more objective, kind of guidance.

5. Do you think social media has changed who young people consider to be role models? Undoubtedly. It's shifted the emphasis towards visibility and relatability over, say, traditional achievement — someone can amass a huge following purely through personality or lifestyle content, which is a fairly recent phenomenon compared to the more conventional role models of previous generations.

Mock Test 3

Questions

Part 1

- Transport: How do you usually travel around your city? Do you think public transport in your country is efficient? Would you rather drive or use public transport?
- Photography: Do you enjoy taking photographs? What kind of things do you like to photograph? Do you prefer looking at old photos or taking new ones?
- Festivals: What's an important festival in your country? How do people usually celebrate it?

Part 2 – Cue Card

Describe a time when you had to make an important decision. You should say:

- what the decision was
- what the alternatives were
- how you made the final decision
- and explain how you felt about the decision afterwards

Part 3

1. What kinds of decisions do people generally find most difficult to make?
2. Do you think people rely too much on advice from others when making decisions?
3. How does the amount of information available today affect decision-making?
4. Is it better to make decisions quickly or take time to think them through?
5. Do you think people generally regret decisions they made or chances they didn't take more?

Model Answers

Transport I mostly rely on the metro, largely because traffic here can be fairly unpredictable and honestly quite stressful. I'd say public transport is reasonably efficient on the major routes, though it does thin out considerably once you're outside the city centre.

Photography I do enjoy it, though I'd call myself more of an opportunistic photographer than a dedicated one — I rarely plan a shoot, but I'll happily stop to capture something if the lighting or the moment feels right. I'm particularly drawn to street photography, candid shots of everyday life rather than posed ones.

Festivals Diwali is probably the most significant one where I'm from — it's this whole atmosphere of lights, fireworks, and family gatherings that transforms the entire city for about a week.

Part 2 A decision that stands out was choosing whether to accept a job offer in a different city or stay in a stable, comfortable role closer to home, which came up about a year and a half ago.

The alternatives were fairly stark: staying meant security and proximity to family, whereas moving meant a considerably better role and salary but starting over somewhere unfamiliar, without any existing support network.

In the end, I made the decision by essentially forcing myself to imagine both scenarios five years down the line rather than focusing purely on the immediate discomfort of change. I also spoke to a couple of mentors, who pointed out that comfort, while pleasant, rarely leads to meaningful growth — that framing ended up tipping the scales.

Looking back, I felt a mix of relief and lingering uncertainty for the first few months, if I'm being candid, since adjusting to a new city wasn't as seamless as I'd hoped. That said, with the benefit of hindsight, it's turned out to be one of the better decisions I've made, both professionally and in terms of personal growth.

Part 3

1. What kinds of decisions do people generally find most difficult to make? I'd say decisions involving a trade-off between short-term comfort and long-term benefit tend to be the hardest — things like career changes or relationships, where there's no objectively "correct" answer and a fair amount of emotional weight involved.

2. Do you think people rely too much on advice from others when making decisions? To some extent, yes, particularly with major life decisions. There's a tendency to seek validation rather than genuine guidance, which can end up diluting someone's own judgement rather than sharpening it.

3. How does the amount of information available today affect decision-making? It's a double-edged sword, really. On one hand, having more information theoretically leads to better-informed choices. On the other, I think it often results in analysis paralysis — people second-guessing themselves endlessly because there's always one more review or opinion to consult.

4. Is it better to make decisions quickly or take time to think them through? I don't think there's a universal answer — it largely depends on the stakes involved. For low-consequence decisions, deliberating excessively is often a waste of energy, whereas major life decisions generally warrant a more measured approach.

5. Do you think people generally regret decisions they made or chances they didn't take more? From what I've observed, and from a fair amount of psychological research on the subject, people tend to regret inaction more in the long run. Failed attempts at least offer closure, whereas missed opportunities tend to linger precisely because the "what if" is never resolved.