

Hardev Sir's

Band 9

Cue Card Answers

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***Describe a long car journey
you went on or a long car
journey you remember well***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've been on quite a few long car journeys in my life, but there's one in particular that really stands out. It was a road trip I took with my family from Delhi to Manali, a picturesque town nestled in the Himalayas. It was during the winter break, and we were all excited to experience the snowfall that Manali is famous for.

The journey was long, about 14 hours, but it was far from monotonous. The landscape kept changing, from the bustling cityscape of Delhi to the lush green fields of Punjab and Haryana, and finally, the towering mountains of Himachal Pradesh. It was like watching a live geography lesson. We made several pit stops along the way, sampling the local cuisine and soaking in the culture. The dhabas, or roadside eateries, in Murthal were a gastronomic delight, serving the most delicious parathas I've ever tasted.

As we climbed higher into the mountains, the temperature dropped, and we could see our breath fogging up the car windows. The sight of the snow-capped peaks in the distance was breathtaking, and the anticipation of reaching our destination kept us all in high spirits. The serpentine roads, though a bit scary, added to the thrill of the journey.

Looking back, it was not just the destination, but the journey itself that was memorable. The camaraderie, the shared experiences, and the joy of discovering new places together made it a trip to remember. It was a testament to the Indian saying "the journey is as important as the destination".





Describe a long car journey you went on or a long car journey you remember well

Hindi Translation

Accha, maine apni zindagi mein kafi lambe car yatraon ka anubhav kiya hai, lekin ek khaas yatra vishesh roop se yaad aati hai. Yeh ek road trip thi jo maine apne parivaar ke saath Delhi se Manali tak ki thi, jo Himalayas mein sthit ek sundar nagar hai. Yeh sardi ki chhuttiyon ke dauran tha, aur hum sabhi Manali ke prasiddh barf girne ka anubhav karne ke liye utsahit the.

Yatra lambi thi, lagbhag 14 ghante, lekin yeh ekdum monotonous nahi thi. Paridrishya lagatar badalta raha, Delhi ke vyast shahar drishya se lekar Punjab aur Haryana ke hare bhare kheton tak, aur ant mein, Himachal Pradesh ke unche pahadon tak. Yeh ek live bhoogol paath dekhne jaisa tha. Humne raste mein kai jagah ruk kar sthaniya bhojan ka aanand liya aur sanskriti ko mehsoos kiya. Murthal ke dhabas, ya sadak kinare ki khanapaayi, ek aaharik anand the, jinhone mujhe ab tak ke sabse swadisht parathe parose.

Jab hum pahadon ki unchai par chadhte gaye, taapmaan gira, aur hum car ki khidkiyon par apni saans ko dhundhla hote dekh sakte the. Door ki or barf se dhaki chotiyan dekhna saans lena rok dene wala tha, aur hamari manzil tak pahunchne ki ummid ne hum sabhi ko uchch manovritti mein rakha. Sarpakar sadaken, halanki thodi bhaybhit karne wali, yatra ki romanchakta mein yogdan karti thi.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hain, sirf manzil hi nahi, balki yatra swayan hi yaadgar thi. Sajhedari, saanjhe anubhav, aur saath mein naye sthanon ki khoj ka anand yeh yatra yaadgar banati thi. Yeh ek gaveshana thi Bharatiya kahawat "yatra utni hi mahatvapurna hai jitni manzil" ki.





Describe a book that you have read many times

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm a voracious reader and I've read a plethora of books, but the one that I keep returning to is 'The Alchemist' by Paulo Coelho. It's a rather enchanting novel that has left an indelible impression on me.

The book is a beautiful allegory about a young Andalusian shepherd named Santiago who embarks on a dream-fuelled journey to Egypt, in search of a treasure buried near the Pyramids. The narrative is simple yet profound, and it resonates with me on so many levels. It's like a cup of hot masala chai on a rainy day, comforting and invigorating at the same time.

What makes me revisit this book time and again is its universal theme of following one's dreams and listening to one's heart. It's a potent reminder that our life's journey is not just about the destination but also about the experiences and lessons we gather along the way. The book's philosophy is akin to the Indian ethos of 'Karma' and 'Dharma', which I find deeply relatable.

In conclusion, 'The Alchemist' is a book that I've read multiple times, and each time, it offers me a fresh perspective, much like the Ganga river, which despite being visited by millions, always has something new to offer. It's a book that I would highly recommend to anyone seeking a bit of inspiration and wisdom.





Describe a book that you have read many times

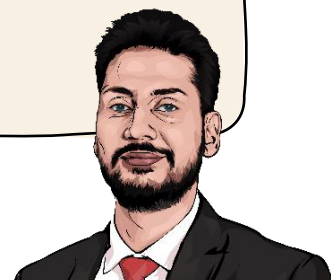
Hindi Translation

Acha, main ek lalchi padhne wala hoon aur maine anek kitabein padhi hain, lekin woh ek kitab jis par main baar baar laut kar aata hoon woh hai 'The Alchemist' Paulo Coelho dwara. Yeh ek kafi manmohak upanyas hai jo mujh par ek amit chhap chhod gaya hai.

Yeh kitab ek sundar drishtant hai ek yuva Andalusian shepherd ke baare mein jiska naam Santiago hai jo ek sapna se bhare yatra par nikalta hai Egypt ki taraf, ek khazane ki talash mein jo Pyramids ke nazdeek dafan hai. Katha saral lekin gahri hai, aur yeh mujhse anek staron par goonjti hai. Yeh ek garam masala chai ki tarah hai ek baarish wale din par, saath mein sukhad aur joshila.

Jo mujhe is kitab par baar baar wapas laata hai woh hai iska sarvabhaumik theme apne sapno ka peechha karna aur apne hriday ki sunna. Yeh ek shaktishali yaad dilane wala hai ki hamari jeevan yatra sirf manzil ke baare mein nahi hai balki anubhav aur sabak ke baare mein bhi jo hum raste mein ikattha karte hain. Kitab ki darshan shastra 'Karma' aur 'Dharma' jaisa hai jo mujhe gehrai se sambandhit lagta hai.

Nishkarsh mein, 'The Alchemist' ek kitab hai jise maine anek baar padha hai, aur har baar, yeh mujhe ek naya drishtikon pradan karta hai, Ganga nadi ki tarah, jo hazaaron logon dwara dekhi gayi hai, hamesha kuch naya pradan karti hai. Yeh ek kitab hai jo main kisi ko bhi anushansit karunga jo thodi si prerna aur gyan ki talash kar raha ho.





***Describe a speech you gave
or Describe a talk you gave
to a group of people***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me take you back to my college days in Delhi University, where I was an active member of the debating society. I had the opportunity to deliver a speech on a topic that was close to my heart - "The Importance of Mental Health Awareness in India". It was a topic that was often swept under the carpet, and I felt a strong urge to bring it to the forefront.

The audience comprised of students, professors, and a few distinguished guests. I remember feeling a flutter of nerves as I took the podium, but I had prepared well and was passionate about the subject matter. I began my speech by sharing a poignant anecdote about a friend who had struggled with mental health issues. This helped me to immediately connect with the audience and set the tone for the rest of my speech.

I then delved into the crux of the matter, highlighting the stigma associated with mental health in India, and the dire need for a paradigm shift in our attitudes. I used a mix of hard-hitting facts, personal observations, and rhetorical questions to drive home my point. I also suggested some practical solutions, like incorporating mental health education in school curriculums and promoting open conversations about mental well-being.

As I concluded my speech, I could see a sea of thoughtful faces in the audience. The applause that followed was heartening, but what truly gratified me was the lively discussion that ensued. It was clear that my speech had struck a chord and sparked a dialogue, which was precisely what I had hoped for. Looking back, I consider that speech to be one of my most impactful contributions during my college days.





Describe a speech you gave or Describe a talk you gave to a group of people

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe aapko mere college ke dino ki yaad dilane do, jab main Delhi University mein tha, jahan main vivaad samiti ka sakriya sadasya tha. Mujhe ek aisa vishay par bhashan dene ka avsar mila jo mere dil ke kareeb tha - "Bharat mein Mansik Swasthya Jagrukta ki Mahatvta". Yeh ek aisa vishay tha jo aksar farsh ke neeche sarak diya jata tha, aur mujhe isse samne lane ki ek majboot ichha thi.

Darshakon mein chhatra, professors, aur kuch vishisht atithi shamil the. Mujhe yaad hai jab maine vedika par kadam rakha to mujhe thodi ghabrahat hui, lekin maine achhi tarah se taiyari ki thi aur mujhe vishay ke prati josh tha. Maine apne bhashan ki shuruat ek dardnak ghatna ke bare mein batate hue ki, jisne mansik swasthya samasyaon se joojhna pada. Yeh mujhe turant darshakon se jodne aur mere bhashan ke liye maahaul taiyar karne mein madad ki.

Uske baad maine mudde ki gahrai mein jhanka, Bharat mein mansik swasthya se jude bhay ka ullekh kiya, aur hamare ravaiye mein ek adarsh parivartan ki atyadhik avashyakta ko uthaya. Maine apne bindu ko ghar pahunchane ke liye kathor tathya, vyaktigat avlokan, aur vakalat prashno ka mishran kiya. Maine kuch vyavaharik samadhan bhi sujhaye, jaise ki school pathyakram mein mansik swasthya shiksha ko shamil karna aur mansik kalyan ke bare mein khuli baatcheet ko badhava dena.

Jab maine apna bhashan samapt kiya, to mujhe darshakon mein vicharshil chehron ka samudra dikhai diya. Uske baad jo taliyaan bajin wo dil ko choo gayi, lekin jo mujhe sach mein santusht kiya wo uske baad hui jeevit charcha thi. Yeh spasht tha ki mera bhashan ne taar bajaya tha aur ek samvaad shuru kiya tha, jo ki bilkul wahi tha jo maine ummeed kiya tha. Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, main us bhashan ko apne college ke dino ke dauran ki mere sabse prabhavshali yogdanon mein se ek maanta hoon.





Describe a new store/shop that has recently opened in your town/city.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm thrilled to talk about a new store that's recently sprung up in my hometown, Kolkata. It's a quaint little bookstore named 'The Bibliophile's Retreat'. Nestled in the heart of the city, it's a haven for book lovers like myself. The store, with its rustic wooden interiors and the intoxicating aroma of fresh pages, instantly transports you to a different world, far removed from the city's hustle and bustle.

Now, what makes 'The Bibliophile's Retreat' stand out is its unique collection of books. It's not your run-of-the-mill bookstore that stocks only bestsellers or mainstream titles. Instead, it's a treasure trove of rare, out-of-print books, first editions, and works from lesser-known authors. The owners, a delightful elderly couple, are always at hand to recommend books based on your taste and preferences.

Moreover, the store hosts a variety of events to engage the local literary community. From book readings and author meet-and-greets to poetry slams and writing workshops, there's always something exciting happening. It's not just a store; it's a vibrant cultural hub that fosters a love for literature.

In conclusion, 'The Bibliophile's Retreat' is a wonderful addition to Kolkata's cultural landscape. It's a place where you can lose yourself in the magical world of books, meet like-minded individuals, and participate in enriching literary events. I'm absolutely delighted that such a store has opened in my city, and I look forward to spending many blissful hours there.





Describe a new store/shop that has recently opened in your town/city.

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe apne ghar ke shehar, Kolkata, mein haal hi mein khule ek naye store ke baare mein baat karne mein bahut khushi ho rahi hai. Yeh ek sundar choti si kitab ki dukaan hai jiska naam 'The Bibliophile's Retreat' hai. Shahar ke dil mein sthit, yeh ek aashiyen hai jaise ki mujh jaise kitab premiyon ke liye. Store, apne rustic lakdi ke interiors aur taza panne ki madhosh karne wali khushboo ke saath, aapko turant ek alag duniya mein le jaata hai, shahar ki hulchul se door.

Ab, jo 'The Bibliophile's Retreat' ko alag banata hai woh hai iski anokhi kitabon ki collection. Yeh aapka run-of-the-mill bookstore nahi hai jo sirf bestsellers ya mainstream titles stock karta hai. Balki, yeh durlabh, out-of-print books, pehle editions, aur kam jaane wale lekhakon ki kritiyon ka ek khazana hai. Malik, ek sukhad vriddh joda, hamesha aapke swaad aur pasand ke aadhar par kitabon ki sifarish karne ke liye upasthit rehte hain.

Iske alawa, store sthaniya sahyik samuday ko sakriya rakhne ke liye vibhinn karyakram aayojit karta hai. Kitab padhne se lekar lekhak se mulaqat, kavita slams se lekar lekhni karyashala tak, hamesha kuch romanchak hota rehta hai. Yeh sirf ek store nahi hai; yeh ek jeevant sanskritik hub hai jo sahyika ke prati prem badhata hai.

Nishkarsh mein, 'The Bibliophile's Retreat' Kolkata ke sanskritik drishya mein ek adbhut yogdan hai. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jahan aap kitabon ki jadui duniya mein khud ko kho sakte hain, saman soch wale vyaktiyon se mil sakte hain, aur sahyik karyakramon mein bhag le sakte hain. Mujhe bahut khushi hai ki aisi ek dukaan mere shahar mein khuli hai, aur mujhe umeed hai ki main wahan anek blissful ghante bitaunga.





Describe a place away from your home and you want to visit in the future

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the place that has been on my bucket list for quite some time now is the picturesque valley of Ladakh, located in the northernmost part of India. It's a place that has always intrigued me with its enchanting beauty and unique cultural heritage.

You see, I've always been an ardent admirer of nature's splendour and Ladakh, from what I've heard and seen in pictures, is a place that seems to be painted by the divine hands of nature itself. The majestic snow-capped mountains, the serene blue lakes, and the vast expanses of barren land, all of it just takes my breath away. Moreover, the fact that it's often referred to as the 'Land of High Passes' adds a touch of adventure to it, which I find absolutely thrilling.

But it's not just the natural beauty that draws me towards Ladakh. I'm equally fascinated by its rich cultural tapestry. The region is home to several ancient Buddhist monasteries, and I'm eager to explore them and learn more about their history and traditions. I believe it would be a wonderful opportunity to immerse myself in a culture that's so different from my own.

So, all in all, Ladakh is a place that I'm yearning to visit in the future. It's a place that promises a blend of tranquillity, adventure, and cultural enrichment, and I'm sure it will be an experience of a lifetime. I can't wait to pack my bags and set off on this exciting journey.





Describe a place away from your home and you want to visit in the future

Hindi Translation

Achha, woh jagah jo kafi samay se meri bucket list par hai, woh hai Ladakh ki chitrakari ghati, jo Bharat ke sabse uttari hisse me sthit hai. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jo hamesha se mujhe apni manmohak sundarta aur anokhi sanskritik dharohar ke saath mujhe behad akarshit karti hai.

Dekhiye, main hamesha se prakriti ke shobha ka ek utsahi premi raha hoon aur Ladakh, jaisa ki maine suna hai aur tasveeron me dekha hai, ek aisi jagah lagti hai jo prakriti ke divya haathon dwara chitrit ki gayi ho. Shandar barf se dhaki hui pahadiyan, shant neele jheelen, aur viran bhoomi ke vishaal vistaar, yeh sab mujhe behad akarshit karte hain. Iske alawa, iska 'Ucch Daron ki Bhoomi' ke roop me ullekh hona isme ek romanchak modak ansh jodta hai, jo mujhe behad romanchak lagta hai.

Lekin sirf prakritik sundarta hi nahi hai jo mujhe Ladakh ki taraf khinchti hai. Main uski sanskritik bunaavat se bhi barabar mohit hoon. Yeh kshetra kai purane Bauddh mathon ka ghar hai, aur main unhe explore karne aur unke itihaas aur paramparaon ke baare me adhik jaanne ke liye utsuk hoon. Mujhe lagta hai yeh ek adbhut avsar hoga ki main apne aap ko ek aisi sanskriti me dooba sakoon jo meri apni se bahut alag hai.

To, sab mila kar, Ladakh ek aisi jagah hai jise main bhavishya me ghoomne ke liye utavla hoon. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jo shanti, saahasik yatra, aur sanskritik samriddhi ka ek mishran vaada karti hai, aur main yakeen rakhta hoon ki yeh ek jeevan ka anubhav hoga. Main apne bag pack karne aur is romanchak yatra par nikalne ka intezaar nah kar sakta.





Describe an adventure you would like to go on.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm a bit of a thrill-seeker, so the adventure I've been dreaming about is a trek to the base camp of Mount Everest. It's not just the adrenaline rush that entices me, but also the sheer beauty and grandeur of the Himalayas that I've heard so much about from my friends who've been there.

You see, the trek is not just about reaching the base camp. It's a journey that takes you through some of the most breathtaking landscapes on earth. Imagine walking through lush green forests, crossing icy rivers, and traversing rocky terrains, all the while surrounded by towering snow-capped peaks. It's like being in a different world altogether. And then there are the Sherpa villages along the way, where one gets to experience the local culture and hospitality. It's a blend of adventure and cultural immersion that I find incredibly appealing.

But it's not all fun and games, mind you. The trek is physically demanding and the high altitude can be quite challenging. But I believe that's part of the adventure. It's about pushing your limits and stepping out of your comfort zone. And the sense of achievement when you finally reach the base camp, I imagine, must be absolutely exhilarating.

So, that's the adventure I'd like to embark on. It's a bit ambitious, I know, but I believe in dreaming big. And who knows, maybe one day I'll be standing at the base of Mount Everest, looking up at the highest peak in the world, with a sense of awe and accomplishment.





Describe an adventure you would like to go on.

Hindi Translation

Accha, main thoda sa thrill-seeker hoon, isliye wo adventure jiske bare mein main sapne dekhta hoon woh hai Mount Everest ke base camp tak ka trek. Yeh sirf adrenaline rush hi nahi hai jo mujhe akarshit karta hai, balki Himalayas ki woh sundarta aur shaan bhi hai jiske bare mein maine apne doston se bahut suna hai jo wahan gaye hain.

Dekhiye, yeh trek sirf base camp tak pahunchne ke bare mein nahi hai. Yeh ek yatra hai jo आपको दुनिया के कुछ सबसे अद्भुत दृश्यों से होकर ले जाती है। सोचिये, हरे भरे जंगलों से होकर, बरफिली नदियों को पार करके, और चट्टानी इलाकों से होकर चलना, जबकि आपको चारों तरफ से बरफ से धकी हुई उंचाइयों से घिरा हुआ मिलता है। यह बिल्कुल अलग दुनिया जैसा लगता है। और फिर रास्ते में Sherpa गाँव भी होते हैं, जहाँ आपको स्थानीय संस्कृति और मेहमान नवाजी का अनुभव मिलता है। यह adventure और सांस्कृतिक immersion का मिश्रण है जो मुझे बेहद आकर्षित करता है।

Lekin yeh sab maza aur khel nahi hai, dhyan dijiye. Yeh trek sharirik roop se maang karti hai aur uchai kaafi challenging ho sakti hai. Lekin main maanta hoon ki yeh adventure ka hissa hai. Yeh apni seemaon ko dhakelne aur apne comfort zone se bahar nikalne ke bare mein hai. Aur jab aap ant mein base camp pahunchte hain, toh mujhe lagta hai, uska anubhav nishchit roop se bahut romanchak hoga.

Toh, yeh woh adventure hai jis par main prarambh karna chahta hoon. Yeh thoda mahatvapurna hai, mujhe pata hai, lekin main bade sapne dekhne mein vishwas karta hoon. Aur kaun jaane, shayad ek din main Mount Everest ke base par khada hounge, duniya ki sabse unchi choti ki taraf dekhta hua, ek aashcharya aur uplabdhi ki bhavna ke saath.





Describe an invention that is useful in daily life

Band 9 sample Response

Well, there's a myriad of inventions that have significantly impacted our daily lives, but the one that immediately springs to my mind is the smartphone. It's a ubiquitous gadget in today's world, especially in a country like India where it has become an indispensable part of our lives.

The smartphone, as we know it today, is a far cry from the bulky, feature-limited mobile phones we had in the early 2000s. It's a mini-computer that fits snugly in our pockets. From setting an alarm to wake up in the morning, to ordering a late-night snack, the smartphone has us covered. It's our go-to device for communication, entertainment, shopping, and even for work-related tasks.

What's fascinating about the smartphone is how it has revolutionized the way we live. For instance, in India, the smartphone has played a pivotal role in bridging the digital divide. It has empowered the common man with access to information and services that were once out of reach. From farmers checking weather updates to students attending online classes, the smartphone has truly democratized the digital space in India.

In conclusion, the smartphone, with its myriad of applications and features, has truly transformed our daily lives. It's an invention that has not only made our lives easier but also opened up a world of possibilities. It's a testament to human ingenuity and the power of technology.





Describe an invention that is useful in daily life

Hindi Translation

Achha, hamari rojmarra ki zindagi par kafi prabhav dalne wale anek avishkaron ka ek samuh hai, lekin jo turant mere dimag me aata hai, woh hai smartphone. Yeh aaj ki duniya me ek sarvavyapi upkaran hai, khaas karke ek desh jaise Bharat me jahan yeh hamari zindagi ka avibhajya hissa ban gaya hai.

Jaisa ki hum aaj smartphone ko jante hain, woh purane 2000s ke bhaari, suvidha-simit mobile phones se bahut alag hai. Yeh ek mini-computer hai jo hamare jeb me araam se fit ho jata hai. Subah uthne ke liye alarm set karna se lekar raat ko deri baje khana mangwana, smartphone ne hame cover kiya hua hai. Yeh hamara pehla upkaran hai communication, manoranjana, khareedari, aur karya sambandhi karyon ke liye.

Smartphone ke baare me jo dilchasp hai woh yeh hai ki isne hamari jeevan shaili ko kaise kranti kar diya hai. Udaharan ke liye, Bharat me, smartphone ne digital antar ko kam karne me ek mahatvapurna bhumika nibhai hai. Isne aam aadmi ko un suchnaon aur sevaon tak pahunchane me sahayta ki hai jo ek samay me dur the. Kisanon se lekar mausam ki jankari check karne tak, chhatron tak online kakshaon me bhag lene tak, smartphone ne sach me Bharat me digital jagah ko loktantrik banaya hai.

Nishkarsh me, smartphone, apne anek applications aur visheshtaon ke saath, hamari rojmarra ki zindagi ko sach me badal diya hai. Yeh ek avishkar hai jo ne sirf hamari zindagi ko aasan banaya hai, balki ek sambhavnayon ki duniya ko bhi khola hai. Yeh manav soojh-boojh aur technology ki shakti ka gawah hai.





Describe a popular/famous person in your country

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person who instantly springs to mind when I think of someone famous from my country, India, is none other than Amitabh Bachchan, a titan in the Indian film industry. He's a household name, not just in India, but across the globe, thanks to the universal appeal of his films.

Amitabh Bachchan, affectionately known as "Big B", has been gracing the silver screen for over five decades now. He made his debut in the late 1960s, and since then, he's been an integral part of the cinematic landscape. He's renowned for his deep baritone voice and towering height, both of which have become his signature traits. His performances in films like "Sholay", "Deewar", and "Zanjeer" have etched him into the annals of Indian cinema.

What makes him stand out, in my opinion, is his versatility as an actor. He's played a myriad of roles, from the angry young man to the wise old patriarch, and he's done it all with an enviable finesse. His acting prowess is such that he can make the audience laugh, cry, and feel every emotion in between. He's also a great humanitarian, often involved in various philanthropic activities, which makes him a role model for many.

In conclusion, Amitabh Bachchan is a true icon of Indian cinema. His contribution to the film industry is immeasurable, and his popularity is a testament to his talent and charisma. He's not just a famous person in India; he's a legend, and his legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire future generations.





Describe a popular/famous person in your country

Hindi Translation

Accha, jab mujhe apne desh, Bharat, se kisi mashoor vyakti ke baare mein sochna hota hai, toh mann me sabse pehle Amitabh Bachchan ka naam aata hai, jo Bharatiya film udyog ke ek mahatvapurna hissa hain. Woh sirf Bharat me hi nahi, balki pure vishwa me ek ghar-ghar ki baat hain, unki filmo ki sarvabhaumik akarshakta ki wajah se.

Amitabh Bachchan, jo pyaar se "Big B" ke naam se jane jate hain, pichle paanch dashak se silver screen ko sajate aa rahe hain. Unhone apna career der 1960s me shuru kiya, aur tab se woh cinematic landscape ka ek abhinn hissa rahe hain. Unki gahri awaaz aur uncha kad, dono hi unki pehchan ban gaye hain. Unki "Sholay", "Deewar", aur "Zanjeer" jaisi filmo me kiye gaye abhinay ne unhe Bharatiya cinema ki history me sthapit kar diya hai.

Meri ray me, unhe alag banane wali baat unka abhinay me bahutayat hai. Unhone anek bhoomikaon me apna abhinay kiya hai, gusse wale yuva se lekar samajhdar purane pitaji tak, aur unhone sab kuch ek adbhut kushalta ke saath kiya hai. Unka abhinay kshamta aisi hai ki woh darshako ko hasa sakte hain, rula sakte hain, aur har bhaavna ko mehsus karva sakte hain. Woh ek mahan manavtavadi bhi hain, jo aksar vibhinn paropkari karyo me shamil hote hain, jo unhe kai logo ke liye adarsh banate hain.

Nishkarsh me, Amitabh Bachchan Bharatiya cinema ke ek sachche pratik hain. Unka film udyog me yogdan apoorva hai, aur unki lokpriyata unki pratibha aur charishmatic vyaktitva ki gawahi deti hai. Woh sirf Bharat me hi nahi, balki ek yugpurush hain, aur unka virasat nishchit roop se bhavishya ke peedhiyon ko prerit karega.





Describe the game you enjoyed playing when you were younger.

Band 9 sample Response

Ah, the joys of childhood! I was quite the gaming enthusiast back in the day, and the game that I was particularly fond of was cricket. It's a game that's deeply ingrained in the Indian psyche, isn't it? I mean, in India, cricket is not just a game, it's a religion, a way of life. I remember how my friends and I would gather every evening in the park near our homes, armed with our cricket gear, brimming with enthusiasm.

Our cricket matches were a sight to behold. The park would transform into a mini stadium, with spectators comprising of our parents, siblings, and occasionally, the grumpy old man from the corner house who would inevitably end up as our umpire. The rules were simple, yet unique to our little group. For instance, if you hit the ball into Mrs. Sharma's balcony, you were immediately declared out!

The game taught me many valuable lessons. It was a melting pot of emotions - the thrill of hitting a six, the disappointment of getting out, the camaraderie among teammates, and the friendly rivalry with the opposing team. It was here that I learnt about teamwork, sportsmanship, and the importance of staying grounded, even in victory.

Looking back, I realise that those cricket matches were not just about the game. They were about friendships, about growing up, about life itself. Even today, the mere mention of cricket brings back a wave of nostalgia, and I can't help but smile at those wonderful memories.





Describe the game you enjoyed playing when you were younger.

Hindi Translation

Ah, bachpan ke anand! Main us samay ek bahut bada khel premi tha, aur mujhe jo khel sabse adhik pasand tha woh tha cricket. Yeh ek khel hai jo Bharatiya manas mein gahri tarah se basa hua hai, haina? Mera matlab hai, Bharat mein cricket sirf ek khel nahi hai, yeh ek dharm hai, ek jeevan shaili. Mujhe yaad hai ki kaise mere doston aur main har shaam apne ghar ke paas ke park mein ekatrit hote the, apne cricket samagri ke saath, utsah se bhare hue.

Hamare cricket matches dekhne layak hote the. Park ek mini stadium mein badal jata tha, jisme darshak hamare mata-pita, bhai-behen, aur kabhi-kabhi, kone wale ghar ke chidchide budhe aadmi hote the, jo avashya hi hamara umpire ban jate the. Niyam samanya the, lekin hamare chote samuh ke liye anokhe the. Udaharan ke liye, agar aapne ball ko Mrs. Sharma ke balcony mein maara, to aap turant out ghoshit kar diye jate the!

Khel ne mujhe kai mulyavan sabak sikhaye. Yeh bhavnaon ka mishran tha - chhakka marni ka romanch, out hone ki nirasha, teammates ke beech ki sahajta, aur vipakshi team ke saath mitrata purvak pratispardha. Yahan mujhe team kaam, khel prem, aur jeet mein bhi zameen se jude rehne ki mahatva ki samajh aayi.

Peeche mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe samajh aata hai ki woh cricket matches sirf khel ke baare mein nahi the. Woh dosti, bade hone, aur jeevan ke baare mein the. Aaj bhi, cricket ka zikr sunte hi mujhe purani yaadein yaad aati hai, aur main un anmol yaadon par muskurahat nahi rok pata.





***Describe someone you know
who has recently moved to a
new place***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me tell you about my cousin, Ravi, who recently shifted to a new city, Bangalore, for his job. He's a software engineer by profession and was offered a lucrative opportunity by a leading IT firm there, which he couldn't resist. Bangalore, as you might know, is known as the Silicon Valley of India, and it's a dream for many tech enthusiasts to work there.

Ravi was initially apprehensive about the move, primarily because he was born and brought up in Delhi and had never lived outside his home city. The thought of leaving his comfort zone and starting afresh in an unfamiliar city was indeed daunting. However, the prospect of professional growth and the chance to experience a new culture outweighed his fears.

The transition was not as smooth as he had anticipated. The traffic in Bangalore was a nightmare, and the language barrier posed a significant challenge. He was used to the hustle and bustle of Delhi, where Hindi is predominantly spoken, and adapting to a city where Kannada is the local language was a bit of a struggle. But, being the resilient person he is, he started learning Kannada and even embraced the local cuisine, which is quite different from the North Indian food he was accustomed to.

Now, after a few months, Ravi seems to have settled well in his new city. He's made new friends, learned to navigate through the city's traffic, and has even developed a taste for local dishes like Bisi Bele Bath and Rava Idli. He often says that moving to Bangalore has been a transformative experience, one that has broadened his horizons and made him more adaptable. So, that's about Ravi and his recent move to a new place.





Describe someone you know who has recently moved to a new place

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe aapko apne chachere bhai, Ravi, ke baare mein batane do, jo haal hi mein apne naye kaam ke liye Bangalore, ek naye shahar, mein shift ho gaye. Woh profession se software engineer hain aur unhe wahan ek aage badhne ka mauka mila tha ek pramukh IT firm se, jise woh tyag nahi sakte the. Bangalore, jaisa ki aapko pata hoga, Bharat ka Silicon Valley ke naam se jaana jaata hai, aur yahan kaam karna bahut saare tech enthusiasts ka sapna hota hai.

Ravi shuru mein is shift ke baare mein thoda sankochi the, kyun ki unka janm aur palan poshan Delhi mein hua tha aur unhone kabhi apne ghar ke shahar ke bahar nahi reha tha. Apne comfort zone ko chhod kar ek anjaan shahar mein nayi shuruat karne ka vichar sach mein bhayavah tha. Lekin, professional growth ka nazariya aur ek naye culture ko anubhav karne ka mauka unke dar ko kam kar diya.

Yeh transition utna smooth nahi tha jitna unhone socha tha. Bangalore ki traffic ek bura sapna thi, aur bhasha ki deewar ek badi chunauti thi. Woh Delhi ki hulchul se aadi the, jahan mukhya roop se Hindi boli jaati hai, aur ek shahar mein dhalna jahan Kannada sthaniya bhasha hai, thoda sangharsh tha. Lekin, woh jo mazboot vyakti hain, unhone Kannada sikhna shuru kar diya aur sthaniya bhojan ko bhi apnaya, jo ki North Indian khana se kaafi alag hai.

Ab, kuch mahino ke baad, Ravi apne naye shahar mein acche se bas gaye hain. Unhone naye dost banaye hain, shahar ki traffic ko samajhna sikh liya hai, aur unhone sthaniya dishes jaise Bisi Bele Bath aur Rava Idli ka swad bhi chakh liya hai. Woh aksar kehte hain ki Bangalore mein shift hona ek rupantaran anubhav raha hai, ek aisa jo unke daayre ko badha chuka hai aur unhe aur bhi anukool banaya hai. Toh, yeh tha Ravi aur unke haal hi mein naye sthan par shift hone ke baare mein.





Describe an occasion when you got incorrect information

Band 9 sample Response

Well, there was this one time, not too long ago, that I was a victim of misinformation. It was during the time of my board exams, a period that is notoriously stressful for any Indian student. My friends and I had formed a study group to tackle the monstrous syllabus, and we were relying heavily on each other for notes and updates.

One day, a friend of mine, Ravi, who was known for his meticulous note-taking, informed us that our Physics exam, initially scheduled for a Monday, had been rescheduled to the following Wednesday. He had apparently received this information from a reliable source. Naturally, we were all thrilled at the prospect of two extra days to prepare.

However, the joy was short-lived. The very next day, our school sent out an official notification stating that there had been no change in the exam schedule. The Physics paper was still due on Monday. The initial relief turned into panic as we realized we had been misled.

In hindsight, I think the situation taught us a valuable lesson about verifying information, especially when it's as crucial as an exam date. It was a bit of a wake-up call, really. We learned to cross-check any information we received, no matter how reliable the source seemed. And Ravi, well, he learned to be a bit more careful with his 'reliable sources'.





Describe an occasion when you got incorrect information

Hindi Translation

Haan, ek baar aisa hua tha, zyada samay pehle nahi, jab main galat jaankari ka shikaar bana. Ye samay tha mere board exams ka, jo kisi bhi Bharatiya vidyarthi ke liye prasiddh roop se tanavpurn hota hai. Mere doston ne aur maine ek adhyayan samuh banaya tha, jisne hume bhayankar pathyakram ko samjhne me madad ki thi. Hum ek dusre par notes aur updates ke liye kafi nirbhar the.

Ek din, mera ek dost, Ravi, jise uske dhyan se banaye gaye notes ke liye jana jata tha, ne hume bataya ki hamara Bhautiki ka exam, jo pehle Somvaar ko hona tha, ab agle Budhvaar ko hoga. Usne ye jaankari ek vishwasniya strot se prapt ki thi. Swabhavik roop se, hum sabhi ko do atirikt din ki taiyari ke liye khushi hui.

Lekin, khushi jyada der tak nahi rahi. Agli hi din, hamare school ne ek adhikarik suchna bheji jisme bataya gaya tha ki pariksha karyakram me koi parivartan nahi hua tha. Bhautiki ka paper abhi bhi Somvaar ko hi tha. Pehle ki rahat ab ghabrahat me badal gayi jab hume samajh aaya ki hume galat jaankari mili thi.

Peeche mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe lagta hai ki ye sthiti ne hume mahatvapurn jaankari ki pushti karne ke bare me ek mulyavan sabak sikhaya. Ye ek prakar ka jagrukta call tha, sach kahu to. Humne sikha ki hume kisi bhi prapt jaankari ko cross-check karna chahiye, chahe strot kitna bhi vishwasniya kyun na ho. Aur Ravi, woh thoda aur savdhan ho gaya apne 'vishwasniya strot' ke sath.





Describe a valuable item that you would like to give as a gift

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've always been a firm believer that the best gifts are those that hold a personal significance and can stand the test of time. Keeping that in mind, I'd love to talk about a valuable item that I would like to gift someone, which is a beautifully handcrafted Indian chess set.

The reason I chose this particular item is twofold. Firstly, I have always been fascinated by the game of chess, a game that is not just about strategy but also about patience and foresight. It's a game that transcends age and time, much like the Indian culture itself. Secondly, the chess set I'm referring to is not just any ordinary one. It's a handcrafted piece, made by artisans from Rajasthan, a state in India renowned for its rich heritage and exquisite craftsmanship.

This chess set is made of high-quality wood and is adorned with intricate designs, reflecting the grandeur of Indian artistry. The chess pieces, representing the Indian royalty and their court, are meticulously carved, each one a masterpiece in its own right. It's not just a game, but a piece of art that tells a story of India's glorious past.

In my opinion, this chess set would make a perfect gift, especially for someone who appreciates art and culture. It's not just about the monetary value, but the sentimental value it carries. It's a symbol of India's rich cultural heritage, a testament to the skill and dedication of our artisans, and a reminder of the timeless wisdom that the game of chess embodies.





Describe a valuable item that you would like to give as a gift

Hindi Translation

Accha, main hamesha se yeh maanta aaya hoon ki behtareen uphaar woh hote hain jo vyaktigat mahatva rakhte hain aur samay ki kasauti par khade utarte hain. Is baat ko dhyan mein rakhte hue, mujhe ek keemti vastu ke baare mein baat karna pasand hoga jo main kisi ko uphaar dena chahta hoon, jo ek sundar hath se banaya gaya Bharatiya shatranj set hai.

Mujhe is vishesh vastu ko chunne ki wajah do hai. Pehli, main hamesha se shatranj ke khel se prabhavit hua hoon, ek khel jo sirf ranniti ke baare mein nahi balki dhairya aur door drishti ke baare mein bhi hai. Yeh ek khel hai jo umra aur samay ko par kar jaata hai, bilkul jaise ki Bharatiya sanskriti khud. Dusri, jis shatranj set ki main baat kar raha hoon woh koi samanya nahi hai. Yeh ek hath se banaya gaya tukda hai, jo Rajasthan ke shilpkaron dwara banaya gaya hai, ek rajya jo apni samriddh dharohar aur shandaar shilp kala ke liye prasiddh hai.

Yeh shatranj set ucch koti ki lakdi se banaya gaya hai aur is par jatil design ki sajavat ki gayi hai, jo Bharatiya kala ka vaibhav darshati hai. Shatranj ke tukde, jo Bharatiya rajwansh aur unke darbar ko prastut karte hain, inhe soch samajhkar tarasha gaya hai, har ek apne aap mein ek mahakavya hai. Yeh sirf ek khel nahi hai, balki ek kala ka tukda hai jo Bharat ke gauravshali atit ki kahani batata hai.

Mere vichar mein, yeh shatranj set ek adarsh uphaar banega, vishesh roop se kisi ke liye jo kala aur sanskriti ki sarahna karta hai. Yeh sirf dhan ki kimat ke baare mein nahi hai, balki bhavnaatmak mulya jo isme hai. Yeh Bharat ki samriddh sanskritik dharohar ka prateek hai, hamare shilpkaron ki kushalta aur samarpan ka gawah hai, aur shatranj ke khel dwara prastut samayojit gyan ki yaad dilata hai.





Describe a piece of clothing you wear most often

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say that my wardrobe is brimming with a variety of clothes, but the one I find myself reaching for the most is my trusty pair of denim jeans. They are a classic blue, straight-cut pair that I purchased from a local market in Delhi. I've had them for a couple of years now, and they've become my go-to for almost any occasion.

You see, the beauty of these jeans lies in their versatility. Whether I'm heading out for a casual day with friends or attending a semi-formal event, these jeans never fail me. I usually pair them with a crisp white shirt for a more formal look, or a funky graphic tee if I'm aiming for a laid-back vibe. The comfort they offer is unparalleled, making them a staple in my everyday attire.

What's more, these jeans have a story to tell. I remember haggling with the shopkeeper over the price, a common practice in Indian markets, and finally securing a great deal. Every time I wear them, I'm reminded of that bustling market, the vibrant colours, and the exhilarating thrill of bargaining.

In conclusion, while I enjoy wearing all kinds of clothes, my blue jeans hold a special place in my heart. They're not just a piece of clothing, but a memory, a comfort, and a style statement all rolled into one. I guess it's safe to say that they're my favourite piece of clothing, and I don't see that changing anytime soon.





Describe a piece of clothing you wear most often

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe kehna chahiye ki mera almari kapdon se bhara hua hai, lekin jise main sabse zyada chunta hoon woh hai mera vishwasniya denim jeans. Yeh ek classic blue, seedha cut wala pair hai jo maine Delhi ke ek sthaniya bazaar se khareeda tha. Mujhe inhe kuch saalon se rakh chuka hoon, aur yeh mere liye lagbhag har avsar ke liye pehli pasand ban gaye hain.

Dekhiye, in jeans ki khoobsurti unki bahucharchitata mein hai. Chahe main doston ke saath ek aam din ke liye bahar ja raha hoon ya ek ardha-anoupcharik event mein hissa le raha hoon, yeh jeans mujhe kabhi nakaam nahi karti. Main unhe ek crisp white shirt ke saath jodta hoon ek adhik anoupcharik look ke liye, ya ek funky graphic tee agar main ek laid-back vibe ke liye aim kar raha hoon. Unka jo aaram hai woh bejod hai, jisse woh mere rozmarra ki poshak ka ek staple ban gaye hain.

Iske alawa, in jeans mein ek kahani hai. Mujhe yaad hai ki maine dukandar se daam par bahas ki thi, jo ki Bharatiya bazaaron mein ek aam pratha hai, aur ant mein ek shandar deal pakki ki thi. Har baar jab main unhe pehenta hoon, mujhe woh bhagdaud wala bazaar, tez rang, aur mohre lagane ki romanchak thrill yaad aati hai.

Nishkarsh mein, jabki mujhe sab prakar ke kapde pehenne mein anand milta hai, mere blue jeans mere dil mein ek vishesh sthan rakhte hain. Woh sirf ek kapda nahi hai, balki ek smriti, aaram, aur ek shaili ka bayan sab ek mein hain. Mujhe lagta hai ki yeh kahna surakshit hoga ki woh mere pasandida kapde hain, aur mujhe nahi lagta ki yeh jald hi badalne wala hai.





***Describe an occasion when
you spent time with a young
child***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, I've had numerous interactions with young children, but one particular occasion that springs to mind is when I spent an entire day with my four-year-old nephew, Aryan. He's an absolute bundle of joy, full of energy and curiosity, and that day was certainly one to remember.

It was during the summer holidays, and Aryan's parents, my sister and brother-in-law, were both tied up with work. So, I decided to step in and take care of the little tyke. We started off the day with a hearty breakfast of his favourite aloo parathas, which I managed to whip up, albeit with a bit of struggle. Then, we spent the morning playing with his colourful Lego blocks, building all sorts of structures, from castles to cars. His infectious laughter and vivid imagination truly made the experience delightful.

In the afternoon, we headed to the nearby park. Aryan, being a typical Indian child, loves cricket. So, we played a friendly match, with him hitting every ball I bowled with surprising vigour. Post that, we indulged in a bit of bird-watching, with Aryan being particularly fascinated by the vibrant peacocks strutting around.

As the day drew to a close, we returned home, tired but content. We wrapped up the day with a bit of storytelling, with Aryan listening intently to the tales of Indian mythology. Spending time with Aryan was not just entertaining but also enlightening, as it allowed me to view the world through the innocent and curious eyes of a child. It was indeed a day well spent.





Describe an occasion when you spent time with a young child

Hindi Translation

Accha, mujhe kehna chahiye, maine chhote bachchon ke saath anek baar interact kiya hai, lekin ek khaas mauka yaad aata hai jab maine apne chaar saal ke bhatije, Aryan, ke saath pura din bitaya. Woh ekdum khushiyon ka gubbare ki tarah hai, bhara hua energy aur jigryasa se, aur woh din yaadgar tha.

Yeh garmiyan ki chhuttiyon ke dauran thi, aur Aryan ke maa baap, meri behen aur jeeja ji, dono kaam me vyasth the. Toh, maine decide kiya ki main chhote bacche ka dhyan rakhungi. Humne din ki shuruaat uske pasandida aloo parathas ke saath kiya, jo maine banaya, haala ki thodi mushkil ke saath. Phir, humne subah uske rangin Lego blocks ke saath khela, har tarah ke structures banate hue, mahalon se lekar car tak. Uski anste hue hasi aur jeevant kalpana ne sach me anubhav ko anandit kar diya.

Dopahar me, hum najdiki park gaye. Aryan, ek samanya Bharatiya bachche ki tarah, cricket pasand karta hai. Toh, humne ek friendly match khela, jisme usne har ball ko jo maine daali usne aashcharyajanak shakti se maara. Uske baad, humne thodi der pakshi dekhne me bitayi, Aryan khaas karke rangeen moron ko dekh kar bahut khush tha.

Jab din samapt hone laga, hum thake huye lekin santusht ghar laut aaye. Humne din ki samapti kuch kahaniyon se ki, jisme Aryan Bharatiya puran kathaon ko dhyan se sun raha tha. Aryan ke saath samay bitana sirf manoranjan hi nahi tha balki gyaanvardhak bhi tha, kyonki isne mujhe duniya ko ek masoom aur jigryasa bhare bacche ki drishti se dekhne ka mauka diya. Yeh sach me ek acche se bitaya hua din tha.





Describe a sports program you like to watch

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm not an avid sports enthusiast, but there is one sports program that I absolutely adore, and that's the Indian Premier League or IPL as it's commonly known. It's a cricket tournament that takes place annually in India, and it's a spectacle that has me glued to the television screen.

The IPL is a unique blend of sports and entertainment. It brings together cricketers from all over the globe, who form a part of various city-based teams. The camaraderie between players of different nationalities, playing for the same team, is a sight to behold. The matches are nail-bitingly close, often going down to the last ball, and the atmosphere, even on the television, is electric.

What sets IPL apart for me, though, is the sense of unity it fosters. Cricket is akin to a religion in India, and the IPL, with its city-based teams, brings together people from diverse backgrounds. It's heartening to see people rooting for their home teams, wearing team jerseys, and celebrating victories together. It's a festival of sorts, a celebration of cricket, and of unity in diversity.

In conclusion, the IPL is more than just a sports program for me. It's a celebration of cricket, a showcase of international talent, and a unifying force that brings together a nation known for its diversity. It's a program that I eagerly look forward to, and one that never fails to entertain.





Describe a sports program you like to watch

Hindi Translation

Accha, main ek utsaahi khel premi nahi hoon, lekin ek aisa khel karyakram hai jo mujhe bilkul pasand hai, aur vah hai Bharatiya Pramukh League ya IPL jaisa ki aam taur par jaana jaata hai. Yeh ek cricket tournament hai jo har saal Bharat mein hota hai, aur yeh ek drishya hai jo mujhe television screen se chipka deta hai.

IPL ek anokha mishran hai khel aur manoranjan ka. Yeh cricketers ko duniya bhar se ek saath laata hai, jo vibhinn shahar aadharit teams ka hissa banate hain. Alag-alag rashtriyata ke khiladiyon ke beech ki dosti, ek hi team ke liye khelna, dekhne layak drishya hai. Matche atyant kasht dayak hote hain, aksar aakhiri gend tak jaate hain, aur mahaul, television par bhi, bijli se bhara hota hai.

Lekin, jo IPL ko mere liye alag karti hai, vah hai ekta ki bhavana jo yeh paida karti hai. Cricket Bharat mein ek dharm ke samaan hai, aur IPL, apni shahar aadharit teams ke saath, vibhinn prishthabhoomiyon se logon ko ek saath laati hai. Yeh dil ko chhu lene wala hai ki log apni ghar ki teams ke liye jadu ki jhappi dekhte hain, team ki jerseys pehente hain, aur jeet ka saath milkar manate hain. Yeh ek prakar ka tyohar hai, cricket ka utsav, aur vividhta mein ekta ka utsav.

Nishkarsh mein, IPL mere liye sirf ek khel karyakram se adhik hai. Yeh cricket ka utsav hai, antarrashtriya pratibha ka pradarshan, aur ek ekjut karne wali shakti jo ek jaati ke liye prasiddh ek rashtra ko ek saath laati hai. Yeh ek karyakram hai jisko main utsaah se dekhta hoon, aur ek jo kabhi entertain karne mein asafal nahi hota.





Describe a job that you think is interesting.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, there's a myriad of fascinating jobs out there, but one that particularly piques my interest is that of a travel blogger. I mean, who wouldn't want to get paid for exploring the world, right? It's like having your cake and eating it too!

Now, let me tell you why I find this job so captivating. Firstly, it's the sheer thrill of exploration. Imagine waking up in the heart of the Himalayas one day, and sipping a cup of tea by the serene backwaters of Kerala the next. The diversity of experiences is simply mind-boggling. Plus, you get to immerse yourself in different cultures, meet new people, and try exotic cuisines. It's like a never-ending adventure.

But it's not all fun and games. The job also requires a great deal of creativity and storytelling skills. You see, a travel blogger's job is to weave enchanting narratives around their experiences, to transport their readers to these exotic locales. And that requires a knack for words, a keen eye for detail, and a deep understanding of human emotions. It's this blend of adventure and creativity that makes the job so appealing to me.

In conclusion, I believe being a travel blogger is an interesting job because it combines the thrill of exploration with the joy of storytelling. It's a job that not only satiates your wanderlust but also fuels your creative spirit. And in a country as diverse and vibrant as India, it's a job that promises a lifetime of exciting experiences.





Describe a job that you think is interesting.

Hindi Translation

Accha, bahar bahut saare dilchasp kaam hain, lekin ek jo mujhe khaas taur par dilchasp lagta hai woh hai ek travel blogger ka kaam. Mera matlab hai, kaun nahi chahega duniya ghoomne ke liye paise kamane ke liye, sahi? Yeh toh apna cake khane aur rakhne dono jaisa hai!

Ab, mujhe aapko batane do ki mujhe yeh kaam kyun itna dilchasp lagta hai. Pehli baat toh yeh hai ki yeh sirf exploration ka thrill hai. Sochiye ek din Himalayas ke beech mein uthna, aur agle din Kerala ke shant backwaters par ek cup chai peena. Anubhavaon ki vividhata sirf dimaag hilane wali hai. Plus, aapko alag-alag sanskritiyon mein khud ko dubaane, naye logon se milne, aur videshi bhojan aazmaane ka mauka milta hai. Yeh ek kabhi khatam na hone wali sair hai.

Lekin yeh sab mazaak aur khel nahi hai. Kaam mein bahut saari rachnatmakta aur kahani sunane ki kala bhi chahiye. Dekhiye, ek travel blogger ka kaam unke anubhavaon ke aas paas manmohak kahaniyan bunna hota hai, taaki unke padhne wale ko in videshi sthalon tak pahuncha sake. Aur iske liye shabdon ke prati samajh, detail ke prati teekhi nazar, aur manav bhavnaon ki gahri samajh ki zaroorat hoti hai. Yeh sair aur rachnatmakta ka mishran mujhe kaam mein itna akarshit karta hai.

Nishkarsh mein, mujhe lagta hai ki ek travel blogger ka kaam dilchasp hai kyun ki yeh exploration ke thrill ko kahani sunane ki khushi ke saath jodta hai. Yeh ek kaam hai jo sirf aapki bhraman ki iccha ko santusht nahi karta balki aapki rachnatmak aatma ko bhi prerna deti hai. Aur India jaise vividh aur jeevant desh mein, yeh ek kaam hai jo jeevan bhar ke romanchak anubhavaon ka vaada karta hai.





Describe your idea of a perfect home or dream house where you want to live

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've always been a bit of a dreamer, and when it comes to envisioning my perfect home, I must say, my imagination runs wild. I've always been enamoured by the idea of living in a traditional Indian haveli, you know, the ones with the intricate architecture and sprawling courtyards that you often see in Bollywood movies.

The exterior of my dream house would be a blend of heritage and modernity. I envision it to be a two-storey structure, with a grand entrance that has a large teakwood door. The facade would be adorned with intricate carvings, reminiscent of the Rajput-era havelis, but with a touch of modern minimalism. I'd love to have a lush green lawn out front, with a variety of vibrant flowers and a couple of mango and neem trees, typical to Indian homes.

Inside, the house would be a sanctuary of peace and comfort. The living room would be spacious, with large windows that allow natural light to flood in. The walls would be adorned with traditional Indian art, and the furniture would be a mix of classic and contemporary styles. The kitchen would be a modern modular one, equipped with all the latest appliances, but with a traditional Indian tandoor for those days when I crave authentic naan and tikkas.

The pièce de résistance, however, would be the rooftop. It would be transformed into a terrace garden, with a small gazebo, where I could enjoy the monsoon rains or host intimate dinner parties under the starlit sky. In essence, my dream home would be a harmonious blend of tradition and modernity, a place where I can find tranquility amidst the hustle and bustle of Indian city life.





Describe your idea of a perfect home or dream house where you want to live

Hindi Translation

Achha, main hamesha se ek sapne dekhne wala insaan raha hoon, aur jab baat hoti hai apne adarsh ghar ki kalpana karne ki, to main kehna chahta hoon, mera kalpana shakti bahut tez daudti hai. Mujhe hamesha se Bharatiya paramparik haveli mein rehne ka vichar bahut pasand aaya hai, aapko pata hai, woh jo aksar Bollywood movies mein dikhai deti hai, jisme vistrit architecture aur bade bade angan hote hain.

Mere sapno ka ghar ka bahari hissa dharohar aur aadhunikta ka mishran hoga. Main ise do manzila structure ki tarah dekhta hoon, jisme ek bada pravesch dvar hoga jiska ek bada sagwan ka darwaza hoga. Mukhya dvar par suvikhyat naqqashi hogi, jo Rajput yug ki haveliyon ki yaad dilati hai, lekin usme aadhunik saralata ka sparsh hoga. Mujhe bahar ek hara bhara bagicha chahiye, jisme anek prakar ke rangeen phool aur ek ya do aam aur neem ke ped ho, jo Bharatiya gharo ki pehchan hai.

Andar, ghar shanti aur aaram ka sthal hoga. Drawing room kafi bada hoga, jisme bade bade khidki hongii jo prakritik roshni ko andar aane deti hain. Deewaron par Bharatiya paramparik kala se sajaya hoga, aur furniture classic aur aadhunik shailiyon ka mishran hoga. Kitchen ek aadhunik modular hoga, jo sabhi naye upkaranon se susajjit hoga, lekin un dino ke liye ek Bharatiya paramparik tandoor bhi hoga jab mujhe asli naan aur tikkas ki talab hoti hai.

Halanki, mukhya akarshan hoga chhat. Yeh ek terrace garden mein badal diya jayega, jisme ek chhota gazebo hoga, jahan main monsoon ki baarish ka anand le sakta hoon ya sitaron ke neeche chhote dinner parties aayojit kar sakta hoon. Saaransh mein, mera sapna ghar parampara aur aadhunikta ka samanvay hoga, ek aisi jagah jahan main Bharatiya shahar ki jeevan shaili ke hulchul ke beech shanti pa sakun.





***Describe a movie you
watched recently that you
felt disappointed about***

Band 9 sample Response

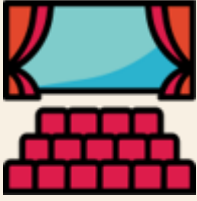
Just the other day, I happened to watch this much-hyped Bollywood flick, "Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai". The film starred Salman Khan, a stalwart of the Indian film industry, and was touted as an action-packed extravaganza. I was indeed quite excited about it, considering the buzz it had created.

The film, however, turned out to be a colossal disappointment. The plot was riddled with clichés and lacked any semblance of originality. It seemed as if the script was hastily put together, with little thought given to character development or narrative coherence. The storyline was so predictable that I could anticipate the twists and turns way before they unfolded on the screen.

The performances too were lacklustre, to say the least. Salman Khan, who is usually known for his charismatic screen presence, seemed to be going through the motions. The supporting cast didn't fare any better. The dialogues were cringe-worthy, and the humour fell flat more often than not. It was as if the film was trying too hard to be entertaining, but ended up being a caricature of itself.

In a nutshell, "Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai" was a classic case of style over substance. It relied heavily on star power and high-octane action sequences, but failed to deliver a compelling story. It was a stark reminder that a movie needs more than just big names and big budgets to be truly engaging. It needs a soul, which this film, unfortunately, lacked.





Describe a movie you watched recently that you felt disappointed about

Hindi Translation

Bas doosre din, mujhe ye bahut charchit Bollywood film, "Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai" dekhne ka mauka mila. Film mein Salman Khan, Bharatiya film udyog ke ek purane khiladi, mukhya bhumika mein the aur yeh film ek action bhari extravaganza ke roop mein prastut ki gayi thi. Mujhe iske baare mein kaafi utsahit tha, considering the buzz it had created.

Lekin, film ek bhari nirasha nikli. Kahani mein clichés se bharpur tha aur kisi bhi tarah ki originality ki kami thi. Lag raha tha jaise script jaldi jaldi tayyar ki gayi ho, character development ya narrative coherence par kam dhyan diya gaya ho. Kahani itni predictable thi ki main twists aur turns ko screen par unfold hone se pehle hi anticipate kar sakta tha.

Performances bhi kam hi prabhavshali thi, kam se kam. Salman Khan, jo apni charismatic screen presence ke liye jaane jaate hain, unhe motions se guzarte hue lag raha tha. Supporting cast ne bhi kuch khaas pradarshan nahi kiya. Dialogues cringe-worthy the, aur humour zyadatar flat pad gaya. Lag raha tha jaise film entertaining hone ki koshish bahut jyada kar rahi ho, lekin khud ka hi caricature ban gayi.

Saaransh mein, "Radhe: Your Most Wanted Bhai" ek classic case tha style over substance ka. Yeh film star power aur high-octane action sequences par heavily rely karti thi, lekin ek compelling story deliver karne mein fail ho gayi. Yeh ek stark reminder tha ki ek movie ko truly engaging banane ke liye sirf bade naam aur bade budgets ki zarurat nahi hoti. Usko ek soul ki zarurat hoti hai, jo ki is film mein, unfortunately, lacking thi.





Describe someone you know who often helps others

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person that instantly springs to mind when I think of someone who is always ready to lend a helping hand is my dear friend, Ravi. He's a real gem, the kind of person who is always there for others, no matter what.

Ravi hails from a small town in Rajasthan, but he's currently working in Bangalore as a software engineer. Despite his hectic schedule, he always manages to find time to help others. He's a member of a local NGO that works towards providing education to underprivileged children. Every weekend, he volunteers to teach these kids, making sure they grasp the basics of subjects like Mathematics and English.

What makes Ravi stand out is his innate ability to empathise with others. He's not just someone who offers financial aid or spends time teaching; he genuinely cares about the people he helps. I remember, during the recent floods in Kerala, he was one of the first people to start a crowdfunding campaign to aid the victims. He also flew down to Kerala to help with the relief work.

In a nutshell, Ravi is the embodiment of selflessness and altruism. His actions have inspired many, including me, to step out of our comfort zones and contribute to society in our own little ways. I feel privileged to know such a noble soul, and I believe the world would be a much better place if there were more people like him.





Describe someone you know who often helps others

Hindi Translation

Accha, jab main kisi ki madad karne ke liye hamesha tayyar kisi vyakti ke baare mein sochta hoon, to turant mere dimag mein mere pyare dost Ravi ka naam aata hai. Woh ek asli heera hai, woh vyakti jo hamesha doosron ke liye waha hota hai, chahe kuch bhi ho.

Ravi Rajasthan ke ek chhote se shahar se hain, lekin vah abhi Bangalore mein ek software engineer ke roop mein kaam kar raha hai. Unki vyast schedule ke bawjood, unhe hamesha doosron ki madad karne ka samay milta hai. Woh ek sthaniya NGO ka sadasya hain jo kamzor varg ke bachchon ko shiksha pradan karne ki taraf kaam karta hai. Har weekend, woh in bachchon ko padhane ke liye swayamsevak karte hain, yeh sunishchit karne ki koshish karte hain ki woh ganit aur angrezi jaise vishayon ke mool tatvon ko samajh lein.

Jo Ravi ko alag banata hai, woh hai unka dusron ke saath samvedna karne ki prakritik kshamata. Woh sirf kisi ko vittiya sahayata pradan karne wala ya samay bitane wala koi vyakti nahi hai; woh sach mein un logon ki parwah karte hain jinhen woh madad karte hain. Mujhe yaad hai, Kerala mein haal hi mein hue baadh ke dauran, woh pahle logon mein se ek the jinhone piditon ki madad ke liye ek crowdfunding abhiyan shuru kiya tha. Unhone Kerala bhi udan bhari thi taaki woh rahat karya mein madad kar saken.

Sankshipt mein, Ravi nishkapatata aur paropkar ki moorti hain. Unke kriyaon ne mujh sahit kaiyon ko prerna di hai ki hum apne sukhad kshetron se bahar niklen aur apne chhote tarike se samaj mein yogdan den. Mujhe aise uchch koti ke atma ko janne mein garv mehsoos hota hai, aur mujhe vishwas hai ki duniya bahut acchi jagah hoti agar usmein unki tarah adhik log hote.





Describe an occasion when you lost your way.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm usually quite good with directions, but there was this one time when I got utterly lost, and it was quite an adventure! It happened a couple of years ago when I was visiting the city of Jaipur, famously known as the 'Pink City' of India. I was there for a friend's wedding and decided to explore the city on my own one afternoon.

I set out to visit the iconic Hawa Mahal, armed with just a map and my enthusiasm. The labyrinthine streets of the old city, with their vibrant bazaars and bustling crowds, were a sight to behold. However, they were also incredibly confusing. Before I knew it, I had taken a wrong turn and found myself in a part of the city that was not on my map.

I tried asking for directions, but the language barrier posed a significant challenge. My rudimentary understanding of Hindi was no match for the local dialect. I felt like a fish out of water, and a sense of panic started to creep in. But then, I reminded myself that getting lost is a part of the adventure and decided to make the most of it.

I wandered around, soaking in the sights and sounds of the unfamiliar streets. I stumbled upon a local puppet show, tasted some delicious street food, and even found a hidden gem of a bookstore. Eventually, I managed to find my way back to my hotel, thanks to a kind auto-rickshaw driver. Looking back, getting lost in Jaipur turned out to be one of the most memorable experiences of my trip. It taught me to embrace the unexpected and find joy in the journey, not just the destination.





Describe an occasion when you lost your way.

Hindi Translation

Aam taur par, mujhe dishaon ka accha gyan hota hai, lekin ek baar aisa hua jab main bilkul kho gaya tha, aur woh ek kafi romanchak anubhav tha! Ye kuch saal pehle hua tha jab main Jaipur shahar, jo ki Bharat ka 'Pink City' ke naam se mashoor hai, ghoomne gaya tha. Main wahan ek dost ki shaadi ke liye gaya tha aur ek din maine decide kiya ki main shaam ko akela hi shahar ghoomunga.

Main Hawa Mahal, jo ki ek prasiddh sthal hai, ghoomne nikla, sirf ek map aur apni utsaah ke saath. Purane shahar ke bhoolbhulaiya wale raste, unke rangeen bazaron aur bhid se bhare log, dekhne layak the. Lekin, woh bhi behad uljhan bhare the. Mujhe pata hi nahi chala aur maine galat mod le liya aur main ek aise hisse me pahunch gaya tha jo mere map par tha hi nahi.

Maine rasta poochne ki koshish ki, lekin bhasha ki samasya ek badi chunauti thi. Mera Hindi ka thoda bohot gyan sthaniya boli ke samne kuch bhi nahi tha. Mujhe aisa laga jaise main ek ajnabi jagah par hoon, aur mujhe ghabrahat hone lagi. Lekin fir, maine khud ko yaad dilaya ki kho jaana bhi ek romanchak anubhav ka hissa hai aur maine decide kiya ki iska pura fayda uthaunga.

Main idhar udhar ghoomta raha, anjaan raston ke nazare aur awaazon ko mehsoos karta raha. Main ek sthaniya kathputli show par pahunch gaya, kuch swadisht street food khaya, aur mujhe ek chhupa hua kitab ki dukaan bhi mili. Ant me, mujhe ek meherban auto-rickshaw wale ki wajah se apne hotel tak wapas pahunchne me madad mili. Piche mudkar dekha to, Jaipur me kho jaana mere safar ka sabse yaadgar anubhav nikla. Isne mujhe sikhaaya ki anapexpected cheezon ko swikar karna aur safar me khushi paana, sirf manzil tak pahunchne me nahi.





Describe a happy memory from your childhood

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, where do I even begin? My childhood in India was a vibrant tapestry of memorable moments, but there's one particular incident that never fails to bring a smile to my face. It was during the festival of Diwali, which, as you may know, is a time of joy and celebration in our country. I was about seven years old, and the anticipation of the festivities had me brimming with excitement.

The memory is as vivid as yesterday. Our entire neighbourhood was festooned with twinkling fairy lights, and the air was thick with the aroma of sweets being prepared in every household. My task, as the youngest member of the family, was to decorate our courtyard with rangoli, a traditional Indian art form. I remember meticulously drawing out the patterns with chalk, and then filling them in with brightly coloured powders.

The moment that truly stands out, though, was the evening when we lit the diyas, small earthen lamps, around the rangoli. As the sun set and the diyas began to glow, it was as if the entire courtyard had come alive with magic. The sight was so enchanting that I couldn't help but feel a sense of awe and wonder. It was my first realisation of the beauty that lay in our traditions and culture.

Even today, whenever Diwali comes around, I find myself reminiscing about that evening. It's a memory that not only fills me with happiness but also serves as a reminder of the warmth and unity that festivals foster in our society. It's a testament to the fact that sometimes, the simplest moments can leave the deepest imprints on our hearts.





Describe a happy memory from your childhood

Hindi Translation

Arre, main shuru kahan se karun? Mera bachpan Bharat mein ek rangeen tapestry tha yaadgar lamhon ka, lekin ek khaas ghatna hai jo hamesha mere chehre par muskurahat laati hai. Yeh Diwali ke tyohar ke dauran tha, jo jaisa ki aap jaante honge, hamare desh mein khushi aur utsav ka samay hota hai. Main lagbhag saat saal ka tha, aur tyohar ki ummid ne mujhe utsah se bhar diya tha.

Yaad utni hi taaza hai jaise kal ki baat ho. Hamara poora pados jhilmilati fairy lights se saja hua tha, aur hawa mein mithaiyan banane ki khushboo ghul rahi thi. Meri zimmedari, parivar ke sabse chote sadasya hone ke naate, hamare angan ko rangoli, ek paramparik Bharatiya kala roop, se sajana tha. Mujhe chalk se patterns banate hue yaad hai, aur phir unhe bright rangon ke powders se bharne ki.

Woh pal jo sach mein ubharta hai, woh shaam thi jab humne rangoli ke aas paas diyas, chote mitti ke deep, jalaye. Jab suraj dooba aur diyas shuru ho gaye chamakne, aisa lag raha tha jaise poora angan jadoo se jee utha tha. Drishya itna manmohak tha ki mujhe aashcharya aur adbhut ki anubhuti ho rahi thi. Yeh meri pehli samajh thi hamari paramparaon aur sanskriti mein chhupi hui sundarta ki.

Aaj bhi, jab bhi Diwali aati hai, main us shaam ke bare mein sochta hoon. Yeh ek aisi yaad hai jo mujhe khushi se bhar deti hai aur hamare samaj mein tyoharon dvara utpann hone wali garmahat aur ekta ki yaad dilati hai. Yeh ek sachchai ka praman hai ki kabhi kabhi, sabse saral pal hamare dilon par sabse gehre nishan chhod jaate hain.





Describe an important decision you made

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the decision that immediately springs to mind, and one that I believe was a pivotal point in my life, was my choice to pursue Computer Science as my major in college. It was during my high school years, when I was caught in the throes of the infamous Indian education system, that I had to make this significant decision.

You see, in India, the pressure to choose a career path is immense, and it usually begins right after the 10th grade. The common notion is to opt for either Medicine or Engineering, as they are considered the most 'stable' and 'lucrative' career options. However, I was always more inclined towards computers and technology. I was fascinated by the way software could manipulate hardware, and how coding could bring about such profound changes.

The decision wasn't easy though. I had to face a lot of resistance from my family, who were more traditional in their outlook. They were concerned about the risks involved in venturing into a field that was not as established as Medicine or Engineering. But I stood my ground, and after many heated discussions, they finally agreed.

Looking back, I feel it was the best decision I could have made. I am now studying in one of the top colleges in India, and I am thoroughly enjoying my course. I am excited about the future prospects this field holds for me. I believe that it's important to follow your passion, and I am glad I made that decision.





Describe an important decision you made

Hindi Translation

Haan, woh faisla jo turant yaad aata hai, aur jise main apne jeevan ka ek mahatvapoor mod maanta hoon, woh tha Computer Science ko college mein apna major choose karne ka. Yeh faisla maine apne high school ke daur mein liya tha, jab main prasiddh Bharatiya shiksha pranali ke jhagdon mein uljha hua tha.

Dekhiye, Bharat mein career path choose karne ka dabaav behad adhik hota hai, aur yeh aam taur par 10th grade ke baad shuru hota hai. Aam dharna yeh hoti hai ki Medicine ya Engineering hi choose karein, kyun ki yeh sabse 'stable' aur 'lucrative' career vikalp maane jaate hain. Lekin main hamesha se computers aur technology ki taraf adhik aakarshit tha. Mujhe yeh bahut acha lagta tha ki kaise software hardware ko manipulate kar sakta hai, aur coding itne gahre parivartan la sakti hai.

Lekin faisla lena aasan nahi tha. Mujhe apne parivaar ki taraf se bahut pratirodh ka samna karna pada, jo apne nazariye mein adhik paramparagat the. Unhe is baat ki chinta thi ki ek aise field mein kadam rakhne mein jokhim hai jo Medicine ya Engineering jitna sthapit nahi hai. Lekin maine apni zameen pakdi, aur kai garam joshili charchaon ke baad, unhone aakhirkaar maan liya.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe lagta hai ki maine jo faisla liya tha woh sabse accha tha. Main ab Bharat ke top colleges mein padh raha hoon, aur mujhe apna course bahut pasand aa raha hai. Mujhe is field ke bhavishya ki sambhavnayon ka bahut utsah hai. Mujhe lagta hai ki apne jazbe ko follow karna bahut zaroori hai, aur main khush hoon ki maine woh faisla liya.





Describe a water sport you would like to try in the future

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm a bit of a thrill-seeker, you know, always on the lookout for new adventures to spice up my life. And water sports, I reckon, are the epitome of adrenaline-pumping activities. There's one in particular that I've been itching to try - scuba diving. It's not exactly a mainstream sport in India, but it's been gaining traction lately, especially in coastal areas like Goa and Andaman.

The allure of scuba diving, for me, lies in its promise of a unique, immersive experience. I mean, imagine being able to explore the underwater world, to witness the vibrant marine life in all its glory, up close and personal. It's like stepping into a different realm altogether, isn't it? I've seen pictures and videos of coral reefs, exotic fish, and even shipwrecks, and they've left me absolutely spellbound.

I'm also drawn to the challenge that scuba diving presents. It's not just about swimming; it's about learning to breathe underwater, to navigate the depths, to handle the pressure - literally and figuratively. It's a test of physical endurance and mental fortitude, and I'm always up for such challenges.

In conclusion, scuba diving is a water sport that I'm keen on trying in the future. It's a blend of adventure, exploration, and personal growth, and I believe it would be a truly enriching experience. I can't wait to don the diving suit, strap on the oxygen tank, and plunge into the deep blue sea. It's going to be one heck of a ride, I'm sure!





Describe a water sport you would like to try in the future

Hindi Translation

Dekhiye, main thoda sa thrill-seeker hoon, aapko pata hai, hamesha naye adventures ki talash mein rehta hoon apni zindagi ko masala banane ke liye. Aur mujhe lagta hai ki water sports, adrenaline-pumping activities ka sarvottam udaharan hain. Ek khaas hai jise main try karne ke liye bechain hoon - scuba diving. Yeh Bharat mein ek mainstream sport toh nahi hai, lekin haal hi mein iski lokpriyata badh rahi hai, khaas taur par coastal areas jaise Goa aur Andaman mein.

Scuba diving ki akarshan shakti, mere liye, uske ek anokhe, immersive experience ki vada mein hai. Matlab, sochiye ki underwater world explore karne ki kshamata, vibrant marine life ko apni poori shaan mein, nazdeek se dekhne ki. Yeh ek alag hi duniya mein kadam rakhne jaisa hai, haina? Maine coral reefs, exotic fish, aur shipwrecks ki tasveerein aur videos dekhe hain, aur woh mujhe puri tarah se mantramugdh kar gaye hain.

Mujhe scuba diving ki challenge ki taraf bhi akarshit kiya jaata hai. Yeh sirf swimming ke baare mein nahi hai; yeh underwater saans lene, gehraiyo ko navigate karne, pressure ko handle karne - shabdo aur vastavik roop mein - ke baare mein hai. Yeh sharirik sahasheelta aur mansik dridhta ka parikshan hai, aur main hamesha aise challenges ke liye taiyar hoon.

Nishkarsh mein, scuba diving ek water sport hai jise main bhavishya mein try karne ke liye utsuk hoon. Yeh adventure, exploration, aur vyaktigat vikas ka mishran hai, aur mujhe vishwas hai ki yeh ek sach mein samriddh anubhav hoga. Main diving suit pehenne, oxygen tank bandhne, aur gehre neele samudra mein dive karne ka intezaar nahi kar sakta. Yeh ek kamaal ka safar hoga, mujhe yakeen hai!





Describe a crowded place you have visited

Band 9 sample Response

Absolutely, I'd be delighted to share my experience. The place that immediately springs to mind when I think of a crowded location is the bustling Chandni Chowk in Delhi. This iconic marketplace, steeped in history, is a veritable hive of activity, teeming with people from all walks of life.

Now, let me paint a picture for you. Imagine a labyrinth of narrow lanes, each one more chaotic than the last, brimming with shops selling everything from traditional Indian sweets to intricately designed jewellery. The air is thick with the aroma of spices and the cacophony of vendors hawking their wares, mixed with the incessant honking of rickshaws, creates a symphony of sounds that is quintessentially Indian.

I visited Chandni Chowk during the festive season of Diwali, which only added to the pandemonium. The place was awash with a sea of humanity, each person eager to bag a bargain in preparation for the festivities. Despite the chaos, there was a certain charm about the place. The vibrancy, the energy, the sheer life that pulsed through the market was infectious.

In conclusion, while Chandni Chowk was undoubtedly crowded, it was also an experience like no other. It was a sensory overload, a whirlwind of sights, sounds, and smells that left an indelible impression on me. It was a testament to the spirit of India - chaotic, yet harmonious; diverse, yet united.





Describe a crowded place you have visited

Hindi Translation

Bilkul, mujhe apne anubhav ko saajha karne mein khushi hogi. Jab mujhe bheed-bhaad wali jagah ki yaad aati hai to Delhi mein sthit Chandni Chowk ka naam turant dimaag mein aata hai. Yeh prasiddh bazaar, jo itihaas se bhara hua hai, ek vyast gatavidhiyon ka madhumakkhi chhata hai, jahan har tarah ke log aate hain.

Ab, main aapke liye ek chitr banane ki koshish karta hoon. Ek bhoolbhulaiya jaisi tang galiyon ka kalpana kijiye, har ek gali pichli se adhik ashanti se bhari hui, jahan dukaanein hain jo sab kuch bechti hain, chahe wo traditional Indian mithai ho ya sookshm roop se design kiye gaye gehne. Hawa masalon ki gahri khushboo se bhari hui hoti hai aur dukaandaron ki cheekein, jo apne maal bechne ki koshish karte hain, rickshawon ki lagatar beep ke saath mil kar ek aisa shor banate hain jo shuddh roop se Bharatiya hai.

Maine Diwali ke tyohar ke dauran Chandni Chowk ki yatra ki thi, jo sirf hungama badha rahi thi. Jagah insaanon ki ek samudra jaisi thi, har vyakti tyohar ki taiyari ke liye sauda karne ke liye utsuk tha. Bawandar ke bavjood, jagah mein ek vishesh akarshan tha. Uski jeevan shaili, uska urja, bazaar mein jo jeevan tha, wo sankramak tha.

Nishkarsh mein, jabki Chandni Chowk nishchit roop se bheed-bhaad se bhara hua tha, yeh ek anubhav tha jo kisi aur se alag tha. Yeh ek sensory overload tha, drishya, dhwani, aur gandhon ka ek jhoka tha jo mujh par ek amit chhap chhod gaya. Yeh Bharat ki aatma ka praman tha - ashant, phir bhi samanvayi; vividh, phir bhi ekjut.





***Describe a traditional festival
(or tradition) that is
important in your country.***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, India is a country with a rich tapestry of cultural diversity, and it's brimming with numerous vibrant festivals. However, if I were to pick one that holds a special place in our hearts, it would undoubtedly be Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights.

Diwali is a five-day celebration that usually falls in October or November, depending on the lunar calendar. It's a time when the entire country is bathed in a warm, glowing ambiance, with millions of earthen lamps and fairy lights illuminating homes and streets. The festival commemorates the victory of good over evil, symbolized by Lord Rama's return to his kingdom after vanquishing the demon king Ravana.

The festivities are marked by a flurry of activities. Families clean and decorate their homes, shop for new clothes and gifts, and prepare a smorgasbord of mouth-watering sweets and savouries. The air is thick with the scent of incense and the crackle of fireworks, as people perform traditional rituals and exchange gifts. It's a time of joy, camaraderie, and goodwill.

In essence, Diwali is not just a festival, but a deeply ingrained part of our cultural ethos. It's a time when we come together as a community, reinforcing our bonds and celebrating the enduring spirit of humanity. Despite the cacophony and chaos, there's a sense of peace and contentment that pervades the air, making Diwali a truly magical time in India.





***Describe a traditional festival
(or tradition) that is
important in your country.***

Hindi Translation

Achha, Bharat ek aisa desh hai jiska sanskritik vividhta ka samridh tapestry hai, aur yahan anek jeevant tyoharon se bhara hua hai. Lekin, agar mujhe ek aisa tyohar chunna pade jo hamare dilon mein ek vishesh sthan rakhta hai, toh woh nishchit roop se Diwali hoga, jo ki Deepavali ke naam se bhi jaana jaata hai.

Diwali ek paanch din ki utsav hai jo aam taur par October ya November mein aata hai, ye chaandrama ke calendar par nirbhar karta hai. Yeh woh samay hota hai jab poora desh ek garam, chamakte hue mahaul mein nahaya hua hota hai, jahan karodon mitti ke diye aur fairy lights gharo aur sadko ko roshan karte hain. Yeh tyohar achchai ke burai par vijay ki smriti manata hai, jo Bhagwan Ram ke demon king Ravana ko harakar apne rajya mein lautne ka pratik hai.

Tyohar ki khushiyan ek jhoomte hue gatividhiyon se chinnhit hoti hain. Parivaar apne gharo ko saaf karke sajate hain, naye kapde aur uphaar kharidte hain, aur muh meetha karne wali mithaiyon aur namkeen ki bharpoor vyavastha karte hain. Hawa mein agarbatti ki sugandh aur patakho ki crackle bhari hoti hai, jab log paramparik ritirivaj karte hain aur uphaar adan pradan karte hain. Yeh khushi, sahkarita, aur achchai ka samay hota hai.

Saransh mein, Diwali sirf ek tyohar nahi, balki hamari sanskritik ethos ka gehra hissa hai. Yeh woh samay hai jab hum ek samuday ke roop mein ek saath aate hain, apne bandhan ko majboot karne aur manavta ki sthayi aatma ko manane. Kolahal aur arajakta ke bavjood, vayu mein shanti aur santushti ka ehsaas hota hai, jo Diwali ko Bharat mein sach mein ek jadui samay banata hai.





Describe something that you did with someone/ a group of people

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'd like to talk about the time when my friends and I organised a street play in our locality. It was an initiative we undertook to spread awareness about the importance of education, particularly for girls, a topic that is of paramount importance in India.

The idea was conceived during one of our usual evening gatherings. We were a group of five friends, all of us quite passionate about social issues. We decided to use our shared interest in theatre to send a powerful message to our community. The task was not easy, but the enthusiasm and commitment of the group were infectious.

We spent countless hours brainstorming, writing the script, rehearsing, and finally, performing the play. It was a humbling experience to see how each one of us contributed uniquely to the project. For instance, Rajat, who is a natural at storytelling, penned down a poignant script, while Sunita, with her knack for art, created eye-catching props and costumes.

The play was a resounding success, and the response from our community was overwhelming. It was heartening to see our hard work pay off and to witness the impact our performance had on our audience. This experience not only strengthened our bond as friends but also reinforced our belief in the power of collective action. It was a truly enriching experience, and I am grateful to have been a part of it.





Describe something that you did with someone/ a group of people

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe us samay ke baare mein baat karna pasand karenge jab mere dost aur maine apne ilake mein ek sadak natak ayojit kiya tha. Yeh ek pahal thi jo humne shiksha ki mahatvta, vishesh kar ke ladkiyon ke liye, ke baare mein jagrukta failane ke liye ki thi, ek vishay jo Bharat mein atyadhik mahatvapurn hai.

Yeh vichar humare aam shaam ki ek baithak ke dauran socha gaya tha. Hum paanch dost the, sabhi samajik mudde ke prati kafi utsaahit the. Humne apne samudaay ko ek shaktishali sandesh bhejne ke liye apni theatre mein ruchi ka upyog karne ka faisla kiya. Yeh kaam asaan nahi tha, lekin samuh ki utsaah aur samarpan sankramak the.

Humne anginat ghante dimag lagakar, script likhne, abhyas karne aur ant mein, natak karne mein bitaye. Yeh ek vinamra anubhav tha dekhna ki hum sabhi ne is project mein kis tarah se apni anokhi yogdan di. Udaharan ke liye, Rajat, jo kahani sunane mein prakritik hai, ne ek uttejak script likhi, jabki Sunita, apni art ke liye pratibha ke saath, ne aakarshak props aur costumes banaye.

Natak ek shor sharaba mein safal tha, aur hamare samudaay se prapt pratikriya behad adbhut thi. Hamari mehnat ka fal milna aur hamare pradarshan ka hamare darshakon par prabhav dekhna dil ko bahut khushi di. Yeh anubhav ne sirf hamare dosti ke bandhan ko majboot kiya, balki hamari samuhik kriya ki shakti par hamara vishwas bhi majboot kiya. Yeh ek sach mein samriddh anubhav tha, aur mujhe iska hissa banne ke liye dhanyavad kar raha hoon.





Describe a daily routine that you enjoy

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, I'm a creature of habit and there's one daily routine that I absolutely relish. It's my early morning yoga session. Now, I know it might sound a bit clichéd, especially considering that yoga originated from our very own India, but trust me, it's a routine that has transformed my life in more ways than one.

I usually wake up at the crack of dawn, around 5:30 AM, when the world is still enveloped in a serene silence. I roll out my yoga mat on the balcony, which overlooks a lush green park. The chirping of the birds, the cool morning breeze, and the faint aroma of the blooming jasmine flowers in the garden below, all combine to create an ambiance that's simply divine.

The actual yoga session lasts for about an hour, and it's a mix of various asanas and pranayamas. I particularly enjoy the Surya Namaskar, or the Sun Salutation as it's called, which is a sequence of 12 powerful yoga poses. It's a full-body workout that not only keeps me physically fit but also mentally alert and energized. It's like my own little way of paying homage to the rising sun, a symbol of new beginnings.

To wrap up, this routine is something I look forward to every day. It's not just about the physical benefits, but also the peace and tranquility it brings to my mind. It sets the tone for the rest of my day, making me feel positive, focused, and ready to take on any challenges that come my way. So, in a country like India, where life can often be chaotic and stressful, having such a calming routine is indeed a blessing.





Describe a daily routine that you enjoy

Hindi Translation

Accha, mujhe kehna chahiye, main ek aadat ka janwar hoon aur ek aisi rojana ki routine hai jo mujhe behad pasand hai. Yeh meri subah ki yoga session hai. Ab, mujhe pata hai ki yeh thoda sa clichéd lag sakta hai, khaas karke jab yoga hamare apne Bharat se shuru hua tha, lekin vishwas kijiye, yeh ek routine hai jo ne sirf ek tarah se nahi balki anek tarah se meri zindagi badal chuki hai.

Main aam taur par bhore ke samay, lagbhag 5:30 baje, uth jata hoon, jab duniya abhi ek shant chuppi mein lipti hoti hai. Main apna yoga mat balcony mein bichha deta hoon, jo ek hare bhare park ki taraf dekhta hai. Pakshiyon ki chehchahahat, thandi subah ki hawa, aur niche ke bagiche mein khilne wale chameli ke phoolon ki halki khushboo, sab mil kar ek aisi vatavaran banate hain jo nishchit roop se divya hai.

Vastavik yoga session lagbhag ek ghante ka hota hai, aur yeh vibhinn asanas aur pranayamas ka mishran hota hai. Mujhe vishesh roop se Surya Namaskar ya jaisa ise kaha jata hai, Sun Salutation, jo 12 shaktishali yoga mudraon ka ek shrinkhla hai, pasand hai. Yeh ek poore sharir ki workout hai jo mujhe sirf sharirik roop se fit nahi rakhti balki mansik roop se bhi satark aur urja se bhari hui rakhti hai. Yeh meri apni chhoti si tarah hai suraj ko pranam karne ki, jo naye shuruwat ka pratik hai.

Ant mein, yeh routine kuch aisi hai jiska main har din intezaar karta hoon. Yeh sirf sharirik labh ke bare mein nahi hai, balki yeh mere man ko shanti aur shaanti bhi deti hai. Yeh mere din ke baaki hisse ke liye tone set karti hai, mujhe sakaratmak, kendrit, aur kisi bhi aane wale challenges ka samna karne ke liye taiyar mehsoos karati hai. To, Bharat jaisi country mein, jahan jeevan aksar ashant aur tanavpurn ho sakta hai, aisi shant karne wali routine ka hona nishchit roop se ek ashirwad hai.





Describe a person you would like to study or work with

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'd like to talk about my classmate, Ravi, who I'd absolutely love to work or study with. We're both in the same class in our college, pursuing our Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. Ravi is a brilliant student, always topping the class, but what truly sets him apart is his unassuming nature and willingness to help others.

Ravi has a knack for simplifying complex concepts, making them easier to understand. I remember during our first semester, we had a particularly challenging module on Data Structures. It was Ravi who came to the rescue, explaining the concepts with such clarity that they seemed like child's play. His ability to break down and articulate complex ideas is something I greatly admire and would love to learn from.

Moreover, he's not just academically inclined but also a great team player. Last year, we were part of the same team for a national level coding competition. Despite being the most experienced coder, he never overshadowed us. Instead, he encouraged everyone to contribute, fostering a sense of camaraderie and mutual respect. His leadership skills and humility are truly inspiring.

In conclusion, I believe that working or studying with Ravi would be an enriching experience. It's not just about learning from his academic prowess, but also about imbibing his values of humility, teamwork, and respect for others. I am certain that this would not only enhance my academic skills but also help me grow as an individual.





Describe a person you would like to study or work with

Hindi Translation

Mujhe apne sahpathi, Ravi, ke bare mein baat karni hai, jiske saath main bilkul padhna ya kaam karna chahta hoon. Hum dono hi apne college mein ek hi class mein hain, Computer Science mein apni Bachelor's degree kar rahe hain. Ravi ek shandar vidyarthi hai, hamesha class mein top karta hai, lekin jo usse alag karta hai woh hai uska vinamr swabhav aur dusron ki madad karne ki ichha.

Ravi ke paas jatil avdharnaon ko saral karne ki ek kshamata hai, jo unhein aasan samajhne mein madad karti hai. Mujhe yaad hai ki hamare pehle semester mein, humare paas Data Structures par ek khaas taur par chunauti module tha. Yeh Ravi tha jo bachao mein aaya, avdharnaon ko itni spashtata se samjha raha tha ki ve bachchon ke khel ki tarah lag rahe the. Uski jatil vicharon ko todne aur vyakt karne ki kshamata kuch hai jo main bahut samman karta hoon aur seekhna chahta hoon.

Iske alawa, woh sirf academically pravrit nahi hai balki ek mahan team player bhi hai. Pichle saal, hum ek rashtriya star ke coding pratiyogita ke liye same team ka hissa the. Sabse adhik anubhavi coder hone ke bavjood, usne kabhi hum par chhaon nahi dali. Balki, usne sabko yogdan dene ke liye prerit kiya, sahkarita aur paraspar samman ka mahaul banaya. Uski leadership skills aur vinamrata sach mein prerna srot hai.

Nishkarsh mein, mujhe lagta hai ki Ravi ke saath kaam ya adhyayan karna ek samridh anubhav hoga. Yeh sirf uski academic shakti se seekhne ke baare mein nahi hai, balki uski vinamrata, teamwork, aur dusron ke prati samman ki mulyon ko apnane ke baare mein bhi hai. Mujhe yakeen hai ki yeh sirf mere academic skills ko badhane hi nahi balki mujhe ek vyakti ke roop mein vikas karne mein bhi madad karega.





Describe a time when you were late

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm usually quite punctual, but there was this one time when I was late that I'll never forget. It was the day of my class 12th board examination, which is a pretty big deal in India, as you may know. The subject was Mathematics, a subject that I was quite confident about, but the day had other plans for me.

That morning, I woke up to the melodious chirping of birds, the golden rays of the sun seeping in through the window, and the horrifying realization that my alarm hadn't gone off. I glanced at the clock and my heart skipped a beat. I was already running an hour late, and the examination centre was a good half an hour away. Panic set in, and I scrambled out of bed, my mind racing faster than a Rajdhani Express.

I quickly got ready, skipped breakfast, and dashed out of the house. My father, bless his soul, drove like a man possessed, weaving through the chaotic Indian traffic with the skill of a seasoned Formula 1 driver. I was praying fervently, hoping against hope that I would make it in time.

We reached the examination centre with just minutes to spare. I sprinted to the examination hall, my heart pounding in my chest. I made it just in time, but the whole experience was nerve-wracking. It taught me a valuable lesson about the importance of a reliable alarm clock and the perils of oversleeping, especially on crucial days.





Describe a time when you were late

Hindi Translation

Mujhe samay par pahunchne ki aadat hai, lekin ek baar aisa hua jab main der se pahuncha. Wo din tha mere class 12th board examination ka, jo ki India mein kafi bada samay hota hai, jaisa ki aap jaante honge. Vishay tha Ganit, jisme mujhe kafi vishwas tha, lekin us din mere saath kuch aur hi hua.

Us subah, maine chirping pakshiyon ki madhur dhvani, khidki se andar aa rahi suraj ki sone jaisi kiranon aur bhayankar tathya ko jagaya ki mera alarm baj nahi raha tha. Maine ghadi ki taraf dekha aur mera hriday ek beat chhod gaya. Main pehle se hi ek ghanta der se chal raha tha, aur pariksha kendra acche aadhe ghante ki doori par tha. Ghabrahat hone lagi, aur main bistar se uth kar daud pada, mera dimag Rajdhani Express se tez daud raha tha.

Main jaldi se taiyar hua, nashta chhod diya, aur ghar se daud kar nikal gaya. Mere pita, unki atma ko ashirwad de, ek possessed aadmi ki tarah drive kar rahe the, bharat ke avyavasthit traffic mein ek anubhavi Formula 1 driver ki kushalta se ja rahe the. Main shiddat se prarthana kar raha tha, ummeed kar raha tha ki main samay par pahunch jaunga.

Hum pariksha kendra pahunch gaye, sirf kuch hi minute bach gaye the. Main pariksha hall ki taraf daud gaya, mera hriday mere chest mein dhadak raha tha. Mujhe sirf samay par pahunchne mein safalta mili, lekin pura anubhav bahut hi nerve-wracking tha. Isne mujhe ek mulyavan sabak sikhaya ki ek vishwasaniya alarm clock ki mahatvta aur oversleeping ke khatron ke baare mein, khaas kar ke mahatvapurn dinon par.





Describe an advertisement that you don't like

Band 9 sample Response

Well, there's this one advertisement that really grates on my nerves every time it pops up on my television screen. It's a commercial for a popular detergent brand, let's call it 'Sparkle'. Now, I have nothing against the product itself, but the advertisement, oh boy, it's a whole different story!

The advertisement follows a clichéd narrative, where a woman, presumably a housewife, is seen struggling with stubborn stains on her family's clothes. Enter 'Sparkle', the superhero detergent, and voila, the clothes are as good as new. Now, what irks me is not the product's miraculous stain-removing prowess, but the stereotypical portrayal of women. It's 2021, and yet, we are still stuck with advertisements that reinforce gender stereotypes, especially in a country like India where we are striving for gender equality.

Moreover, the advertisement is utterly unimaginative and lacks creativity. It's the same old story, repackaged with different actors and a new jingle. There's no innovation, no unique selling proposition, just a mundane repetition of the same old narrative. It's like they're not even trying to engage the audience!

In conclusion, I believe that advertisements, like 'Sparkle', need to evolve and reflect the changing societal norms. They should break free from the shackles of stereotypes and embrace diversity and inclusivity. After all, advertisements are not just about selling products, they also have the power to shape perceptions and influence societal attitudes.





Describe an advertisement that you don't like

Hindi Translation

Achha, ek aisa vigyapan hai jo har baar jab mera television screen par aata hai, mujhe bahut pareshan karta hai. Yeh ek lokpriya detergent brand ka commercial hai, aaiye ise 'Sparkle' ke naam se bulayein. Ab, mujhe utpad ke khilaf kuch bhi nahi hai, lekin vigyapan, arey baba, yeh ek bilkul alag kahani hai!

Vigyapan ek clichéd kahani ka palan karta hai, jahan ek mahila, shayad ek ghar ki bahu, apne parivar ke kapdon par ziddi daag se joojh rahi hoti hai. 'Sparkle', superhero detergent, ka pravesch hota hai aur lo, kapde naye jaise ho jate hain. Ab, jo mujhe pareshan karta hai woh utpad ki chamatkari daag hataane ki shakti nahi hai, balki mahilaon ki stereotypical chhavi hai. Yeh 2021 hai, aur phir bhi, hum abhi bhi un vigyapanon ke saath atke hue hain jo ling stereotyped ko majboot karte hain, khaas karke ek desh jaise Bharat mein jahan hum ling samanta ki koshish kar rahe hain.

Iske alawa, vigyapan bilkul avikalpik hai aur creativity ki kami hai. Yeh wahi purani kahani hai, alag kalakaron aur naye jingle ke saath repackaged. Koi nayapan nahi hai, koi unique selling proposition nahi hai, sirf wahi purani kahani ka nirantar punaravritti hai. Lagta hai jaise woh darshakon ko akarshit karne ki koshish hi nahi kar rahe hain!

Nishkarsh mein, mujhe lagta hai ki 'Sparkle' jaise vigyapanon ko viksit hona chahiye aur badalte samajik maanakon ko darshana chahiye. Unhe stereotypes ke jakadon se mukt hona chahiye aur vividhta aur samaveshi hone ko apnana chahiye. Akhirkaar, vigyapan sirf utpad bechne ke baare mein nahi hote, unmein dharanaon ko aakar dena aur samajik ravaiyon par prabhav dalne ki shakti bhi hoti hai.





***Describe a person who
inspired you to do something
interesting.***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person who inspired me to do something truly intriguing is none other than my high school English teacher, Mrs. Sharma. A woman of immense intellect and charisma, she had a knack for making literature come alive in the classroom, which, in turn, sparked my interest in storytelling.

Mrs. Sharma was a maestro of words, weaving them into enchanting narratives that would transport us to different worlds. She had an uncanny ability to explain complex themes in a way that we could easily comprehend. It was during one of her captivating lectures on Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' that I was struck by a profound realization. I was not just fascinated by the story, but also by the art of storytelling itself.

Inspired by her, I decided to try my hand at writing. I started jotting down my thoughts, experiences, and observations, gradually shaping them into stories. I remember the first story I wrote was about a rickshaw puller in my hometown of Kolkata. It was a simple tale but filled with vivid descriptions of the city's hustle and bustle, inspired by Mrs. Sharma's evocative storytelling.

In retrospect, I realize that Mrs. Sharma didn't just inspire me to write, she also instilled in me a deep appreciation for the power of words. Her influence has been instrumental in my journey as a writer. Even today, when I pen down a story, I can hear her voice, guiding me, pushing me to delve deeper into the human psyche, just like she used to during our literature classes.





Describe a person who inspired you to do something interesting.

Hindi Translation

Achha, vah vyakti jo ne mujhe kuch sachmuch romanchak karne ke liye prerit kiya, vah koi aur nahi balki mere high school ki English teacher, Mrs. Sharma thi. Atyadhik buddhi aur charishma se yukt ek mahila, unhe sahitya ko kaksha mein jeevit karne ki kala thi, jo mere mein kahani sunane mein ruchi utpann karne mein sahayak thi.

Mrs. Sharma shabdon ki mahir thi, unhe behad manmohak kahaniyon mein piroti thi jo hume alag-alag duniyaon mein le jati thi. Unhe jatil vishayon ko aasan tarike se samjhane ki adbhut kshamata thi. Shakespeare ke 'Macbeth' par unke ek manmohak vyakhyan ke dauran mujhe ek gahri samajh aayi. Mujhe kahani se sirf moh nahi tha, balki kahani sunane ki kala se bhi.

Unke prerna se prerit hokar, maine likhne ki koshish ki. Maine apne vichar, anubhav, aur avlokan likhna shuru kiya, dheere-dheere unhe kahaniyon mein dhalna shuru kiya. Mujhe yaad hai ki maine likhi gayi pehli kahani Kolkata ke mere ghar ke ek rickshaw chalak ke bare mein thi. Yeh ek saral kahani thi lekin Mrs. Sharma ki jeevant kahani sunane ki prerna se shahar ki hulchul ke jeevant varnan se bhari hui thi.

Pichle drishtikon mein, mujhe samajh aata hai ki Mrs. Sharma ne mujhe sirf likhne ke liye prerit nahi kiya, balki unhone mujhme shabdon ki shakti ke liye gahri samman bhavna bhar di. Unka prabhav mere lekhak ke roop mein yatra mein mahatvapurn raha hai. Aaj bhi, jab main ek kahani likhta hoon, to main unki awaz sun sakta hoon, mujhe margdarshan kar rahi hai, mujhe manav man ki gahrai mein jhankne ke liye dhakel rahi hai, bilkul vaise hi jaise vo hamare sahitya kaksha ke dauran karti thi.





Describe a website which helped you to do something

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm a bit of a tech geek, and I'm always on the lookout for websites that can make my life easier. One such website that has been a godsend for me is Zomato, a food delivery and restaurant discovery platform. It's been instrumental in helping me navigate the culinary landscape of my city, Bangalore, especially during the lockdown.

You see, I'm a foodie at heart, and Bangalore, with its myriad of cuisines and eateries, is a paradise for someone like me. However, the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown put a damper on my gastronomic adventures. That's when Zomato came to my rescue. It allowed me to explore and order from a plethora of restaurants right from the comfort of my home.

The user-friendly interface of the website is a breeze to navigate. It offers detailed information about the restaurants, including their menus, prices, ratings, and reviews. The website also features a blog section where food enthusiasts share their experiences and recommendations. This feature has been particularly helpful in discovering hidden gems in the city.

In conclusion, Zomato has not only helped me satiate my cravings during the lockdown but also broadened my culinary horizons. It's a fantastic platform that seamlessly bridges the gap between food lovers and restaurants, and I can't recommend it enough.





Describe a website which helped you to do something

Hindi Translation

Achha, main thoda sa tech geek hoon, aur hamesha aisi websites ki talash mein rehta hoon jo meri zindagi ko aasan bana sakti hain. Aisi hi ek website jo mere liye vardaana sabit hui hai wo hai Zomato, ek khana delivery aur restaurant khojne ki platform. Yeh mere liye bahut madadgar rahi hai mere shahar, Bangalore, ki culinary landscape ko samajhne mein, khaaskar lockdown ke dauran.

Dekhiye, main dil se ek foodie hoon, aur Bangalore, apni anek cuisines aur eateries ke saath, kisi jaise mujhe jaise vyakti ke liye swarg hai. Lekin, mahamari aur uske baad ka lockdown ne mere gastronomic adventures par thoda sa prabhav dala. Tabhi Zomato ne mujhe bachaya. Yeh mujhe ghar ki suvidha se anek restaurants ko explore karne aur unse order karne ki anumati di.

Website ka user-friendly interface navigate karna bahut aasan hai. Yeh restaurants ke baare mein vistrut jaankari pradan karta hai, unke menu, mulya, ratings, aur reviews sahit. Website par ek blog section bhi hai jahan khana premi apne anubhav aur sujhav share karte hain. Yeh feature shahar mein chhipe hue heere khojne mein khaas taur par madadgar raha hai.

Nishkarsh mein, Zomato ne sirf mujhe lockdown ke dauran meri cravings ko shaant karne mein madad ki hai balki mere culinary horizons ko bhi broad kiya hai. Yeh ek shandar platform hai jo food lovers aur restaurants ke beech ka gap seamlessly bridge karta hai, aur main ise kafi recommend karunga.





Describe a piece of good news you heard from others

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, I've been fortunate enough to hear a fair share of good news in my life, but one particular piece that stands out was when my elder brother, Ravi, announced that he had secured a scholarship to study at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or MIT as it's commonly known.

You see, Ravi has always been the "brainiac" in our family. From a young age, he was fascinated by the world of science and technology. He would spend hours tinkering with gadgets, and his idea of fun was solving complex mathematical problems. His dream was to study at MIT, a dream that seemed almost impossible considering our modest background.

One evening, we were all gathered in our small living room in our humble flat in Mumbai, when Ravi walked in with a letter in his hand. His eyes were sparkling with an uncontainable excitement. He announced that he had been awarded a full scholarship to pursue his undergraduate studies at MIT. The room erupted in joy. Our parents were overwhelmed, and I was just ecstatic for my brother.

That piece of news was not just good, it was life-changing. It was a testament to Ravi's hard work and determination. It was a beacon of hope for me and a source of immense pride for our family. It was a reminder that dreams, no matter how big, can indeed come true if one dares to pursue them relentlessly.





Describe a piece of good news you heard from others

Hindi Translation

Mujhe khushi hai ki mujhe apne jeevan mein kai achhe samachar sunne ko mile hain, lekin ek aisa samachar jo mujhe yaad hai, woh tha jab mera bada bhai, Ravi, ne yeh ghoshna ki ki unhe Massachusetts Institute of Technology, yaani ki MIT, mein padhne ke liye scholarship mili hai.

Dekhiye, Ravi hamesha se hi hamare parivar ka "brainiac" raha hai. Bachpan se hi unhe vigyan aur technology ki duniya se bahut lagav tha. Woh ghanto tak gadgets ke saath khelte aur unka maza lene ka tarika tha mushkil ganit ke samasyaon ko hal karna. Unka sapna tha ki woh MIT mein padhein, ek sapna jo hamare samanya parivesh ko dekhte hue lagbhag asambhav maloom hota tha.

Ek shaam, hum sab apne chhote se living room mein baithe the, jab Ravi ek patra haath mein lekar andar aaye. Unki aankhon mein rok na paane wala utsah tha. Unhone ghoshna ki ki unhe MIT mein apni undergraduate studies ke liye puri scholarship mili hai. Kamre mein khushi ka mahaul cha gaya. Hamare maa-baap bhavuk ho gaye, aur main apne bhai ke liye bahut khush tha.

Woh samachar sirf achha nahi, jeevan badalne wala tha. Yeh Ravi ki mehnat aur sankalp ki gawahi thi. Yeh mere liye ek aasha ka prateek aur hamare parivar ke liye atyadhik garv ka srot tha. Yeh yaad dilane wala tha ki sapne, chahe kitne bhi bade ho, sach ho sakte hain agar koi unhe laganpurvak padhne ki himmat kare.





Describe a place where there was a lot of noise

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the place that immediately springs to mind is the bustling Chandni Chowk market in Delhi, the heart of the city. It's a place that's always teeming with life and activity, and the noise level there can be quite overwhelming, to say the least.

Now, the noise in Chandni Chowk isn't just a cacophony, it's a symphony of sounds that encapsulates the essence of the place. The clamour of vendors hawking their wares, the incessant honking of vehicles navigating the narrow lanes, the chatter of shoppers haggling over prices, the sizzle of street food being prepared, and the occasional call to prayer from the nearby mosque all blend together to create a unique soundscape.

What makes this noise particularly interesting is that it's not just a background noise, it's a part of the experience. It's like a soundtrack that sets the mood and the pace of the place. It's a constant reminder of the hustle and bustle, the energy and the vibrancy that defines Chandni Chowk. It's a noise that's as colourful and diverse as the market itself.

However, while the noise can be a bit jarring at first, especially for those not used to such a lively atmosphere, it's something that you gradually get accustomed to. And once you do, you begin to appreciate it for what it is - a testament to the spirit of the place, a reflection of its character, and an integral part of its charm. So, despite the noise, or perhaps because of it, Chandni Chowk remains one of my favourite places to visit.





Describe a place where there was a lot of noise

Hindi Translation

Accha, woh jagah jo turant dimaag me aati hai woh hai Delhi ke shor bhare Chandni Chowk bazaar, shahar ki dhadkan. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jo hamesha jeevan aur gatividhiyon se bhari hoti hai, aur wahan ki shor ki matra kafi adhik hoti hai, kam se kam kahne me.

Ab, Chandni Chowk me shor sirf ek kolahal nahi hai, yeh ek aawaz ka symphony hai jo jagah ki saaransh ko samet leta hai. Dukandaron ki cheeze bechne ki cheekh pukar, sankuchit galiyon me gadiyon ki lagatar honking, mulya par mol bhav karne wale grahakon ki baatchit, sadak par tayyar kiye ja rahe khane ki sizzling awaaz, aur samipasthit masjid se kabhi kabhi namaz ki awaaz sab milke ek anokha dhvani paridrishya banate hain.

Yeh shor isliye khas hai kyunki yeh sirf ek background noise nahi hai, yeh anubhav ka hissa hai. Yeh ek soundtrack ki tarah hai jo jagah ki mood aur gati ko nirdharit karta hai. Yeh ek sthir yaad dilane wala hai hustle aur bustle ka, energy aur vibrancy ka jo Chandni Chowk ko paribhashit karta hai. Yeh ek shor hai jo utna hi rangin aur vividh hai jitna bazaar khud.

Halaanki, shor shuruwat me thoda kathin ho sakta hai, khaas kar ke un logo ke liye jo aise jeevit mahol ke aadi nahi hain, yeh kuch aisi cheez hai jise aap dheere dheere aadi ho jaate hain. Aur ek baar jab aap ho jaate hain, aap iski sarahna karna shuru kar dete hain uske liye jo yeh hai - jagah ki bhavana ka gawah, uske charitra ka pratibimb, aur uske akarshan ka abhinn hissa. Toh, shor ke bawjood, ya shayad uski wajah se, Chandni Chowk mere pasandida jagahon me se ek rehta hai.





***Describe something you
taught to your
friend/relative***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me tell you about the time I taught my younger cousin, Ravi, how to play the tabla. The tabla, as you may know, is a traditional Indian percussion instrument, and it's quite close to my heart as I've been playing it since my childhood.

Ravi, who is about 10 years younger than me, was visiting us during the summer holidays. He was always fascinated by the rhythmic beats of the tabla and expressed a keen interest in learning it. So, I decided to impart some of my knowledge to him.

Teaching the tabla isn't as straightforward as it might seem. It's not just about hitting the drums; it's about understanding the rhythm, the beats, and the intricacies of the instrument. I started with the basics, teaching him the different parts of the tabla, the correct posture, and the basic beats. We would practice together every evening, and I would correct his mistakes and guide him through the process. It was a bit challenging at times, especially when he couldn't get the beats right, but his enthusiasm kept us going.

The whole experience was incredibly rewarding for me. Seeing Ravi's progress and his excitement every time he got a beat right was truly heartwarming. It made me realize the joy of sharing knowledge and the satisfaction that comes from seeing someone learn and grow because of it. I felt a sense of accomplishment, and it also reinforced my love for the tabla. It was a beautiful journey, one that I'll always cherish.





Describe something you taught to your friend/relative

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe samay yaad dilaya jab maine apne chhote cousin, Ravi, ko tabla bajana sikhaya. Jaisa ki aapko pata hoga, tabla ek traditional Indian percussion instrument hai, aur yeh mere dil ke kafi kareeb hai kyunki main bachpan se hi ise bajata aaya hoon.

Ravi, jo mujhse lagbhag 10 saal chhota hai, summer holidays ke dauran humare yahan aaya hua tha. Usko hamesha se tabla ki rhythmic beats se bahut lagav tha aur usne ise sikhne mein gahri ruchi vyakt ki. Toh maine socha ki kyun na main apna kuch gyan uske saath share karun.

Tabla sikhana utna seedha nahi hota jitna lagta hai. Yeh sirf drums pe maarne ke baare mein nahi hota; yeh rhythm, beats, aur instrument ki intricacies ko samajhne ke baare mein hota hai. Main basics se shuru kiya, use tabla ke alag-alag hisson, sahi posture, aur basic beats ke baare mein sikhaya. Hum har shaam saath mein practice karte the, aur main uski galtiyon ko correct karta tha aur use process ke through guide karta tha. Kabhi-kabhi thodi challenging hoti thi, khaas kar jab woh beats sahi nahi kar pata tha, lekin uska enthusiasm hume aage badhne ke liye prerna deta tha.

Pura anubhav mere liye incredibly rewarding tha. Ravi ki progress dekhna aur har baar jab woh beat sahi karta tha, uski excitement dekhna sach mein dil ko choo jata tha. Yeh mujhe gyan baantne ka anand aur kisi ko apne gyan se sikhte aur badhte dekhne ka satisfaction realize karwaya. Mujhe ek sense of accomplishment mehsoos hua, aur yeh meri tabla ke prati prem ko bhi reinforce kiya. Yeh ek khoobsurat safar tha, jise main hamesha yaad rakhunga.





Describe your experience when you changed your school/college

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me take you back to my high school years, a time when I was brimming with youthful exuberance and curiosity. I was studying in a small town in Bihar, in a school that was a microcosm of our diverse Indian culture. However, due to my father's job transfer, we had to relocate to the bustling city of Mumbai. The shift from a small town to a metropolitan city was a significant change, and the prospect of changing my school was both exciting and nerve-wracking.

The first day at my new school in Mumbai was a whirlwind of emotions. I was awestruck by the imposing infrastructure, the state-of-the-art facilities, and the sheer number of students. The school was a melting pot of different cultures, languages, and traditions, much like the city itself. The hustle and bustle were a stark contrast to the serene and laid-back atmosphere of my previous school.

However, the transition was not without its challenges. The curriculum was more rigorous, the competition fiercer, and the pace of life faster. I initially struggled to keep up with the academic rigour and the fast-paced city life. But, as they say, when the going gets tough, the tough get going. I gradually adapted to the new environment, thanks to the support of my teachers and the camaraderie of my new friends.

Looking back, I believe the experience of changing my school was a turning point in my life. It pushed me out of my comfort zone, broadened my horizons, and made me more resilient. It was a journey of self-discovery, and it taught me that change, though daunting, often leads to personal growth and new opportunities.





Describe your experience when you changed your school/college

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe aapko mere high school ke varshon mein le chalta hoon, jab main yuva utsah aur jigryasa se bhara hua tha. Main Bihar ke ek chhote sheher mein padh raha tha, ek school mein jo hamari vividh Bharatiya sanskriti ka sankshipt roop tha. Lekin, mere pita ke kaam ke sthanantaran ke karan, hamein Mumbai ke shor-gul bhare sheher mein sthanantaran karna pada. Ek chhote sheher se ek mahangar tak ka yeh parivartan ek mahatvapurn parivartan tha, aur school badalne ki sambhavana uttejak aur ghabrahat bhari thi.

Mumbai ke mere naye school mein pehla din bhavnaon ka jhagda tha. Main bhavya infrastrukchar, state-of-the-art suvidhaon aur chhatraon ki badi sankhya se achambhit tha. School vibhinn sanskritiyon, bhashaon, aur paramparaon ka mishran tha, bilkul sheher ki tarah. Yeh hulchul mera pichhla school ki shant aur dheemi gati ki vatavaran ke tulna mein ek kadi vishesh tha.

Lekin, yeh parivartan apne chunautiyon ke bina nahi tha. Pathyakram adhik kathin tha, pratispardha adhik kathor thi, aur jeevan ki gati tez thi. Main shuruaat mein shaikshik kathinai aur tez gati wale sheher jeevan ke saath kadam milane mein sangharsh kar raha tha. Lekin, jaisa ki kaha jata hai, jab samay kathin hota hai, tab kathin log aage badhte hain. Main dhire-dhire naye vatavaran ke anukool ho gaya, mere shikshakon ki madad aur mere naye doston ki sahkarita ki wajah se.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte huye, mujhe lagta hai ki mere school badalne ka anubhav mere jeevan ka ek mod tha. Yeh mujhe mere aaram zone se bahar nikalne ke liye dhakka diya, mere daayre ko vistarit kiya, aur mujhe adhik samarth bana diya. Yeh ek aatma-khoj ka safar tha, aur yeh mujhe sikhaya ki parivartan, halanki bhayavah, aksar vyaktigat vikas aur naye avsar lekar aata hai.





Describe a place/ country in which you would like to live

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the world is indeed a vast and fascinating place, brimming with diverse cultures, landscapes and opportunities. However, if I were to pick a place where I'd love to live or work for a short period, it would undoubtedly be Japan. The Land of the Rising Sun has always held a certain allure for me, and I'll tell you why.

Firstly, Japan is a perfect blend of tradition and modernity. On one hand, you have cities like Tokyo, which are the epitome of technological advancement and urban sophistication. On the other hand, you have places like Kyoto, steeped in history and culture, with its ancient temples and serene gardens. This dichotomy is something I find incredibly intriguing.

Secondly, the work culture in Japan is something I admire and would like to experience firsthand. The Japanese are known for their dedication, punctuality, and meticulousness, traits that resonate with me. I believe that working in such an environment, even for a short period, would be an enriching experience.

Lastly, being an Indian, I have a deep-rooted love for food, and Japanese cuisine is something I absolutely relish. From sushi to ramen, the variety and the subtlety of flavors is something that always leaves me wanting more. Living in Japan would give me the chance to indulge in this culinary adventure.

So, in a nutshell, Japan, with its unique blend of culture, work ethics, and gastronomy, is the place I'd love to explore and experience.





Describe a place/ country in which you would like to live

Hindi Translation

Accha, duniya waqai ek badi aur dilchasp jagah hai, jahan anek sanskritiyon, paridrishyon aur avsar bhare pade hain. Lekin, agar mujhe ek jagah chunni padti jahan main rehna ya thode samay ke liye kaam karna pasand karun, to wo bina shak Japan hoga. Uday hone wale suraj ki dharti hamesha mere liye ek khas akarshan rahi hai, aur main aapko batata hun kyun.

Pehli baat, Japan parampara aur aadhunikta ka ek adbhut mishran hai. Ek taraf aapke paas Tokyo jaise shahar hain, jo takniki unnati aur shahri sophistication ki misaal hain. Dusri taraf, aapke paas Kyoto jaise sthal hain, jo itihass aur sanskriti se bhare hue hain, unke prachin mandiron aur shant bagichon ke saath. Mujhe is dvandva ko behad dilchasp lagta hai.

Dusra, mujhe Japan ki kaam sanskriti pasand hai aur main ise pehli baar anubhav karna chahta hun. Japanese log apni samarpan, samay-nirdharan, aur vistritta ke liye jane jate hain, jo gun mujhme goonjte hain. Mujhe vishwas hai ki aisi vatavaran mein kaam karna, chahe wo thoda samay ke liye hi kyun na ho, ek samriddh anubhav hoga.

Ant mein, ek Bhartiya hone ke nate, mujhe khane ke prati gehra pyar hai, aur mujhe Japanese cuisine bahut pasand hai. Sushi se lekar ramen tak, vividhta aur swadon ki sookshmata hamesha mujhe aur adhik chahne par majboor kar deti hai. Japan mein rehna mujhe is pakwan ki yatra mein magn hone ka mauka dega.

To, saaransh mein, apni anokhi sanskriti, kaam ki shishtachar aur bhojan kala ke mishran ke saath, Japan wo jagah hai jisse main anveshan aur anubhav karna chahta hun.





Talk about an interesting old person you met recently

Band 9 sample Response

Just a few weeks ago, I had the good fortune of crossing paths with an intriguing elderly gentleman in my neighbourhood. Mr. Sharma, a sprightly octogenarian, is a retired professor of history, and his fascinating tales of yesteryears have made our evening walks a ritual I eagerly look forward to.

Mr. Sharma is a living testament to the adage that age is just a number. His zest for life is infectious, and his stories, a delightful blend of historical facts and personal anecdotes, transport you to a different era. His tales of the freedom struggle, the partition, and the transformation of Delhi from a sleepy town to a bustling metropolis are riveting. His eyes twinkle with mischief as he narrates his youthful adventures, and his laughter is as hearty as that of a young man.

What truly sets Mr. Sharma apart, though, is his ability to connect with the younger generation. He's tech-savvy, an avid user of social media, and even has his own YouTube channel where he shares snippets of history and life lessons. His progressive outlook and acceptance of change are truly inspiring.

In a nutshell, Mr. Sharma is a treasure trove of wisdom and experience. His stories have given me a newfound appreciation for history and the sacrifices of our forefathers. More importantly, he's shown me that age need not be a barrier to learning, adapting, and enjoying life to the fullest.





Talk about an interesting old person you met recently

Hindi Translation

Bas kuch hi hafte pehle, mujhe apne pados mein ek dilchasp budhe mahashay se milne ka saubhagya mila. Mr. Sharma, ek joshile ashiyana, ek retired itihaas ke professor hain, aur unke behad dilchasp purane samay ki kahaniyon ne hamare shaam ki sair ko ek aadat bana diya hai jiska main besabri se intezaar karta hoon.

Mr. Sharma umar keval ek sankhya hai, is kahawat ka jeevit praman hain. Unka jeevan ke prati utsah sankramak hai, aur unki kahaniyan, itihaasik tathya aur vyaktigat tukbandiyon ka ek manohar mishran, aapko ek alag yug mein le jaati hain. Unki azadi ki ladai, vibhajan, aur Dilli ke ek sote hue shahar se ek bhagdaud bhare shahar mein parivartan ki kahaniyan behad romanchak hain. Jab vo apne yuva dinon ki sair-gair kahaniyan sunate hain to unki aankhon mein shararat chamakti hai, aur unka hasna utna hi dil se hota hai jitna ki ek yuva purush ka.

Halanki, jo Mr. Sharma ko alag banata hai, vah hai unka yuva peedhi se jodne ki kshamata. Vo tech-savvy hain, ek social media ke utsuk upyogkarta hain, aur unke paas apna khud ka YouTube channel bhi hai jahan vo itihaas aur jeevan ki shikshaon ke tukde share karte hain. Unka pragatishil drishtikon aur parivartan ki svikriti sach mein prerna srot hain.

Sankshipt mein, Mr. Sharma gyan aur anubhav ka ek khazana hain. Unki kahaniyon ne mujhe itihaas aur hamare poorvajon ke balidan ke liye naya samman diya hai. Aur adhik mahatvapurna, unhone mujhe dikhaya hai ki umar, sikhne, anukoolit karne, aur jeevan ko poore anand se jeene ka ek baadha nahi honi chahiye.





Describe a piece of technology that you find difficult to use.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must confess, I am quite a tech-savvy person and generally, I get along well with most gadgets. However, there is one piece of technology that I find particularly challenging to use, and that's the GPS navigation system in my car. It's a high-end model, brimming with features, but it's just so complex and non-intuitive.

You see, in India, we have a very intricate system of roads, lanes, and by-lanes, often without clear signage. So, having a reliable navigation system is a boon. But, my car's GPS, despite its advanced features, often leaves me in a lurch. It's not just about inputting the destination, which in itself is a task, given the multitude of options it offers. But the real challenge lies in understanding the route it suggests.

The system is so sophisticated that it provides multiple routes, each with its own estimated time and traffic condition. But the graphical representation is so convoluted that it's hard to comprehend. Moreover, the voice commands are often delayed, causing me to miss turns and adding to the confusion.

In conclusion, while I appreciate the effort to make navigation systems more advanced and informative, I believe there's a pressing need to make them more user-friendly. Until then, I guess I'll have to rely on the good old method of asking locals for directions or use my smartphone's simpler navigation apps. Technology, after all, should simplify our lives, not complicate them, right?





Describe a piece of technology that you find difficult to use.

Hindi Translation

Acha, mujhe svikar karna padega, main kaafi tech-savvy vyakti hoon aur aam taur par mujhe adhikansh gadgets ke saath acchi tarah se samanvay ho jata hai. Lekin, ek aisi technology hai jo mujhe vishesh roop se upyog karne mein kathinai hoti hai, aur vah hai meri car ki GPS navigation system. Yeh ek uchch koti ki model hai, bharpur features ke saath, lekin yeh bahut hi jatil aur anubhavheen hai.

Dekhiye, Bharat mein, humare paas sadkon, galiyon, aur by-lanes ki ek bahut hi jatil pranali hai, aksar spast signage ke bina. To, ek vishwasneey navigation system hona ek varda hai. Lekin, meri car ki GPS, uske unnat features ke bavjood, aksar mujhe musibat mein chhod deti hai. Yeh sirf gantavya dalne ke baare mein nahi hai, jo apne aap mein ek karya hai, dher saare vikalpon ke chalte. Lekin asli chunauti us route ko samajhne mein hai jo yeh sujhaati hai.

System itna unnat hai ki yeh anek routes pradan karta hai, har ek apne anumanit samay aur traffic sthiti ke saath. Lekin graphical prastuti itni uljhi hui hai ki ise samajhna kathin hai. Iske alava, voice commands aksar der se aati hain, jisse mujhe mod chhuk jaate hain aur confusion badh jaati hai.

Nishkarsh mein, jabki main navigation systems ko adhik unnat aur suchnaatmak banane ki koshish ki sarahna karta hoon, mujhe vishwas hai ki unhe adhik user-friendly banane ki ek pressing zaroorat hai. Tab tak, mujhe lagta hai ki mujhe locals se disha nirdesh poochne ya apne smartphone ke simpler navigation apps ka upyog karne par nirbhar rehna padega. Technology, ant mein, hamari zindagi ko aasan karni chahiye, na ki unhe uljhan mein daalni, sahi?





***Describe a historical period
you would like to know more
about***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've always been quite intrigued by the rich tapestry of history, but if I had to pick a specific period that piques my curiosity, I would definitely choose the Mughal era in India. This epoch, spanning from the 16th to the 19th century, was a time of grandeur, opulence, and profound cultural amalgamation, which I find absolutely fascinating.

The Mughal era, as we all know, was a golden age for Indian architecture. The Mughals, particularly Emperor Shah Jahan, were renowned for their architectural prowess. The Taj Mahal, a symbol of eternal love and an architectural marvel, is a testament to this. However, my interest isn't limited to the grand monuments. I'm equally intrigued by the urban planning of that period, the intricate layout of cities, and the design of the humble abodes of common folks.

Moreover, the Mughal era was a melting pot of diverse cultures, languages, and cuisines. The fusion of Persian and Indian cultures gave birth to a unique language, Urdu, and a plethora of delectable dishes like biryani and kebabs. I'm particularly curious about how these cultural exchanges occurred and how they shaped the socio-cultural fabric of the time.

Lastly, I'm drawn to the political intrigues and power dynamics of the Mughal court. The tales of royal conspiracies, political alliances, and wars for succession are as riveting as any modern-day thriller. I'd love to delve deeper into these aspects, to understand the human emotions and ambitions that drove the course of history. So, yes, the Mughal era is a historical period I would love to explore further.





Describe a historical period you would like to know more about

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe hamesha se itihaas ki samriddh bunavat se kaafi aakarshan hua hai, lekin agar mujhe koi vishesh avdhi chunni padti jo meri jigryasa ko bhadkaati hai, to main nishchit roop se Bharat mein Mughal yug ko chununga. Yeh yug, 16th se 19th sadi tak faila, ek grandeur, opulence, aur gahre sanskritik vilay ki samay tha, jo mujhe bilkul rochak lagta hai.

Jaisa ki hum sab jaante hain, Mughal yug Bharatiya vastukala ke liye ek sone ka yug tha. Mughalon, vishesh roop se Samrat Shah Jahan, unke vastukala ke gyaan ke liye prasiddh the. Taj Mahal, ek anant prem ka pratik aur ek vastukala ki adbhut kriti, iska gawah hai. Lekin, mera ruchi keval bade smarakon tak seemit nahi hai. Mujhe us samay ki shahri yojana, shahron ka jatil layout, aur aam logon ke nivas sthalon ki design se bhi utna hi aakarshan hota hai.

Iske alava, Mughal yug ek vividh sanskritiyon, bhashaon, aur cuisines ka melting pot tha. Persian aur Bharatiya sanskritiyon ka vilay ek anokhi bhasha, Urdu, aur biryani aur kebabs jaise anek swadisht vyanjanon ka janm diya. Mujhe vishesh roop se yeh janna rochak lagta hai ki yeh sanskritik adan-pradan kaise hua aur unhone us samay ki samajik-sanskritik fabric ko kaise aakar diya.

Ant mein, mujhe Mughal darbar ki rajnaitik sajishon aur shakti gatishilta se aakarshan hota hai. Rajaon ki sajishon, rajnaitik gathbandhanon, aur uttaradhikar ke liye yuddhon ki kahaniyan kisi bhi aadhunik din ki thriller jitni romanchak hoti hain. Mujhe in pahluon ko gehrai se samajhne ki ichha hai, samajhne ki ki manav bhavnaon aur mahatvakankshaon ne itihaas ki disha ko kaise nirdharit kiya. To, haan, Mughal yug ek aitihaasik avdhi hai jise main aur adhik explore karna chahunga.





Describe an unusual meal that you had.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I have to say, I've had my fair share of peculiar meals, but one that really stands out happened during a trip to Nagaland, a beautiful state in the northeastern part of India. It was a culinary adventure that I'll never forget, and it was there that I had the opportunity to try a dish that was, well, quite out of the ordinary.

So, there's this traditional Naga dish called "Axone," also known as fermented soybean. Now, I'm a big fan of trying local cuisines, but this was something entirely different. The aroma of the dish is quite potent, to say the least, and it's something that you can smell from a mile away. It's a smell that's hard to describe, but let's just say it's an acquired taste.

The taste, however, was surprisingly pleasant. It had a unique umami flavour, quite rich and deep. It was served with rice and some local greens, which balanced out the strong flavour of the Axone. It was a meal that challenged my taste buds in ways they hadn't been before, but in a good way.

In conclusion, this unusual meal was a memorable part of my trip to Nagaland. It was a reminder that food is a significant part of a place's culture and identity. Despite the initial shock to my senses, I was glad I tried it. It was a testament to the diversity and richness of Indian cuisine, and it's an experience I'd recommend to any adventurous foodie.





Describe an unusual meal that you had.

Hindi Translation

Acha, mujhe kehna padega, mujhe kafi anokhe khane khane ka mauka mila hai, lekin ek jo sach me alag tha wo Nagaland, Bharat ke uttar-purv hisse me ek sundar rajya, ki yatra ke dauran hua tha. Ye ek culinary adventure tha jo main kabhi nahi bhulunga, aur waha mujhe ek aisa dish try karne ka mauka mila jo, acha, kafi alag tha.

To, ek traditional Naga dish hai "Axone," jo ki fermented soybean ke naam se bhi jana jata hai. Ab, main local cuisines try karne ka bada fan hu, lekin ye kuch puri tarah alag tha. Ye dish ka khushbu kafi tez hoti hai, kam se kam, aur ye aisi khushbu hai jo aap ek mile door se bhi mehsoos kar sakte hain. Ye khushbu ko describe karna mushkil hai, lekin chalo kah lete hain ye ek acquired taste hai.

Lekin, swad surprisingly achha tha. Isme ek anokha umami flavor tha, kafi rich aur deep. Ye chawal aur kuch local greens ke sath serve kiya gaya tha, jo Axone ke strong flavor ko balance kar rahe the. Ye ek aisa khana tha jo ne mere taste buds ko pehle kabhi nahi challenge kiya tha, lekin ek acche tarike se.

Nishkarsh me, ye anokha khana meri Nagaland yatra ka ek yaadgar hissa tha. Ye ek yaad dilane wala tha ki khana ek jagah ki sanskriti aur pehchan ka ek mahatvapurn hissa hai. Meri senses ko pehli baar shock milne ke bawajood, main khush tha ki maine ise try kiya. Ye Bharatiya cuisine ki vividhta aur samriddhi ka ek sakshi tha, aur ye ek anubhav hai jo main kisi bhi adventurous foodie ko recommend karunga.





Describe an achievement/success you are proud of

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've had my fair share of accomplishments, but the one that stands out the most, and which I'm incredibly proud of, is when I secured the first rank in the All India Secondary School Examination. It was a moment of sheer joy and immense satisfaction, and I believe it's worth sharing.

To provide a bit of context, in India, the AISSE is a nationwide examination conducted for students in the 10th grade, and it's a pretty big deal. The competition is fierce, with millions of students participating. So, when I decided to aim for the top spot, I knew I was setting myself a Herculean task. But I was determined to give it my best shot.

The journey was anything but easy. It required meticulous planning, relentless hard work, and an unwavering focus. I had to balance my schoolwork, extra-curricular activities, and my preparation for the exam. There were times when I felt overwhelmed, but I kept reminding myself of the goal I had set. I spent countless nights burning the midnight oil, and my parents were my pillars of support throughout this journey.

When the results were announced, and I found out that I had secured the first rank, it was a moment of pure elation. The sense of accomplishment was overwhelming. I was on cloud nine, and the congratulatory messages started pouring in. It was a validation of my hard work and dedication, and it gave me the confidence to take on bigger challenges in life. It's an achievement that I'll always cherish, and it has shaped me into the person I am today.





Describe an achievement/success you are proud of

Hindi Translation

Mujhe apni kuch uplabdhion par garv hai, lekin sabse adhik mujhe garv hai jab maine All India Secondary School Examination mein pehli rank prapt ki thi. Yeh ek aise samay ka pal tha jab mujhe behad khushi aur atyadhik santushti mili thi, aur mujhe lagta hai ki yeh baat share karne layak hai.

Thoda context dene ke liye, Bharat mein, AISSE ek rashtriya star par aayojit kiya jaane wala pariksha hai jo 10th kaksha ke chhatron ke liye hoti hai, aur yeh kaafi badi baat hoti hai. Pratiyogita kadi hoti hai, jisme karodon chhatra bhag lete hain. Toh, jab maine top spot ke liye aim kiya, toh mujhe pata tha ki main apne liye ek Vishal kaam set kar raha hoon. Lekin maine apni sabse acchi koshish karne ka faisla kiya tha.

Yeh yatra kuch bhi aasan nahi thi. Isme vistrut yojna, nirantar mehnat, aur ek asthir dhyani ki zaroorat thi. Mujhe apne school ka kaam, extra-curricular activities, aur pariksha ki taiyari ko santulit karna tha. Kabhi-kabhi mujhe lagta tha ki main bahut jyada pareshan ho raha hoon, lekin main apne aap ko apne lakshya ki yaad dilata raha. Maine anek raaton ko adhi raat tak kaam karte hue bitaya, aur mere mata-pita is yatra ke dauran mere saath the.

Jab parinam ghoshit hue, aur mujhe pata chala ki maine pehli rank prapt ki hai, toh yeh ek shuddh anand ka pal tha. Safalta ki bhavna behad thi. Main bahut khush tha, aur badhai sandesh aane shuru ho gaye. Yeh meri mehnat aur samarpan ki pushti thi, aur isne mujhe jeevan mein bade challenges ka samna karne ki himmat di. Yeh ek uplabdhi hai jise main hamesha yaad rakhunga, aur yeh ne mujhe aaj ke vyakti banaya hai.





***Talk about a time you
complained about something
(but finally got a good result)***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me take you back to a time when I had to grapple with a rather frustrating situation. It was during the sweltering summer months in Delhi, and my family and I were facing a persistent issue with our air conditioner. It was a brand-new unit, but it was acting up, and the heat was becoming unbearable.

The company we bought it from had a reputation for excellent customer service, so we were quite surprised when our initial complaints fell on deaf ears. I decided to take matters into my own hands. Being a tech-savvy teenager, I took to social media to voice our grievances. I posted a detailed account of our ordeal on their official Facebook page, hoping it would catch their attention.

To my relief, it did. The very next day, I received a call from their customer service department. They apologized profusely for the inconvenience and assured me that they would rectify the issue promptly. True to their word, a team of technicians arrived at our doorstep the following day. They not only fixed the air conditioner but also gave us a complimentary service for the next six months as a goodwill gesture.

In retrospect, it was a stressful situation, but it ended on a positive note. It taught me the power of social media and the importance of standing up for one's rights. It also made me realize that companies do value their customers and are willing to go the extra mile to ensure their satisfaction.





***Talk about a time you
complained about something
(but finally got a good result)***

Hindi Translation

Toh, mujhe aapko ek samay ki yaad dilane do jab mujhe ek kafi pareshan karne wali sthiti ka samna karna pada. Yeh Delhi ke garmi ke mahine the, aur meri family aur main ek lagatar chalne wale air conditioner se judi samasya ka samna kar rahe the. Yeh ek naya unit tha, lekin usme kuch kharabi thi, aur garmi asahaniya ho gayi thi.

Humne jis company se yeh kharida tha, uska customer service ke liye accha naam tha, toh hume kafi hairani hui jab humari shuruaati shikayatein kisi ka dhyan nahi akarshit kar payi. Maine decide kiya ki main khud iska samadhan karunga. Ek tech-savvy teenager hone ke naate, maine social media ka sahara liya apni shikayat ko awaz dene ke liye. Maine unke official Facebook page par humari kathinaiyon ka vistar se varnan kiya, ummeed karte hue ki yeh unka dhyan akarshit karega.

Meri rahat ki baat yeh thi ki yeh unka dhyan akarshit kar paya. Agli hi din, mujhe unke customer service department se call aayi. Unhone humari asuvidha ke liye kshama mangi aur mujhe ashwasan diya ki ve is samasya ko jald se jald theek kar denge. Unke vade ke anusaar, agle din ek technicians ki team hamare ghar pahunchi. Unhone sirf air conditioner ko theek nahi kiya, balki hume agle chhah mahine ke liye complimentary service bhi di, ek goodwill gesture ke roop mein.

Peeche mudkar dekhte hue, yeh ek stressful situation thi, lekin yeh ek positive note par samapt hui. Isne mujhe social media ki shakti aur apne adhikaron ke liye khada hone ki mahatva ko samjhaya. Yeh mujhe yeh bhi samajhne mein madad kiya ki companies apne customers ki kadar karti hain aur ve unki santushti ke liye extra mile jaane ke liye taiyar hain.





Describe when someone gave you something you really wanted

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, I've been fortunate enough to receive many gifts throughout my life, but one that particularly stands out is a gift I received from my parents on my 18th birthday. It was a digital camera, a Canon DSLR, something I had been pining for quite a while.

You see, I've always had a keen interest in photography. The idea of capturing moments and turning them into timeless memories has always fascinated me. However, the camera I had was a basic point-and-shoot model, which, although decent, was not quite up to the mark for the kind of photography I wanted to delve into.

So, on my 18th birthday, I was taken aback when I unwrapped my gift to find the Canon DSLR I had been eyeing at the electronics store in the local mall. I remember being over the moon, my heart pounding with excitement. My parents had somehow managed to pick up on my subtle hints and saved up to buy me the camera.

To this day, that camera remains one of my most prized possessions. Not only because it's a fantastic piece of equipment that has significantly enhanced my photography skills, but also because it's a reminder of my parents' love and their willingness to support my passions. It's more than just a camera to me; it's a symbol of my parents' belief in my dreams.





Describe when someone gave you something you really wanted

Hindi Translation

Accha, mujhe kehna chahiye, mujhe apne jeevan mein bahut saare uphaar mil chuke hain, lekin ek jo khaas taur par ubhar ke aaya hai, woh ek uphaar hai jo mujhe mere maa-baap ne mere 18ve janamdin par diya tha. Woh ek digital camera tha, Canon DSLR, jise main kaafi samay se chah raha tha.

Dekhiye, mujhe hamesha se photography mein bahut ruchi rahi hai. Kshanon ko capture karke unhe anant smritiyon mein badalne ka vichar mujhe hamesha se behad aakarshit karta hai. Halanki, mere paas jo camera tha woh ek basic point-and-shoot model tha, jo, halanki theek thaak tha, lekin jis tarah ki photography main karna chahta tha uske liye bilkul bhi upyukt nahi tha.

To, mere 18ve janamdin par, jab maine apna uphaar kholkar dekha to mujhe Canon DSLR mila jise main sthaniya mall ke electronics store mein dekh raha tha. Mujhe yaad hai ki main bahut khush tha, mere dil ki dhadkan tez ho gayi thi. Mere maa-baap ne kisi tarah se mere sookshm sanketon ko samjha aur mujhe camera khareedne ke liye bachat ki thi.

Aaj tak, woh camera mere sabse anmol sampatti mein se ek hai. Sirf isliye nahi ki yeh ek shaandar upkaran hai jo ne meri photography skills ko kafi badhaya hai, balki isliye bhi kyunki yeh mere maa-baap ke pyaar aur unki sahajta ka smaran hai jo unhone mere junoon ko samarthan dene ke liye dikhayi. Yeh mere liye sirf ek camera se adhik hai; yeh mere maa-baap ke mere sapnon par vishwas ka pratik hai.





Describe a development in your country like shopping centre, park etcetera

Band 9 sample Response

India, a country brimming with diversity and dynamism, is constantly evolving and growing. One development that has significantly transformed the urban landscape in recent years is the proliferation of shopping malls. I'd like to talk about one such mall that has become a landmark in my city, Delhi - the Select Citywalk.

Situated in the heart of South Delhi, Select Citywalk is a sprawling, modern shopping complex that has redefined the retail experience for Delhiites. It's not just a shopping destination, but a hub for entertainment, dining, and socializing. The mall houses a plethora of international and domestic brands, catering to a wide range of tastes and budgets.

What sets Select Citywalk apart, though, is its commitment to providing a holistic experience. Beyond shopping, it offers a multiplex for movie enthusiasts, a food court serving a smorgasbord of cuisines, and even an open-air plaza for live performances. It's a place where families, friends, and couples can spend an entire day, indulging in their varied interests.

In conclusion, the emergence of shopping malls like Select Citywalk is a testament to India's rapid urbanization and changing consumer habits. They are more than just commercial spaces; they are social and cultural epicenters that reflect the cosmopolitan ethos of modern Indian cities. As an Indian, it's fascinating to witness these transformations and be part of this exciting journey of development.





Describe a development in your country like shopping centre, park etcetera

Hindi Translation

Bharat, ek desh jo vividhta aur gatishilta se bharpur hai, lagatar vikasit aur badh raha hai. Pichle kuch varshon mein jo vikas ne shahri paridrishya ko mahatvapurn roop se parivartit kiya hai, vah hai shopping malls ka prachar. Main ek aise mall ke baare mein baat karna chahta hoon jo mere shahar, Delhi mein ek landmark ban gaya hai - Select Citywalk.

Dakshin Delhi ke dil mein sthit, Select Citywalk ek vistrut, aadhunik shopping complex hai jo ne Delhiwasiyon ke liye retail anubhav ko paribhashit kiya hai. Yeh sirf ek shopping destination nahi hai, balki manoranjana, bhojan aur samajik milan ka hub hai. Mall mein antarrashtriya aur gharelu brands ki bharmar hai, jo vibhinn swadon aur bajaton ki seva karte hain.

Lekin, jo Select Citywalk ko alag karti hai, vah hai uski pratibaddhata jo ek samagra anubhav pradan karne ki hai. Shopping ke alava, yeh movie premiyon ke liye ek multiplex, vibhinn cuisines ki seva karne wala ek food court aur live performances ke liye ek khuli hawa ka chabutra pradan karta hai. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jahan parivar, dost aur jode pura din bita sakte hain, apne vibhinn ruchiyon mein magn ho sakte hain.

Nishkarsh mein, Select Citywalk jaise shopping malls ke ubharte hue roop ko dekhkar yeh spasht ho jata hai ki Bharat ki tezi se shahriikaran aur badalte upbhokta aadat ka praman hai. Ve sirf vyavsayik sthal se adhik hain; ve samajik aur sanskritik kendrabindu hain jo aadhunik Bharatiya shahron ki vishv nagriki bhavana ko darshate hain. Ek Bhartiya hone ke nate, in parivartanon ko dekhna aur is utsahit vikas ki yatra ka hissa banana bahut romanchak hai.





Describe a time when you had to lend something to a person you know.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me tell you about a time when I had to lend my precious motorcycle to one of my close friends, Ravi. Now, Ravi is a dear mate, but he's also a bit of a daredevil, especially when it comes to riding bikes. So, you can imagine my apprehension when he approached me with this request.

This incident happened about a year ago, during the sweltering summer months. Ravi, who hails from a small town in Rajasthan, had come to Delhi for an internship. He was staying with me, and one fine day, his office decided to send him to Gurgaon for a meeting. Now, anyone who's familiar with Delhi's public transport would know that commuting to Gurgaon can be a Herculean task, especially in the peak hours.

Ravi was in a fix, and that's when he turned to me, asking if he could borrow my motorcycle. I was hesitant at first, given his reputation for reckless riding. However, seeing his predicament, I decided to lend him my bike, but not before giving him a stern lecture on the importance of safe driving.

In the end, everything turned out well. Ravi made it to his meeting on time, and more importantly, returned my motorcycle in one piece. This experience taught me a valuable lesson about trust and friendship. Sometimes, you have to take a leap of faith and believe in the goodness of people. And in my case, it was a risk that paid off.





Describe a time when you had to lend something to a person you know.

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe aapko ek samay ke baare mein batane do jab mujhe apni kimti motorcycle ko apne ek kareebi dost, Ravi ko udhaar dena pada. Ab, Ravi ek pyara dost hai, lekin woh thoda sa daredevil bhi hai, khaas karke jab baat bike chalane ki aati hai. Toh, aap mera hichkichahat samajh sakte hain jab usne mujhse yeh anurodh kiya.

Yeh ghatna lagbhag ek saal pehle hui thi, garmi ke mahine ke dauran. Ravi, jo Rajasthan ke ek chhote se shahar se aate hain, Dilli mein ek internship ke liye aaye the. Woh mere saath reh rahe the, aur ek sundar din, uske office ne use Gurgaon ke liye ek meeting ke liye bhejne ka faisla kiya. Ab, jo koi bhi Dilli ki public transport se wakif hai, woh jaante hain ki Gurgaon jaana ek Herculean task ho sakta hai, khaas karke peak hours mein.

Ravi ek samasya mein tha, aur tab usne mujhse poocha ki kya woh meri motorcycle udhaar le sakta hai. Main pehle anichchhuk tha, uski laaparwahi wali riding ki wajah se. Lekin, uski samasya ko dekhkar, maine use apni bike udhaar देने का फैसला किया, लेकिन उसे safe driving की महत्वता पर एक कठोर lecture देने से पहले.

Ant mein, sab kuchh achha ho gaya. Ravi apni meeting mein samay par pahunch gaya, aur sabse mahatvapurna, meri motorcycle ek tukde mein wapas laaya. Yeh anubhav ne mujhe vishwas aur dosti ke baare mein ek mulyavan sabak sikhaya. Kabhi kabhi, aapko vishwas ki uchhal lene ki zaroorat hoti hai aur logon ki achchai mein vishwas karna padta hai. Aur mere mamle mein, yeh ek jokhim tha jo chuka diya gaya tha.





Describe a person you met at a party and enjoyed a conversation with.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I am not a party animal per se, but I do enjoy the occasional shindig, especially if it's a family gathering or a close friend's celebration. At one such party, I had the good fortune of meeting a person who left an indelible impression on me. His name was Ravi, a distant cousin of mine who had recently returned from a stint in the USA.

Ravi was a man of many talents, a true polymath. He was an accomplished software engineer, a passionate photographer, and an amateur astronomer. But what struck me most about him was his ability to weave these diverse interests into a captivating narrative. As we delved into a conversation, he regaled me with tales of his stargazing adventures in the deserts of Nevada, and how he used his technical skills to create a software that could predict meteor showers.

Our conversation was not just a one-way street. Ravi was genuinely interested in my life as well. He listened attentively as I shared my experiences as a literature student, and even suggested some American authors I might find interesting. His respect for my interests and his ability to engage in a meaningful dialogue made our conversation truly enjoyable.

In conclusion, meeting Ravi was a refreshing experience. His eclectic interests, his storytelling prowess, and his respectful demeanor made our conversation a memorable one. It's not every day that you meet someone who can talk about coding and constellations with equal enthusiasm!





Describe a person you met at a party and enjoyed a conversation with.

Hindi Translation

Waise toh main party animal nahi hoon, lekin mujhe kabhi kabhi party karna accha lagta hai, khaas kar ke agar woh kisi family gathering ya kisi kareebi dost ki celebration ho. Ek aisi hi party mein mujhe ek vyakti se milne ka saubhagya mila jisne mujh par gehri chhaap chhodi. Uska naam tha Ravi, mera ek door ka rishtedar jo haal hi mein USA se wapas aaya tha.

Ravi ek bahut hi guni vyakti the, ek sachcha polymath. Woh ek safal software engineer the, ek jazbaati photographer, aur ek shaukia khagolshastra jankar. Lekin jo baat mujhe sabse adhik prabhavit karti thi woh thi unki alag alag ruchiyon ko ek dilchasp kahani mein badalne ki kshamata. Jab humne baatchit shuru ki, toh unhone mujhe apni Nevada ke registan mein taare dekhne ki yatra ki kahani sunai, aur kaise unhone apni technical skills ka istemal karke ek software banaya jo meteor showers ko predict kar sakta tha.

Hamari baatchit sirf ek taraf se nahi thi. Ravi mere jeevan mein bhi sach mein ruchi lete the. Jab maine apne sahitya chhatra ke roop mein apne anubhav share kiye, toh unhone mujhe kuch American lekhakon ka sujhav diya jinhe main rochak pa sakta hoon. Unka mere ruchi ke prati samman aur ek meaningful dialogue mein shamil hone ki kshamata ne hamari baatchit ko sach mein anandmayi banaya.

Ant mein, Ravi se milna ek tajagi bhara anubhav tha. Unki vividh ruchiyon, unki kahani sunane ki kshamata, aur unka sammanjanak vyavhar hamari baatchit ko yaadgar banaya. Har roz aisa vyakti nahi milta jo coding aur constellations ke baare mein barabar utsaah ke saath baat kar sakta ho!





Describe an area in your home where you feel relaxed.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the place in my house that I find most relaxing is undoubtedly my balcony. It's not a grandiose space by any means, but it's my personal haven of tranquillity amidst the bustling city of Mumbai.

The balcony is a small, cosy space, adorned with a couple of comfortable chairs and a tiny table. It overlooks a park, which, in a city like Mumbai, is a rare and cherished sight. The lush greenery and the children playing in the park provide a stark contrast to the concrete jungle that Mumbai is often associated with.

What makes this space even more special is the fact that I have turned it into my little green corner. I have a collection of potted plants, each one carefully chosen and nurtured by me. The vibrant colours of the flowers and the fresh scent of the leaves have a calming effect that is hard to describe. It's my escape from the hustle and bustle of city life, a place where I can sit back with a cup of chai and lose myself in a good book.

In the evenings, the setting sun paints the sky with hues of orange and pink, making the view from my balcony even more spectacular. The cool breeze that wafts in, carrying with it the sounds of the city winding down, is incredibly soothing. It's a place where I can be alone with my thoughts, reflect on my day, and plan for the future. It's my sanctuary, my peaceful retreat, and undoubtedly, the most relaxing area in my home.





Describe an area in your home where you feel relaxed.

Hindi Translation

Accha, mere ghar mein jo jagah mujhe sabse adhik aaramdayak lagti hai, woh nishchit roop se mera balcony hai. Yeh koi shandaar jagah nahi hai, lekin yeh mere liye ek vyaktigat shanti ka sthal hai, Mumbai ke shor bhare shahar ke beech.

Balcony ek chota, sukhad sthal hai, jahan kuch aaramdayak kursiyan aur ek choti si mez sajai gayi hai. Yeh ek park ki or dekhta hai, jo Mumbai jaise shahar mein ek durlabh aur pyara drishya hai. Hariyali aur park mein khel rahe bachchon ka nazara Mumbai ke concrete jungle ke saath ek kathor contrast banata hai.

Is jagah ko aur bhi vishesh banane wala yeh tathya hai ki maine ise apna chota sa hara kone banaya hai. Mere paas kuch gamlon ki ek sangrah hai, jise maine dhyanpurvak chuna aur paala hai. Phoolon ke jeevant rang aur patton ki taza sugandh ka ek shaant karne wala prabhav hai jo varnan karne mein kathin hai. Yeh mera shahar ki jeevan shaili se bachne ka sthan hai, jahan main ek cup chai ke saath baithkar ek acchi kitab mein khud ko kho sakta hoon.

Shaam ko, dhalte suraj ne aasman ko narangi aur gulabi rangon se rang diya, jisse mere balcony se jo nazara milta hai woh aur bhi adbhut ho jata hai. Jo thandi hawa andar aati hai, uske saath shahar ki awaazein bhi aati hai, jo atyant shaant karne wali hoti hai. Yeh ek aisi jagah hai jahan main apne vicharon ke saath akela ho sakta hoon, apne din par vichar kar sakta hoon, aur bhavishya ki yojana kar sakta hoon. Yeh mera sharan sthal, mera shaant aashray, aur nishchit roop se, mere ghar ka sabse aaramdayak kshetra hai.





Describe an activity you enjoyed in your free time when you were young

Band 9 sample Response

When I was a young lad, growing up in the bustling city of Mumbai, I was absolutely enamoured with the game of cricket. It was not just a sport, but a religion, a way of life for us. The streets would come alive with the sound of ball hitting bat, and the air would be filled with the infectious energy of young enthusiasts.

We would play 'gully cricket', a version of the game adapted to the narrow lanes of our neighbourhood. The rules were a bit different, but the spirit of the game was the same. The lane was our pitch, the walls our boundary, and the exhilaration of hitting a 'six' was just as real. The game was not just about winning, but about camaraderie, teamwork, and the sheer joy of playing.

I fondly remember those summer afternoons, when the sun was high and the heat was unbearable, but nothing could deter us from our game. We would play for hours, forgetting about the scorching heat, our thirst, and our tired legs. The satisfaction of a well-played game was worth all the sweat and toil.

Looking back, I realise that those games of cricket were not just a pastime, but a significant part of my childhood. They taught me the importance of teamwork, the thrill of competition, and the joy of simple pleasures. Even today, the sound of a cricket ball hitting a bat brings back a rush of nostalgia, and I can't help but smile.





Describe an activity you enjoyed in your free time when you were young

Hindi Translation

Jab main ek chhota ladka tha, Mumbai ke shor sharabe wale shahar me badh raha tha, mujhe cricket khelne se bilkul pyar ho gaya tha. Ye sirf ek khel nahi tha, balki ek dharm, hamare liye ek jeevan shaili thi. Sadkon par ball ko bat se lagne ki awaz ke sath jeevan aa jata tha, aur hawa me yuva utsaahiyon ki sankramak urja bhari hoti thi.

Hum 'gully cricket' khelte the, jo ki hamare pados ke sankire galiyon ke liye anukoolit khel ka ek sanskaran tha. Niyam thode alag the, lekin khel ki bhavana wahi thi. Gali hamari pitch thi, deeware hamari boundary thi, aur 'six' marna utna hi asli tha. Khel sirf jeetne ke bare me nahi tha, balki sahyog, teamwork, aur khelne ka shuddh anand ke bare me tha.

Main pyar se un garmi ke dopaharon ko yaad karta hoon, jab suraj ucha tha aur garmi asahaniya thi, lekin kuch bhi hume hamare khel se rok nahi sakta tha. Hum ghanthon tak khelte the, bhul jate the tez dhoop, hamari pyas, aur hamare thake hue pair. Ek achhe khel ki santushti saari pasina bhunane aur mehnat karne layak thi.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe samajh aata hai ki cricket ke woh khel sirf samay bitane ka kaam nahi the, balki mere bachpan ka ek mahatvapurn hissa the. Unhone mujhe teamwork ki mahatvta, pratiyogita ki romanchakta, aur saral sukhon ki khushi sikhayi. Aaj bhi, cricket ball ko bat se lagne ki awaz ek joshila yaad dilati hai, aur mujhe muskurane se rok nahi sakti.





Describe a course that you want to learn

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've always been an ardent animal lover, and growing up in a bustling city like Mumbai, I've seen a fair share of pets in my neighbourhood. So, the course I'm yearning to learn is a pet grooming course. It's not your typical academic course, but it's something that I'm genuinely passionate about.

Now, you might wonder why I chose such an unconventional course. You see, I've grown up with pets, and they've always been a part of my family. We've had dogs, cats, even a parrot at one point, and I've always been involved in their care. However, I've noticed that pet grooming services in India, especially in cities like mine, are quite expensive and not always up to the mark. I believe that with proper training, I could provide a much-needed service to pet owners in my community.

The course I'm interested in is offered by a renowned institute in Bangalore. It's a comprehensive program that covers everything from basic grooming techniques to advanced procedures like pet massage and aromatherapy. I'm particularly excited about the practical sessions where we get to work with different breeds of dogs and cats.

In conclusion, I think this course is a perfect blend of my love for animals and my desire to learn a new skill. I'm convinced that it will not only provide me with a unique learning experience but also open up a world of opportunities in the pet care industry. Plus, I think it's high time we had more professionally trained pet groomers in India, don't you agree?





Describe a course that you want to learn

Hindi Translation

Main hamesha se ek kattar pashu premi raha hoon, aur Mumbai jaise shor bhare shahar mein bade huye, maine apne pados mein kafi pets dekhe hain. Toh, jo course main seekhna chahta hoon woh hai pet grooming course. Yeh aapka samanya academic course nahi hai, lekin yeh kuch hai jis ke prati main sachmuch utsahit hoon.

Ab aap soch rahe honge ki maine aisa asaadharan course kyun chuna. Dekhiye, maine pets ke saath bada hua hoon, aur unhone hamesha meri family ka hissa bana hua hai. Humare paas dogs, cats, ek samay par toh ek tota bhi tha, aur main hamesha unki dekhbhal mein shamil raha hoon. Lekin maine dekha hai ki pet grooming services India mein, khaas karke mere jaise shaharon mein, kaafi mehngi hoti hai aur hamesha mark par nahi hoti. Mujhe vishwas hai ki sahi prashikshan ke saath, main apne samuday ke pet malikon ko ek bahut zaroori seva pradan kar sakta hoon.

Jo course mujhe dilchaspi hai, woh Bangalore ki ek prasiddh sanstha dwara prastut kiya jata hai. Yeh ek vyaapak program hai jo basic grooming techniques se lekar advanced procedures jaise pet massage aur aromatherapy tak sab kuchh cover karta hai. Main vishesh roop se practical sessions ke prati utsahit hoon jahan hume alag-alag breeds ke dogs aur cats ke saath kaam karne ka mauka milta hai.

Ant mein, mujhe lagta hai ki yeh course meri pashu premi pravritti aur naye kushalata seekhne ki ichha ka ek adbhut mishran hai. Mujhe vishwas hai ki yeh mujhe sirf ek anokha adhyayan anubhav hi nahi dega, balki pet care industry mein duniya bhar ke avasar bhi khol dega. Plus, mujhe lagta hai ki ab samay aa gaya hai ki humare paas India mein adhik professionally trained pet groomers hon, kya aap sahmat hain?





Describe a difficult thing you did and succeeded

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, there are quite a few instances where I've had to push myself out of my comfort zone, but one particular experience that springs to mind is when I decided to participate in a theatre drama during our annual college fest. Now, I'm not naturally inclined towards acting, you see, so this was a bit of a leap into the unknown for me.

The drama was an adaptation of a famous Indian play, and I was cast in a pivotal role. The character was complex and required a deep understanding of the nuances of the script, which was a challenge in itself. I had to balance my regular studies with rigorous rehearsals. There were times when I felt like giving up, but the thought of standing on stage and performing in front of a live audience kept me going.

The day of the performance was nerve-wracking. The auditorium was packed to the rafters, and the spotlight was quite literally on me. But as soon as I uttered my first dialogue, I felt a strange sense of calm. I was able to immerse myself in the character and deliver a performance that, to my surprise, was met with a thunderous applause.

The icing on the cake was when our drama won the first prize. It was a moment of immense pride and satisfaction. Not only did I overcome my fear of acting, but I also discovered a new side of myself. This experience taught me that stepping out of your comfort zone can lead to unexpected and rewarding outcomes.





Describe a difficult thing you did and succeeded

Hindi Translation

Mujhe kehna padega ki kai aise avsar hain jahan maine apne aaram zone se bahar nikalna pada, lekin ek aisa anubhav jo mujhe yaad aata hai, woh hai jab maine apne varshik college utsav mein ek theatre drama mein bhag lena decide kiya. Ab dekhiye, mujhe acting ki taraf naturally inclination nahi hai, to yeh mere liye ek anjaan kshetra mein koodne jaisa tha.

Drama ek prasiddh Bharatiya natak ka roopantar tha, aur mujhe ek mahatvapoom bhoomika mein cast kiya gaya tha. Charitra jatil tha aur script ke nuances ki gahri samajh ki zaroorat thi, jo khud mein ek challenge tha. Mujhe apne regular studies aur kathor rehearsals ko balance karna pada. Kai baar aisa laga ki main haar man loon, lekin live audience ke saamne stage par khade hokar perform karne ka vichar mujhe aage badhne deta tha.

Performance ke din mujhe bahut ghabrahat hui. Auditorium bhara hua tha, aur spotlight wakai mujh par thi. Lekin jaise hi maine apni pehli dialogue boli, mujhe ek ajeeb sa shanti ka ehsaas hua. Main apne aap ko charitra mein dubo kar ek performance de saka, jo mere surprise ke liye, shor-gul se mila.

Soney pe suhagey wali baat thee jab hamara drama pehla prize jeeta. Yeh garv aur santushti ka ek atyadhik pal tha. Sirf maine apne acting ke dar ko nahi par kiya, balki maine apne aap ki ek nayi taraf bhi khoji. Yeh anubhav ne mujhe sikhaya ki apne comfort zone se bahar nikalna anapexpected aur rewarding outcomes la sakta hai.





Describe an object you find particularly beautiful

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the object that I find particularly beautiful is a mini pocket-sized replica of the Taj Mahal. This isn't just a mere object to me, but a symbol of love and an embodiment of architectural brilliance. It's a small, intricately designed model, no bigger than the palm of my hand, yet it captures the grandeur of the original monument in an uncanny manner.

I received this miniature marvel as a gift from my grandfather when I was a child. He had bought it during one of his visits to Agra, the city that houses the real Taj Mahal. The moment I laid my eyes on it, I was captivated. The exquisite detailing, the perfect symmetry, and the pure white colour, all mirrored the original monument perfectly. It was as if I was holding a piece of history in my hands.

What makes this object even more beautiful to me is the story behind the real Taj Mahal. Built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal, it's a testament to the timeless love he had for her. Every time I look at my miniature Taj, I'm reminded of this poignant tale of love and loss, making it a bittersweet symbol of beauty.

In conclusion, this pocket-sized replica of the Taj Mahal is not just an object of beauty, but also a source of inspiration and a reminder of the power of love. It's a piece of art that transcends the physical realm and touches the emotional chords of my heart, making it a truly beautiful object in my eyes.





Describe an object you find particularly beautiful

Hindi Translation

Bilkul, vah vastu jo mujhe vishesh roop se sundar lagti hai, vah ek mini pocket-sized replica hai Taj Mahal ka. Yeh mere liye sirf ek samanya vastu nahi hai, balki prem ka pratik aur vastukala ki adbhut rachna ka pratibimb hai. Yeh ek chhota, bahut hi sookshm roop se taiyar kiya gaya model hai, jo mere haath ki hatheli se bhi chhota hai, phir bhi yeh asal smarak ki vishalata ko adbhut roop se prastut karta hai.

Maine yeh laghu aashcharya apne dada ji se uphaar mein prapt kiya tha jab main bachcha tha. Unhone ise Agra shahar se kharida tha, jahan asli Taj Mahal sthit hai. Jis samay maine is par apni aankhen daali, main mantramugdh ho gaya. Ati sundar vistar, adyaksh samanata, aur shuddh safed rang, sabhi ne mool smarak ko poori tarah se darpanit kiya. Yeh lag raha tha jaise main apne haathon mein itihaas ka ek tukda pakad raha hoon.

Jo mujhe is vastu ko aur bhi adhik sundar banata hai, vah hai asli Taj Mahal ke peeche ki kahani. Samrat Shah Jahan ne apni priya patni, Mumtaz Mahal, ki yaad mein ise banwaya tha, yeh unke samayojit prem ka gawah hai. Har baar jab main apne laghu Taj ko dekhta hoon, mujhe is prem aur hani ki kahani ki yaad aati hai, jo ise ek madhur-sundar prem pratik banati hai.

Nishkarsh mein, yeh pocket-sized replica Taj Mahal ka sirf sundar vastu nahi hai, balki prerna ka srot aur prem ki shakti ki yaad dilane wala bhi hai. Yeh ek kala ka tukda hai jo bhautik jagat se paar hokar mere hriday ke bhavnatmak taar ko chhuta hai, jo ise mere nazariye mein ek sach mein sundar vastu banata hai.





***Describe a time you used
your cellphone/ smartphone
to do something important***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I can't help but admit that my smartphone has become an indispensable part of my life. It's like my personal genie, always ready to assist me in a myriad of ways. One particular instance that comes to mind is when I used my smartphone to book a last-minute flight ticket to Delhi, my hometown.

It was during the festive season of Diwali, and I was in Mumbai for a work assignment. I had planned to fly back home after my project was completed, but due to some unforeseen circumstances, the project got wrapped up earlier than expected. I was thrilled at the prospect of surprising my family by turning up a few days before Diwali. However, the challenge was to secure a flight ticket at such short notice.

That's when my smartphone came to my rescue. I quickly browsed through various travel apps, comparing prices and schedules. After a bit of a hunt, I managed to find a reasonably priced ticket for a flight leaving the very next day. I booked it instantly, using my mobile banking app for the transaction. The whole process was seamless and took less than 15 minutes.

In retrospect, I marvel at how my smartphone, a device that fits in the palm of my hand, enabled me to carry out such an important task with such ease and efficiency. It not only saved me from the hassle of visiting a travel agency or a bank but also helped me make a memorable Diwali surprise for my family. I guess it's safe to say that my smartphone is my trusted companion in this fast-paced digital world.





Describe a time you used your cellphone/ smartphone to do something important

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe manana padega ki mera smartphone meri zindagi ka ek anivarya hissa ban gaya hai. Yeh meri vyaktigat jinn ki tarah hai, hamesha mujhe anek tarikon se madad karne ke liye taiyar. Ek vishesh ghatna jo mujhe yaad aati hai, woh hai jab maine apne smartphone ka upyog karke Delhi, mere ghar ka akhiri minute ka flight ticket book kiya.

Yeh Diwali ke tyohar ke dauran tha, aur main Mumbai mein ek kaam ke assignment ke liye tha. Maine socha tha ki main apne project ke samapt hone ke baad ghar laut jaunga, lekin kuch anapshakit paristhitiyon ke karan, project se pehle hi samapt ho gaya. Mujhe apne parivar ko Diwali se kuch din pehle aakar surprise dene ki sambhavana par bahut khushi hui. Halanki, challenge yeh tha ki itni jaldi flight ticket prapt karna.

Tab mera smartphone mere madadgar ban gaya. Maine jaldi se anek yatra apps ko browse kiya, mulyon aur samay-sariniyon ki tulna ki. Thodi si talashi ke baad, mujhe agle din jaane wali ek uचित मूल्या की ticket mil gayi. Maine use turant book kar diya, len-den ke liye apne mobile banking app ka upyog karte hue. Puri prakriya samanjas thi aur 15 minute se kam samay mein ho gayi.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe hairat hoti hai ki kaise mera smartphone, ek aisi device jo mere haath ki hatheli mein aati hai, ne mujhe itne aasaani aur kushalta se itna mahatvapurn kaam karne mein madad ki. Yeh sirf mujhe yatra agency ya bank jaane ki pareshani se bachata hai, balki mujhe apne parivar ke liye ek yaadgar Diwali surprise banane mein bhi madad karta hai. Mujhe lagta hai ki yeh kahna surakshit hoga ki mera smartphone is tezi se badalte digital duniya mein mera vishwaspatra saathi hai.





Describe an important thing you learned, not at school or college.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, one of the most significant lessons I've learned outside the formal education system was the art of cooking, specifically Indian cuisine. It's not just about preparing a meal, but rather a cultural immersion and a creative outlet that I discovered during my teenage years.

Growing up, I was always intrigued by the tantalising aromas wafting from my mother's kitchen. The way she would deftly juggle a myriad of spices, and transform simple ingredients into a culinary masterpiece was nothing short of magic to me. One day, out of sheer curiosity, I decided to try my hand at it. My first attempt was a simple dish - 'Aloo Gobi', a quintessential Indian dish made from potatoes and cauliflower.

The process was not as smooth as I had imagined. I fumbled with the spices, overcooked the vegetables and even managed to burn my fingers a couple of times. However, the sense of accomplishment I felt when my family appreciated my effort was unparalleled. Over time, I honed my skills, learning the delicate balance of spices, the importance of timing, and the art of presentation.

In retrospect, cooking taught me more than just the preparation of food. It was a lesson in patience, creativity, and perseverance. It was a reminder that learning is not confined to classrooms and textbooks. Life, in its myriad forms, is a great teacher, and every experience, a valuable lesson. So, even though I didn't learn this in school or college, it's an essential skill that I'm incredibly grateful for.





Describe an important thing you learned, not at school or college.

Hindi Translation

Achha, shiksha pranali ke bahar maine jo sabse mahatvapurna sabak sikha hai woh hai pakane ki kala, vishesh roop se Bharatiya vyanjan. Yeh sirf ek bhojan taiyar karne ke bare mein nahi hai, balki yeh ek sanskritik doobaki aur ek rachnatmak outlet hai jo maine apne kishor avastha ke dauran paya.

Jab main bada hua, to mujhe hamesha apni maa ke rasoi se aane wali lubhavani sugandh se akarshan hua karta tha. Jis tarah se unhone anek masalon ko nipataya, aur saral samagriyon ko ek pakwan ki shreshth rachna mein badal diya, woh mere liye kuch kam magic se nahi tha. Ek din, keval jigryasa ke karan, maine iska prayog karne ka faisla kiya. Mera pehla prayas ek saral vyanjan tha - 'Aloo Gobi', ek quintessential Bharatiya vyanjan jo aloo aur gobhi se banaya jata hai.

Prakriya jaisi maine kalpana ki thi, waisi bilkul nahi thi. Maine masalon ke saath galti ki, sabziyon ko adhik pakaya aur kai baar apne ungliyon ko jalane tak ka prabandh kiya. Halanki, jab mera parivar mere prayas ki sarahna kiya, to mujhe jo anubhav hua tha woh anupam tha. Samay ke sath, maine apne kushalataon ko tez kiya, masalon ka komal santulan, samay ki mahatvta, aur prastuti ki kala sikhne.

Pichle drishtikon mein, pakane ne mujhe sirf bhojan ki taiyari se adhik sikhaya. Yeh dhairya, rachnatmakta, aur dhiraj ki ek sabak tha. Yeh yaad dilane wala tha ki shiksha kaksha aur pathyapustakon tak simit nahi hai. Jeevan, apne anek roopon mein, ek mahan shikshak hai, aur har anubhav, ek mulyavan sabak. To, yadyapi maine isse school ya college mein nahi sikha, yeh ek aavashyak kushalata hai jiske liye main atyant aabhari hoon.





Describe something that surprised you and made you happy

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm an individual who loves surprises, and I've had my fair share of them. However, one particular incident that stands out was when I received an unexpected gift from my younger brother. It was a surprise that not only caught me off guard but also filled my heart with immense joy.

You see, my brother and I share a typical Indian sibling relationship, filled with a healthy dose of banter, occasional squabbles, and a lot of love. We both have our own lives, him being an engineer in Bangalore and me preparing for my IELTS here in Delhi. So, we don't get to see each other as often as we'd like.

It was my birthday last year, and I wasn't expecting anything out of the ordinary. I was busy with my IELTS preparation and didn't have any grand plans. But, to my surprise, a courier arrived at my doorstep with a package. It was a beautifully wrapped gift, and the note attached read, "To my annoying yet beloved sister, Happy Birthday!"

Inside the package was a Kindle, something I'd been wanting for a long time. I'm an avid reader, and my brother knew that. He also knew about my struggle with managing physical books amidst my IELTS study materials. So, he decided to gift me a Kindle to make my life a bit easier.

This thoughtful gesture from my brother was a delightful surprise that made me incredibly happy. It wasn't just the gift, but the thought and love behind it that touched me deeply. It's a memory I cherish and one that always brings a smile to my face.





Describe something that surprised you and made you happy

Hindi Translation

Achha, main ek vyakti hoon jo achanak uphaar pasand karta hai, aur mujhe unka kafi anubhav raha hai. Lekin, ek vishesh ghatna jo bahar nikalti hai, vah thi jab mujhe mere chhote bhai se ek anapekshit uphaar mila. Yeh ek aisi chauka denewali baat thi jo mujhe nahi sirf achanak pakadti thi, balki mere dil ko atyadhik anand se bhar deti thi.

Dekhiye, mera bhai aur main ek samanya Bharatiya bhai-behen ka rishta share karte hain, jisme swasth mazak, kabhi-kabhi jhagde, aur bahut sara pyar hota hai. Hum dono ke apne-apne jeevan hain, vah Bangalore mein ek engineer hai aur main yahan Delhi mein apni IELTS ki taiyari kar rahi hoon. Toh, hum ek dusre se utna milte nahi jitna hum chahte hain.

Pichle saal mera janamdin tha, aur main kuch asamanya ki ummeed nahi kar rahi thi. Main apni IELTS ki taiyari mein vyast thi aur mere paas koi bade yojna nahi thi. Lekin, meri chauka dene wali baat yeh thi ki, ek courier mere darwaze par ek package ke saath pahuncha. Yeh ek sundar se bandha hua uphaar tha, aur usmein chipka hua note tha, "Meri tang karne wali lekin priya behen ko, Janamdin Mubarak!"

Package ke andar ek Kindle tha, jise main bahut samay se chah rahi thi. Main ek utsahit pathak hoon, aur mera bhai yeh janta tha. Usse meri IELTS ki adhyayan samagri ke beech sharirik kitabon ko sambhalne ki samasya ke bare mein bhi pata tha. Toh, usne mujhe meri zindagi thodi aasan banane ke liye ek Kindle uphaar dene ka nirnay liya.

Mere bhai ki yeh soch bhari kriya ek anandit chauka denewali baat thi jo mujhe atyant khush kar diya. Yeh sirf uphaar nahi tha, balki uske peeche ki soch aur pyar thi jo mujhe gahrai se chhua. Yeh ek smriti hai jo main sanjoyti hoon aur jo hamesha mere chehre par muskaan laati hai.





Describe a photo that you took and are proud of

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I am an avid photographer and have a penchant for capturing the beauty of the world around me. However, there is one particular photograph that I am immensely proud of, and it's a snapshot of the iconic Taj Mahal. I took this photo during a trip to Agra, a city in Northern India, known for its rich history and architectural splendour.

The day I captured this photo, it was a typical Indian summer afternoon, sweltering and sunny. The Taj Mahal, with its ivory-white marble, was gleaming under the bright sun, creating a mesmerising spectacle. I remember waiting for the perfect moment when the sun was directly above the monument, casting a symmetrical shadow on the shimmering Yamuna river behind it.

The photograph turned out to be a masterpiece, if I may say so myself. The Taj Mahal, standing majestically in the centre, was framed by the azure sky above and the emerald greenery around it. The reflection in the river added a surreal touch to the entire scene. The picture was so captivating that it won me the first prize in a local photography competition.

Looking at that photo now, I feel a sense of accomplishment. It's not just about the technical aspects, like the perfect lighting or the right angle, but also about capturing the essence of the Taj Mahal, a symbol of love and an epitome of Mughal architecture. This photo serves as a reminder of that beautiful day and the joy of capturing such a timeless monument in all its glory.





Describe a photo that you took and are proud of

Hindi Translation

Accha, main ek utsaahii photographer hoon aur mujhe aas-paas ki duniya ki sundarta ko capture karne ki khaas pasand hai. Lekin, ek khaas tasveer hai jis par mujhe behad garv hai, aur woh hai prasiddh Taj Mahal ki ek snapshot. Maine yeh photo Agra, Uttar Bharat ki ek shahar, jo apne samriddh itihaas aur vastukala ke liye jaana jaata hai, ke dauraan li thi.

Jis din maine yeh photo li thi, woh ek maamuli Bharatiya garmi ka dopahar tha, jalane wala aur dhup wala. Taj Mahal, apne haathi daant jaisi safed sangmarmar ke saath, tez dhoop mein chamak raha tha, ek manmohak drishya bana raha tha. Mujhe yaad hai ki main us perfect kshan ka intezaar kar raha tha jab suraj seedhe smarak ke upar tha, Yamuna nadi ke chamakte hue piche ek sammit chhaya daal raha tha.

Tasveer ek kala ka utkrisht roop nikli, agar main khud ko kahu to. Taj Mahal, kendriya mein shaan se khada hua, neeche ki harit bhoomi aur upar ki neeli aakash dwara frame kiya gaya tha. Nadi mein reflection ne poore drishya ko ek adbhut sparsh diya. Chhavi itni akarshak thi ki mujhe ek sthaniya photography pratiyogita mein pehla puraskaar mila.

Ab us photo ko dekhkar, mujhe ek safalta ki bhavna hoti hai. Yeh sirf takneeki pehluon ke baare mein nahi hai, jaise ki perfect lighting ya sahi angle, lekin Taj Mahal ki atma ko capture karne ke baare mein bhi, jo prem ka prateek aur Mughal vastukala ka utkrisht udaharan hai. Yeh photo us sundar din aur aise amar smarak ko uski poori mahima mein capture karne ki khushi ki yaad dilati hai.





Describe a problem you had while shopping online or in a store

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm a bit of an online shopping aficionado, you see. It's just so convenient, especially in a bustling city like Mumbai where traffic can be a real nightmare. But, as with everything, it has its own set of drawbacks. I remember this one time, I had a rather irksome experience while shopping online.

I was on the hunt for a new smartphone, and after a lot of research, I zeroed in on a model that was just launched. It was exclusively available on a popular e-commerce platform. So, I promptly placed an order, excited about my impending gadget upgrade. The estimated delivery date was a week away, and I waited with bated breath.

However, the week turned into two, and then three, with no sign of the package. I was in a fix. I contacted the customer service, but they gave me a runaround, with vague responses and no concrete information. It was incredibly frustrating, especially since I had already paid for the product.

Finally, after a month of back and forth, they admitted that the package was lost in transit. They refunded my money, but the whole experience left a sour taste in my mouth. It was a classic case of anticipation turning into disappointment. But, on the bright side, it taught me to be more cautious and patient while shopping online. After all, every cloud has a silver lining, right?





Describe a problem you had while shopping online or in a store

Hindi Translation

Dekhiye, main thoda sa ek online shopping premi hoon. Ye bahut hi suvidhajanak hota hai, khaaskar ek bhagdaud bhare shahar jaise Mumbai me, jahan traffic ek asli sir dard ho sakta hai. Lekin, har cheez ki tarah, iske apne kuch nuksan bhi hote hain. Mujhe ek baar yaad hai, jab mujhe online shopping karte samay ek kafi pareshan karne wala anubhav hua tha.

Main ek naye smartphone ki talash me tha, aur kafi research karne ke baad, maine ek model par nazar tikai jo abhi launch hua tha. Ye sirf ek lokpriya e-commerce platform par hi uplabdh tha. Toh, maine turant order kar diya, apne aane wale gadget upgrade ke liye utsahit. Anumanit delivery date ek hafte baad thi, aur maine saans rok kar intezaar kiya.

Lekin, ek hafte ka samay do hafte me badal gaya, phir teen hafte, aur package ka koi nishan nahi tha. Main ek samasya me phas gaya tha. Maine customer service se sampark kiya, lekin unhone mujhe idhar udhar bhaga diya, aspashth jawab dekar aur koi thos jankari na dete huye. Ye behad frustrating tha, khaaskar jab maine pehle hi product ke liye bhugtan kar diya tha.

Ant me, ek mahine ke aage pichhe ke baad, unhone maan liya ki package transit me kho gaya tha. Unhone mere paise wapas kar diye, lekin pura anubhav mujhe kafi khatta laga. Ye ek shandar udaharan tha utsah ka nirasha me badalne ka. Lekin, acchi baat ye hai ki isne mujhe online shopping karte samay adhik savdhan aur dhairya rakhne ki siksha di. Akhir, har kaale badal ke peeche chandi ka taar toh hota hi hai, hai na?





Describe a time when you saw a lot of plastic waste

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, the sight was absolutely disheartening! I vividly remember this one time when I had gone on a family trip to one of the most popular tourist destinations in India, Goa. The beaches there are renowned for their pristine beauty, but what I witnessed was a stark contrast to the postcard-perfect images that one usually associates with this place.

We decided to spend the day at the Calangute beach, which is often referred to as the 'Queen of Beaches'. However, the moment we set foot on the sandy shores, we were taken aback by the sheer amount of plastic waste scattered all around. From plastic bottles and bags to discarded food packets and even broken toys, it was a veritable sea of plastic debris.

What was even more distressing was the fact that this plastic waste was not only marring the natural beauty of the beach but also posing a serious threat to the marine life. I could see a few stray dogs rummaging through the garbage and seabirds pecking at the plastic, mistaking it for food. It was a grim reminder of the devastating impact of our irresponsible actions on the environment.

This experience was a real eye-opener for me. It made me realise the urgency of adopting sustainable practices and reducing our dependence on plastic. Since then, I've made a conscious effort to minimise my plastic usage and encourage others to do the same. After all, every small step counts towards preserving our beautiful planet for future generations.





Describe a time when you saw a lot of plastic waste

Hindi Translation

Arre, drishya bilkul nirashajanak tha! Mujhe ek baar yaad hai jab main ek pariwarik yatra par gaya tha Bharat ke sabse lokpriya paryatan sthalon mein se ek, Goa, mein. Wahan ke samudra tat inke shuddh sundarta ke liye prasiddh hain, lekin jo maine dekha tha, woh is sthan se jude postcard-perfect chitr ke poorn viruddh tha.

Humne decide kiya ki hum Calangute beach par din bitayenge, jo aksar 'Beaches ki Rani' ke roop mein refer kiya jata hai. Lekin, jis kshan humne retile kinare par pair rakha, hume plastic kachra ke bhayanak matra se chakit kar diya. Plastic ki bottles aur bags se lekar tyag kiye gaye khana ke packets aur toote khilone tak, yeh ek vastavik plastic malba ka samudra tha.

Jo aur bhi adhik chintajanak tha woh yeh tha ki yeh plastic waste sirf beach ki prakritik sundarta ko bigad nahi raha tha, balki samudri jeevan ke liye ek gambhir khatra utpann kar raha tha. Mujhe kuch awara kutte garbage mein khodte aur samudri pakshi plastic par chonch maarne dikhai de rahe the, unhe bhojan samajhte huye. Yeh hamare laparwahi se parivesh par hone wale vinashak prabhav ka ek bhayanak yaad-dastak tha.

Yeh anubhav mere liye ek asli aankh-kholne wala tha. Isne mujhe satat abhyas apnane aur plastic par nirbharata kam karne ki jaldi samajh mein laya. Tab se, maine plastic upyog kam karne ke liye ek jaagruk prayas kiya hai aur doosron ko bhi yahi karne ke liye prerit kiya hai. Akhir, har choti kadam hamare sundar grah ko bhavishya ki pidhiyon ke liye sanrakshan ki taraf ginta hai.





Describe a time when you needed to search for information

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I vividly remember this one time when I was in my final year of school and was assigned a rather intriguing project. The task was to delve into the rich history of my hometown, Bathinda, a city in the Indian state of Punjab. It was a fascinating assignment, but it also posed a significant challenge as it required extensive research.

My initial approach was to tap into the vast reservoir of information available on the internet. I spent countless hours trawling through various websites, blogs, and online forums, trying to piece together the historical jigsaw of Bathinda. However, I soon realised that the internet, while being a treasure trove of information, also had its limitations. There was a lot of conflicting information, and I found it difficult to discern fact from fiction.

So, I decided to change tack and turned to more traditional methods of research. I visited the local library and spent several days poring over old books and historical records. I also interviewed elderly residents of Bathinda, who were more than willing to share their knowledge and anecdotes about the city's past. This not only gave me a deeper understanding of Bathinda's history but also made the project more personal and meaningful.

In the end, the project turned out to be a great success. I was able to present a comprehensive and engaging account of Bathinda's history, which was well-received by my teachers and classmates. More importantly, the experience taught me the importance of thorough research and the value of combining different sources of information to gain a more accurate and complete understanding of a topic.





Describe a time when you needed to search for information

Hindi Translation

Maine acche se yaad rakha hai ki jab main school ke antim varsh mein tha aur mujhe ek bahut hi rochak project diya gaya tha. Kaam tha ki meri hometown, Bathinda, jo ki Bharat ke Punjab rajya mein sthit hai, ke samriddh itihaas mein gahrai se utarne ka. Yeh ek romanchak assignment tha, lekin isne mujhe ek badi chunauti bhi di kyun ki ismein vistrit shodh ki zarurat thi.

Mera pehla kadam tha internet par uplabdh vishaal jaankari ka upyog karna. Maine anek ghante alag-alag websites, blogs, aur online forums par bitaye, Bathinda ke itihaas ke tukde jodne ki koshish karte hue. Lekin, jald hi mujhe samajh aaya ki internet, jabki yeh jaankari ka ek bhandar hai, uske apne seemayen bhi hain. Bahut saari uljhan wali jaankari thi, aur mujhe asli aur kalpanik mein antar karna mushkil ho gaya tha.

Toh, maine apna rukh badla aur traditional shodh ki taraf badha. Maine sthaniya pustakalay ka दौरा किया aur kai din purani kitabon aur itihaasik records par bitaye. Maine Bathinda ke vriddh nivasiyon se bhi interview liya, jo apne shahar ke itihaas ke baare mein apni jaankari aur kahaniyon ko share karne ke liye adhik se adhik taiyar the. Yeh mujhe Bathinda ke itihaas ki gehrai se samajhne ke saath-saath project ko aur vyaktigat aur meaningful banane mein madad ki.

Ant mein, project bahut bada safalta raha. Maine Bathinda ke itihaas ka ek vyapak aur rochak vivaran diya, jo mere shikshakon aur sahpathiyon द्वारा अच्छे से swikaar किया गया. Aur bhi mahatvapurna, yeh anubhav mujhe vistrit shodh ki mahatvata aur ek adhik satya aur poorna samajh ke liye alag-alag sootron ki jaankari ko jodne ki mahatvata sikhaya.





Describe a person you know who is from a different culture

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person I'd like to talk about is my friend, Ahmed, who hails from the Middle East, specifically from the culturally rich nation of Saudi Arabia. We met during our undergraduate studies at Delhi University, and despite our cultural differences, we hit it off right from the start.

Ahmed is a fascinating individual, not just because of his diverse cultural background, but also due to his unique personality traits. He's a perfect blend of traditional values and modern perspectives. For instance, he's deeply religious, observing all the Islamic rituals with utmost sincerity. Yet, he's also an ardent advocate for gender equality, which is quite progressive considering the conservative norms of his homeland.

What I find most intriguing about Ahmed, however, is his ability to seamlessly blend into the Indian culture. He's developed a fondness for Bollywood movies and Indian cuisine. I remember his first encounter with 'pani puri', a popular Indian street food. His initial apprehension quickly turned into delight, and now he's a regular at the local chaat stall. His love for Indian culture doesn't stop at food and movies though. He's also an avid cricket fan, and we've spent countless hours discussing the nuances of the game.

In conclusion, knowing Ahmed has been a culturally enriching experience for me. His open-mindedness and respect for other cultures is truly inspiring. He's not just a friend from a different culture, but a living testament to the fact that cultural diversity can indeed foster deep friendship and mutual understanding.





Describe a person you know who is from a different culture

Hindi Translation

Achha, voh vyakti jiske baare mein mujhe baat karni hai, voh mera dost hai, Ahmed, jo Madhya Pradesh se aate hain, vishesh roop se sanskritik roop se samridh rashtra Saudi Arabia se. Humne apni snatak studies ke dauran Delhi Vishwavidyalaya mein mila, aur hamare sanskritik antar ke bavjood, humne shuru se hi achhe se baat ki.

Ahmed ek rochak vyakti hai, sirf uske vividh sanskritik background ke karan nahi, balki uske anokhe vyaktitva guno ke karan bhi. Voh paramparik mulyon aur aadhunik drishtikon ka ek adarsh mishran hai. Udaaharan ke liye, voh gahrai se dharmik hai, sabhi Islamic anushtanon ko atyadhik samarpan ke saath manate hain. Phir bhi, voh ling samanta ke liye ek utsahi samarthak hai, jo uske swadesh ke conservative norms ko dekhte hue kafi progressive hai.

Lekin, Ahmed ke baare mein jo mujhe sabse adhik rochak lagta hai, voh hai uska Bharatiya sanskriti mein asani se mil jaane ki kshamata. Usne Bollywood movies aur Bharatiya cuisine ke liye ek lagav viksit kiya hai. Mujhe uska pahla 'pani puri' ke saath samna yaad hai, ek lokpriya Bharatiya street food. Uska shuruat mein hichkichahat jaldi hi khushi mein badal gayi, aur ab voh sthaniya chaat stall ka niyमित hai. Uska Bharatiya sanskriti ke prati pyaar sirf khana aur movies tak hi nahi rukta. Voh ek utsahi cricket fan bhi hai, aur humne khel ke bareekiyon par charcha karne mein anginat ghante bitaye hain.

Nishkarsh mein, Ahmed ko jaanana mere liye ek sanskritik roop se samridh anubhav raha hai. Uska khula dimag aur anya sanskritiyon ke prati samman sach mein prerna srot hai. Voh sirf ek alag sanskriti ka dost nahi hai, balki ek jeevit gawah hai is tathya ko ki sanskritik vividhta vaastav mein gahre dosti aur parasparik samajh ko badhava de sakti hai.





Describe a time you made a decision to wait for something

Band 9 sample Response

Absolutely, I'd be delighted to recount an instance when I made a conscious decision to wait for something. It was about a year ago, when I was preparing to start my undergraduate studies. I was in dire need of a laptop, not just any laptop, but one that would be able to handle the rigorous demands of my engineering course.

The laptop I had set my heart on was a high-end model from a renowned brand. However, I had heard through the grapevine, or rather, read on a tech blog, that the company was about to release an upgraded version of the same model. The new version was touted to be not only more powerful but also more affordable, a combination that's as rare as a blue moon in the tech world.

Now, the catch was that the new model was slated to be released in a couple of months. This meant that I would have to start my semester without a personal laptop, which was a daunting prospect. However, after a lot of contemplation, I decided to bite the bullet and wait for the new model. I figured that the short-term inconvenience would be worth the long-term benefits.

Looking back, I believe I made the right decision. The new laptop turned out to be everything it was hyped up to be and more. It was indeed cheaper and better, and it has been serving me well in my academic pursuits. This experience taught me the value of patience and the importance of making informed decisions, lessons that I believe will serve me well in the future.





Describe a time you made a decision to wait for something

Hindi Translation

Bilkul, mujhe ek aisi ghatna yaad dilane mein khushi hogi jab maine kisi cheez ke liye intezaar karne ka soch samajh kar faisla kiya tha. Ye kareeb ek saal pehle ki baat hai, jab main apni snatak ki padhai shuru karne ja raha tha. Mujhe ek laptop ki sakht zaroorat thi, sirf koi bhi laptop nahi, balki ek aisa jo mere engineering course ke kathin daayron ko sambhal sake.

Mera manpasand laptop ek prasiddh brand ka high-end model tha. Lekin, mujhe sunne mein aaya tha, ya shayad ek tech blog par padha tha, ki company usi model ka upgraded version launch karne wali thi. Naye version ko na sirf zyada powerful hone ka daawa kiya gaya tha, balki zyada saste hone ka bhi, jo tech duniya mein blue moon ki tarah durlabh hai.

Ab, samasya ye thi ki naya model kuch mahino baad release hone wala tha. Iska matlab tha ki mujhe apa semester shuru karna hoga bina personal laptop ke, jo ek bhayankar sthiti thi. Lekin, bahut vichar-vimarsh ke baad, maine faisla kiya ki mujhe naye model ke liye intezaar karna chahiye. Maine socha ki short-term inconvenience long-term benefits ke mukable kam hai.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe lagta hai ki maine sahi faisla liya. Naya laptop wahi sab kuch tha jis ke liye use hyped kiya gaya tha aur us se bhi zyada. Woh waqai mein sasta aur behtar tha, aur woh mere academic pursuits mein mujhe achhi tarah se serve kar raha hai. Is anubhav ne mujhe dhairya ki keemat aur soch samajh kar faisla lene ki mahatvta sikhaya, jo mujhe vishwas hai ki mujhe bhavishya mein kaam ayenge.





Describe a time when you received money as a gift.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me take you back to a time when I was a young lad of about 15. It was the occasion of my birthday, and as is customary in India, my relatives were visiting us to celebrate. Now, birthdays are always special, but this one was particularly memorable because of a rather unexpected gift I received.

My granduncle, a man of few words but many deeds, was known for his unique gifting style. He would always give something that would leave a lasting impression. That year, he handed me an envelope, and with a twinkle in his eye, he said, "This, my boy, is for your future." I was intrigued and opened it to find a substantial amount of money.

I was taken aback, not by the amount, but by the trust and responsibility that came with it. It wasn't just a gift; it was a life lesson. He wanted me to learn the value of money and the importance of financial planning at an early age. I remember feeling a sense of maturity washing over me. It was as if I had been handed a piece of adulthood.

In retrospect, that gift was a turning point in my life. It taught me the importance of saving and investing wisely. It's funny how a simple birthday gift can leave such an indelible mark on your life, isn't it? But then again, that's the beauty of life in India, where even the smallest of gestures can hold profound meanings.





Describe a time when you received money as a gift.

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe aapko us samay ki yaad dilau jab main lagbhag 15 saal ka tha. Yeh meri janamdin ki avsar tha, aur jaisa ki Bharat mein parampara hai, mere rishtedaar humse milne aaye the. Ab, janamdin hamesha khaas hote hain, lekin yeh ek khaas yaadgaar tha kyunki mujhe ek anapekshit uphaar mila tha.

Mera praacharya chacha, jo kam shabdon ka aadmi tha lekin unke paas bahut saare karya the, unka anokha uphaar dene ka andaz mashhoor tha. Woh hamesha kuch aisa dete the jo hamesha ke liye yaad rehta tha. Us saal, unhone mujhe ek lifafa diya, aur unki aankhon mein chamak ke saath, unhone kaha, "Yeh, mere ladke, tumhare bhavishya ke liye hai." Mujhe jigryasa hui aur maine use khol diya aur paya ki wahan kaafi bada raqam tha.

Mujhe chauka diya gaya tha, raqam ke bajay, uske saath aane wali vishwas aur zimmedari se. Yeh sirf ek uphaar nahi tha; yeh ek jeevan paath tha. Unhone chahte the ki main paiso ki keemat aur vittiya yojna ki mahatta ko samjhu. Mujhe yaad hai ki mujhe ek paripakvata ki bhavna mujh par chadhti hui mehsoos hui. Aisa lag raha tha jaise mujhe vayaskta ka ek tukda diya gaya ho.

Peechhe mudkar dekhte hue, woh uphaar meri zindagi ka ek mod tha. Usne mujhe bachat aur samajhdari se nivesh ki mahatva sikhaya. Yeh ajeeb hai ki kaise ek saral janamdin ka uphaar aapki zindagi par aisa amit chinh chhod sakta hai, haina? Lekin phir se, yeh Bharat ki zindagi ki sundarta hai, jahan chhote se chhote ishaare bhi gahre arthon ka bodh karate hain.





Talk about a TV show you like to watch

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, absolutely! I'd love to share about my favourite TV show. It's a Hindi series called 'Sacred Games' that I've been hooked onto lately. It's a Netflix original, and I must say, it's a brilliant piece of work that has truly revolutionised the Indian television scene.

Now, 'Sacred Games' is a crime thriller, based on a novel by Vikram Chandra. The plot revolves around a gritty Mumbai police officer, Sartaj Singh, and a notorious gangster, Ganesh Gaitonde. The narrative oscillates between their intertwined lives, and it's this gripping storyline that keeps me glued to the screen. The show is a perfect blend of suspense, drama, and action, with a dash of dark humour.

What sets 'Sacred Games' apart, for me, is its raw and realistic portrayal of Mumbai's underbelly. It's not your typical melodramatic soap opera; it delves into the grim realities of crime, corruption, and politics in the city. The performances by the lead actors, Saif Ali Khan and Nawazuddin Siddiqui, are absolutely stellar. They've breathed life into their characters, making the series a compelling watch.

In conclusion, 'Sacred Games' is a show I thoroughly enjoy. It's a refreshing change from the usual fare on Indian television. I'd highly recommend it to anyone who appreciates quality content and gripping storytelling. It's a show that's not just entertaining, but also thought-provoking, and that's what makes it truly special for me.





Talk about a TV show you like to watch

Hindi Translation

Arre, bilkul! Mujhe apni pasandida TV show ke baare mein batane mein bahut khushi hogi. Yeh ek Hindi series hai jise 'Sacred Games' kehte hain jise maine haal hi mein dekhna shuru kiya hai. Yeh ek Netflix original hai, aur mujhe kehna padega, yeh ek shandar kaam hai jo ne sach mein Bharatiya television scene ko badal diya hai.

Ab, 'Sacred Games' ek crime thriller hai, jo Vikram Chandra ki ek upanyas par adharit hai. Kahani ek kathor Mumbai police अधिकारी, Sartaj Singh, aur ek kharab gangster, Ganesh Gaitonde, ke beech ghoomti hai. Katha unke uljhe hue jeevan ke beech oscillate karti hai, aur yahi gripping storyline mujhe screen se chipka deti hai. Show ek perfect mishran hai suspense, drama, aur action ka, thoda sa dark humour ke saath.

Jo 'Sacred Games' ko mere liye alag banata hai, woh hai Mumbai ke underworld ki kacchi aur asli tasveer. Yeh aapka typical melodramatic soap opera nahi hai; yeh shehar mein crime, bhrashtachar, aur rajneeti ke grim realities mein ghushti hai. Lead actors, Saif Ali Khan aur Nawazuddin Siddiqui, द्वारा diye gaye performances bilkul shandar hain. Unhone apne characters mein jaan daal di hai, jisne series ko dekhne layak banaya hai.

Nishkarsh mein, 'Sacred Games' ek show hai jise main poori tarah se enjoy karta hoon. Yeh Bharatiya television par maujood samanya content se ek taza badlav hai. Main ise un sabhi logon ko highly recommend karunga jo quality content aur gripping storytelling ki kadar karte hain. Yeh ek show hai jo sirf entertaining hi nahi, balki sochne par majboor karne wala bhi hai, aur yahi hai jo ise mere liye sach mein khas banata hai.





Describe a person who you believe dresses well

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, where do I begin? India is a country brimming with fashion-conscious individuals, but there's one person who, in my opinion, stands out in the crowd, and that's none other than the Bollywood superstar, Ranveer Singh. He's a man who's not just known for his acting prowess, but also for his eclectic and flamboyant sense of style.

Ranveer's fashion choices are as diverse as the roles he plays on screen. One day, you might spot him in a traditional Indian sherwani, exuding regal charm, and the next, he could be rocking a neon tracksuit with an unmissable swagger. His outfits are often a delightful mix of colours, patterns, and textures, which, I must say, only he can pull off with such panache.

What I admire most about Ranveer's style is his audacity to break the norms. He's not afraid to experiment and often steps out in ensembles that most would consider outlandish. But that's precisely what makes him a trendsetter. He's redefined men's fashion in India, proving that it's not just about suits and kurtas, but also about skirts, prints, and a whole lot of bling!

In conclusion, Ranveer Singh's fashion game is a testament to his vibrant personality and fearless spirit. He's a style icon who's unapologetically himself, and that's why I believe he dresses exceptionally well. His outfits may not be everyone's cup of tea, but there's no denying that they're always interesting, unique, and most importantly, true to his individuality.





Describe a person who you believe dresses well

Hindi Translation

Arre, main kahan se shuru karun? Bharat ek aisa desh hai jahan fashion ki samajh wale vyaktiyo ki kami nahi hai, lekin mere vichar mein, ek vyakti hai jo bheed mein ubhar kar samne aata hai, aur woh hai Bollywood ke superstar, Ranveer Singh. Woh ek aise vyakti hai jo sirf apni abhinay kshamata ke liye hi nahi, balki apne anokhe aur rangeen fashion sense ke liye bhi jane jate hain.

Ranveer ke fashion pasand utni hi vividh hain jitni ki unke parde par nibhaye gaye role. Ek din aap unhe traditional Indian sherwani mein dekh sakte hain, royal charm dikha rahe hote hain, aur dusre din, woh ek neon tracksuit pehen kar swagger dikhate huye nazar aa sakte hain. Unke outfits aksar rangon, pattern aur textures ka khubsurat mishran hota hai, jo, mujhe kehna padega, sirf woh hi itni adaa ke sath carry kar sakte hain.

Jo mujhe Ranveer ke style mein sabse adhik prabhavit karta hai woh hai unka norm todne ki sahasikta. Woh experiment karne se nahi darte aur aksar aise ensembles mein bahar nikalte hain jo adhikansh logon ko shayad ajeeb lage. Lekin yahi wajah hai ki woh ek trendsetter hain. Unhone Bharat mein purushon ke fashion ko redefine kiya hai, sabit karke dikhaya hai ki yeh sirf suits aur kurtas ke bare mein nahi hai, balki skirts, prints, aur bohot sara bling ke bare mein bhi hai!

Ant mein, Ranveer Singh ka fashion game unke vibrant vyaktitva aur fearless spirit ka praman hai. Woh ek style icon hain jo apologetically khud hain, aur yahi wajah hai ki mujhe lagta hai ki woh bahut hi acche tarike se dress up karte hain. Unke outfits shayad sabhi ko pasand na aaye, lekin inkaar nahi kiya ja sakta hai ki woh hamesha interesting, unique, aur sabse mahatvapurna, unke individuality ke anuroop hote hain.





Describe a person who likes to grow plants

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person who immediately springs to mind when I think of someone with a green thumb is my dear grandmother. She's a sprightly octogenarian who's always had a penchant for gardening. Her love for plants, I believe, is an offshoot of her inherent love for nature and all things beautiful.

Now, let me paint a picture of her garden for you. Nestled in the heart of bustling Mumbai, it's a veritable oasis amidst the urban chaos. The garden is a riot of colours, with a variety of flora that would put even the most well-stocked nursery to shame. From vibrant marigolds and fragrant roses to lush ferns and medicinal herbs, it's a botanical paradise that my grandmother has nurtured with great care and dedication.

What's truly remarkable is the way she tends to her plants. It's almost as if she has a personal rapport with each one of them. She waters them, trims them, and even talks to them! In fact, she often quips that plants, like people, respond to love and attention. And looking at her flourishing garden, I can't help but agree.

In conclusion, my grandmother's passion for gardening is not just a hobby, but a testament to her patience, perseverance, and love for life. It's a beautiful reminder that if we take the time to nurture and care for nature, it rewards us with its bountiful beauty. And that, I believe, is a lesson worth learning.





Describe a person who likes to grow plants

Hindi Translation

Accha, jab mujhe kisi hara-bhara angootha wale vyakti ke baare mein sochna hota hai, toh meri pyari dadi mujhe turant yaad aati hain. Woh ek joshile ashiana hai jo hamesha bagwani ke prati ruchi rakhti hai. Unka paudhon ke prati pyaar, mujhe lagta hai, unke svabhavik prakriti aur sabhi sundar cheezon ke prati pyaar ka ek shakha hai.

Ab, mujhe aapke liye unke bagiche ki tasveer banane dijiye. Mumbai ke vyast dil mein sthit, yeh shahri k chaos ke beech ek asli sharansthal hai. Bagicha rangon ka ek danga hai, jismein aise vividh vanaspati hain jo shayad sabse acche stocked nursery ko bhi sharminda kar de. Tez marigolds se lekar sugandhit gulab tak, hare bhare ferns se lekar aushdhiy jodi bootiyon tak, yeh ek vanaspati swarg hai jise meri dadi ne bahut dhyani aur samarpan ke saath pal posa hai.

Jo sach mein adbhut hai woh yeh hai ki woh apne paudhon ka kaise khayal rakhti hain. Lagta hai jaise unka har ek paudha unke saath vyaktigat sambandh rakhta ho. Woh unhe paani deti hain, unhe katati hain, aur unse baat bhi karti hain! Darasal, woh aksar mazaak karti hain ki paudhe, jaise log, pyaar aur dhyani ka jawab dete hain. Aur unke bagiche ko dekhkar, mujhe isse sahmata hona padega.

Nishkarsh mein, meri dadi ki bagwani ke prati junoon sirf ek shauk nahi hai, balki yeh unki dhairya, dridhta, aur jeevan ke prati pyaar ki gawahi hai. Yeh ek sundar yaad dilane wala hai ki agar hum prakriti ki dekhbhaal aur palan poshan ke liye samay nikalte hain, toh woh humein apni upyogi sundarta se puraskrit karti hai. Aur woh, mujhe lagta hai, ek sikhne layak sabak hai.





Describe a time you had a disagreement with someone

Band 9 sample Response

Well, disagreements are a part and parcel of life, aren't they? They often lead to constructive discussions and a better understanding of the other person's perspective. I recall an incident from a few years back when I had a disagreement with my best friend, Ravi, over our holiday plans.

Ravi and I had been planning a trip to Goa for the longest time. However, when the time came to book the tickets, Ravi suggested we should instead visit Manali, as he was more inclined towards a hill station. I, on the other hand, had my heart set on the sandy beaches and the vibrant nightlife of Goa. This led to a bit of a tussle between us.

We both had our reasons. Ravi was a nature enthusiast and loved the tranquillity of the mountains, while I was more of a social butterfly, eager to explore the bustling beach shacks and the lively Goan culture. We argued, each trying to convince the other about the merits of our preferred destination. It was a classic case of an irresistible force meeting an immovable object!

Eventually, we decided to resolve our disagreement in a democratic way. We involved our other friends in the decision-making process and held a vote. Goa won by a narrow margin and we ended up having a fantastic time there. This incident taught me that disagreements aren't necessarily negative. They can lead to fruitful discussions and, in our case, a memorable holiday!





Describe a time you had a disagreement with someone

Hindi Translation

Achha, matbhed toh jeevan ka ek hissa hai, kya nahi? Ye aksar sakaratmak charcha ki or le jaate hain aur dusre vyakti ke drishtikon ko behtar samajhne mein madad karte hain. Mujhe kuch saal pehle ka ek ghatna yaad hai jab mujhe aur mere sabse acche dost Ravi ke beech chhuttiyon ke plan par matbhed hua tha.

Ravi aur main bahut samay se Goa ki yatra ki yojna bana rahe the. Lekin, jab samay aaya tickets book karne ka, to Ravi ne sujhav diya ki hume Manali jaana chahiye, kyun ki vo adhik roop se pahadi station ki or aakarshit the. Main, dusri taraf, Goa ke retile samudra tat aur jeevant raat ki jeevan shaili par apna dil laga chuka tha. Isne humare beech thodi si takraar paida ki.

Hum dono ke apne karan the. Ravi ek prakriti premi the aur unhe pahadon ki shanti bahut pasand thi, jabki main ek samajik titli thi, jo Goa ke vyast samudra tat ke shacks aur jeevant Goan sanskriti ko janne ke liye utsuk thi. Hum dono ne bahas ki, har ek apni pasandeeda manzil ke guno ko dusre ko samjhane ki koshish kar raha tha. Yeh ek aam udaharan tha ek astitvahin bal ka ek achal vastu se bhidna!

Ant mein, humne apne matbhed ko ek loktantrik tarike se suljhane ka faisla kiya. Humne apne dusre dosto ko nirnay lene ki prakriya mein shamil kiya aur ek vote kiya. Goa ne sankirn antar se jeeta aur humne wahan bahut accha samay bitaya. Yeh ghatna ne mujhe yeh sikhaya ki matbhed avashyak roop se nakaratmak nahi hote. Ve faldayak charcha ki or le ja sakte hain aur, hamare mamle mein, ek yaadgar chhutti!





***Describe a house/apartment
that someone you know lives
in.***

Band 9 sample Response

My cousin, Ravi, resides in a picturesque apartment located in the heart of Mumbai, the bustling metropolis that never sleeps. His abode, a harmonious blend of modernity and tradition, is a sight to behold and a place that I absolutely adore.

The apartment is perched on the 20th floor of a towering skyscraper, offering a panoramic view of the city's skyline. As you step into the living room, you're greeted by a tastefully decorated space, adorned with contemporary art pieces and traditional Indian artifacts. The walls, painted in a soothing shade of cream, perfectly complement the dark teak furniture, creating an ambiance of warmth and comfort.

What sets Ravi's apartment apart is the ingenious utilization of space. Despite the constraints of city living, there's a sense of expansiveness. The open kitchen, seamlessly integrated with the living room, is a testament to this. Moreover, the bedrooms, though compact, are replete with all modern amenities, ensuring a comfortable living experience.

However, the pièce de résistance of the apartment is the balcony. Overlooking the Arabian Sea, it's a tranquil oasis amidst the urban chaos. Many an evening, we've sat there, sipping masala chai, watching the sun set over the horizon, and engaging in heartfelt conversations. All in all, Ravi's apartment, with its unique charm and character, is a true reflection of the vibrant city it's situated in.





Describe a house/apartment that someone you know lives in.

Hindi Translation

Mera cousin, Ravi, Mumbai ke dil mein sthit ek chitrakariya apartment mein rehta hai, jo kabhi nahi sota hai. Unka aawas, aadhunikta aur parampara ka ek samanvay, dekhne layak hai aur ek jagah jo mujhe bilkul pasand hai.

Apartment ek gaganachumbi imarat ke 20vein manzil par sthit hai, jo shahar ke akashrekha ka vishal drishya prastut karta hai. Jab aap living room mein praves karte hain, to aapko ek swadisht roop se sajaya gaya sthan milta hai, jo aadhunik kala ke tukdon aur paramparagat Bhartiya vastukala se sajaya gaya hai. Deewarein, ek shantipurna cream rang mein rangi gayi hain, jo dark teak furniture ko puri tarah se purak karti hain, garmahat aur aaram ki mahaul banati hain.

Jo Ravi ke apartment ko alag banata hai woh hai sthan ka buddhiman upyog. Shahar ki jeevan shaili ke bandhanon ke bavjood, vistar ki bhavna hai. Khula rasoi ghar, jo living room ke saath seamlessly joda gaya hai, iska gawah hai. Iske alawa, bedrooms, halanki sankuchit hain, lekin sabhi aadhunik suvidhaon se bharpur hain, jo aaramdayak jeevan anubhav sunishchit karte hain.

Halanki, apartment ka mukhya akarshan hai balcony. Arabian Sea ko overlook karte hue, yeh shahari k chaos ke beech ek shant oasis hai. Kai shaam hum wahan baithte hain, masala chai peete hain, suraj ko horizon par doobte hue dekhte hain, aur dil se baatein karte hain. Sab mila kar, Ravi ka apartment, apni anokhi akarshan aur charitra ke saath, us vibrant shahar ka sachcha pratibimb hai jismein yeh sthit hai.





Describe a place where you go to do outdoor activities or play a sport

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the place that immediately springs to mind when I think of outdoor activities is Cubbon Park, located in the heart of Bengaluru, my hometown. It's a sprawling green lung space, teeming with life and energy, and it's where I go to play cricket, my favourite sport.

Now, cricket, as you may know, is nothing short of a religion in India, and I'm no exception to this national obsession. Cubbon Park, with its expansive lawns and towering trees, provides an idyllic setting for a game of cricket. We usually gather in a specific area of the park, which we've unofficially christened our 'cricket ground'. It's a flat, open space, perfect for a good game of cricket.

What I particularly love about playing cricket in Cubbon Park is the sense of camaraderie and community it fosters. We're a motley crew of cricket enthusiasts, ranging from college students to working professionals, but the love for the sport transcends all age and professional boundaries. The park, in its own way, has become a melting pot of cultures and backgrounds, all united by the shared passion for cricket.

In conclusion, Cubbon Park is more than just a place for me to play cricket. It's a sanctuary where I can escape the hustle and bustle of city life, connect with like-minded individuals, and indulge in my favourite sport. It's a testament to the magic of outdoor activities and the sense of community they can foster.





Describe a place where you go to do outdoor activities or play a sport

Hindi Translation

Accha, jab main bahar ke kriyakalapon ke bare me sochta hoon to mujhe turant Cubbon Park yaad aata hai, jo Bengaluru, mere ghar ka dil hai. Yeh ek vistrit hariyali ki jagah hai, jahan jeevan aur urja se bharpur hai, aur yahi par main cricket khelta hoon, jo mera pasandida khel hai.

Ab, jaisa ki aap jaante honge, cricket Bharat mein kuch kam nahi hai ek dharm ke saman, aur main is rashtriya junoon ka koi apvaad nahi hoon. Cubbon Park, apne vishaal bagiche aur unche pedon ke saath, cricket ke liye ek adarsh sthal pradan karta hai. Hum aam taur par park ke ek vishesh kshetra mein ikattha hote hain, jise humne anopcharik roop se apna 'cricket ground' naam diya hai. Yeh ek samtal, khula sthan hai, cricket ke ek acche khel ke liye perfect.

Jo mujhe Cubbon Park mein cricket khelne mein khaas taur par pasand hai, woh hai sahyog aur samuday ki bhavana. Hum ek mishrit dal hain cricket ke shaukin logon ka, jo college ke chhatron se lekar working professionals tak hain, lekin khel ke liye pyaar sabhi umra aur vyavsayik seemaon ko par karta hai. Park apne apne tarike se, sabhi sanskritiyon aur backgrounds ka ek melting pot ban gaya hai, sabhi cricket ke liye shared passion se ekjut hain.

Nishkarsh mein, Cubbon Park mere liye sirf ek sthan se adhik hai cricket khelne ke liye. Yeh ek sharan sthal hai jahan main shahar ki jeevan ki hulchul se bach sakta hoon, saman soch rakhne wale vyaktiyon se jud sakta hoon, aur apne pasandida khel mein magn ho sakta hoon. Yeh bahar ki gatividhiyon ki jadoo aur unke dvara samuday ki bhavana ko badhava dene ki gawahi hai.





Describe a city you would recommend as a nice place to live (not your hometown)

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, I'd absolutely love to share my thoughts on Dehradun, a city nestled in the lap of the Himalayas. It's not my hometown, but I've visited it several times and each visit has left me more enchanted than the last. Dehradun, the capital of Uttarakhand, is a city that beautifully blends the hustle and bustle of a metropolis with the tranquillity of a hill station. It's a place that has left an indelible impression on me and I'd wholeheartedly recommend it as an ideal place to live.

What makes Dehradun so special, you ask? Well, firstly, it's the city's scenic beauty that's simply breathtaking. Imagine waking up every morning to the sight of the sun gently caressing the snow-capped Himalayan peaks. The city is also home to some of the most picturesque landscapes, from the mesmerising Robber's Cave to the tranquil Buddha Temple. It's like living in a postcard!

Secondly, Dehradun is a city that values education. It's home to some of India's most prestigious institutions, like the Doon School and the Indian Military Academy. As a student, I find this aspect particularly appealing. The city's intellectual vibe is palpable and it's a great place for young minds to grow and thrive.

Lastly, the people of Dehradun are some of the warmest and most hospitable you'll ever meet. They have a deep respect for their culture and traditions, and yet, they're progressive and open-minded. The city's rich cultural heritage, coupled with its modern amenities, makes it a wonderful place to live. So, if you're looking for a city that offers a high quality of life, a vibrant culture, and stunning natural beauty, Dehradun should definitely be on your list!





Describe a city you would recommend as a nice place to live (not your hometown)

Hindi Translation

Arre, mujhe bilkul khushi hogi Dehradun ke baare mein apne vichar vyakt karne mein, jo ki Himalaya ki god mein basa hua hai. Yeh meri janmabhoomi nahi hai, lekin maine ise kai baar visit kiya hai aur har baar yeh mujhe pehle se adhik mantramugdh kar gaya hai. Uttarakhand ki rajdhani Dehradun ek aisa shahar hai jo bade shahar ki hulchul aur pahadi station ki shanti ko sundarta se milata hai. Yeh ek aisa sthan hai jo mujh par amit chhap chhod gaya hai aur main ise ek adarsh sthan ke roop mein rehne ke liye poore hriday se recommend karunga.

Dehradun itna vishesh kyun hai, aap puchte hain? Sabse pehle, shahar ki manoram drishya shringar jo bas saral shabdon mein vyakt nahi kiya ja sakta. Sochiye, har subah uthte hi aapko Himalaya ki barfili chotiyo ko suraj ki komal kiranon ka sparsh hota hua dekhne ko mile. Shahar mein kuchh sabse adbhut drishya sthal hain, jaise ki Robber's Cave aur Buddha Temple. Yeh rehna ek postcard mein rehne jaisa hai!

Doosri baat, Dehradun ek shiksha premi shahar hai. Yahan India ke kuchh sabse pratishtith sansthaan hain, jaise ki Doon School aur Indian Military Academy. Ek vidyarthi ke roop mein, mujhe yeh pehlu khaas roop se akarshak lagta hai. Shahar ki buddhijivi mahaul ko mahsoos kiya ja sakta hai aur yeh yuva dimaag ke vikas aur unnati ke liye ek shandar jagah hai.

Ant mein, Dehradun ke log sabse garamjoshi aur mehmaan nawazi se bhare hote hain jo aap kabhi milenge. Unhe apni sanskriti aur paramparaon ke prati gahra samman hai, aur phir bhi, ve pragatishil aur khule vicharon wale hain. Shahar ki samridh sanskritik dharohar, saath hi modern suvidhaon ke saath, ise rehne ke liye ek adbhut jagah banati hai. To, agar aap ek aise shahar ki talash mein hain jo uchch jeevan ki gunvatta, jeevant sanskriti, aur adbhut prakritik saundarya prastut karta hai, to Dehradun aapki soochi mein avashya hona chahiye!





Describe a time when someone asked for your opinion

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, I remember this incident quite vividly. It was a couple of months ago when my father, who is a complete technophobe, asked me for my opinion on whether he should start using netbanking or not. He's always been a bit old school when it comes to technology, preferring to stick to his tried-and-true methods of banking, like visiting the branch in person or writing cheques.

It was a typical Sunday afternoon, and we were sitting in our living room in Mumbai, sipping on some piping hot chai, when he broached the subject. He'd heard from his friends about the convenience of netbanking, but was apprehensive about the risks involved. You see, he'd read about cyber frauds in the newspaper and was quite wary of it.

I took a moment to gather my thoughts before responding. I explained to him that while netbanking does come with its own set of risks, it's also incredibly convenient. I told him about how I use it for everything from paying my college fees to recharging my mobile balance. I also reassured him that as long as he's careful about not sharing his passwords or clicking on suspicious links, he should be safe.

In the end, I think my opinion helped him make up his mind. He decided to give netbanking a try, albeit cautiously. It was quite a moment for me, you know, to see my father stepping out of his comfort zone, and I was glad that he trusted my judgement enough to do so. It was a small but significant step towards embracing the digital age, and I was proud to have played a part in it.





Describe a time when someone asked for your opinion

Hindi Translation

Haan, mujhe is ghatna ko main bahut spasht roop se yaad karta hoon. Yeh kuch mahine pehle ki baat hai jab mere pita, jo ki poore technophobe hain, ne mujhse apni raay maangi ki kya unhe netbanking shuru karni chahiye ya nahi. Unka hamesha se technology ke prati thoda purana nazariya raha hai, jaise ki branch ko vyaktigat roop se visit karna ya cheques likhna.

Yeh ek aam ravivaar ki dopahar thi, aur hum Mumbai ke hamare living room mein baithe hote huye garam chai pi rahe the, jab unhone is vishay ko chheda. Unhone apne doston se netbanking ki suvidha ke baare mein suna tha, lekin usme hone wale jokhim ke prati wo sankochi the. Aap samajh sakte hain, unhone akhbaar mein cyber frauds ke baare mein padha tha aur iska wo bahut satark the.

Maine apne vicharon ko ikattha karne ke liye ek pal liya aur phir uttar diya. Maine unhe samjhaya ki jabki netbanking apne aap mein kuch jokhim lekar aati hai, yeh behad suvidhajanak bhi hai. Maine unhe bataya ki kaise main iska istemal apni college fees se lekar apne mobile balance recharge karne tak sab kuch karne ke liye karta hoon. Maine unhe yeh bhi sunishchit kiya ki jab tak wo apne passwords share na karen ya sandigd links par click na karen, unhe surakshit hona chahiye.

Ant mein, mujhe lagta hai ki meri raay ne unhe apna man banane mein madad ki. Unhone netbanking shuru karne ka faisla kiya, haalaanki savdhani ke saath. Yeh mere liye ek pal tha, jante hain, apne pita ko apne comfort zone se bahar nikalte dekhna, aur mujhe khushi thi ki unhone mere faisale par itna bharosa kiya. Yeh digital yug ki or ek chhoti lekin mahatvapoom kadam thi, aur mujhe ismein bhagidaar hone par garv tha.





Describe a time when you missed an appointment

Band 9 sample Response

Oh, I remember this one time when I missed a dentist's appointment. It was a rather embarrassing incident, but it taught me a valuable lesson about the importance of time management and being organized.

You see, I had been having a bit of trouble with a pesky molar for a while. My mom, being the typical Indian mother that she is, was quite concerned and promptly scheduled an appointment with our family dentist. The appointment was for a Saturday morning, which is usually when I am at my laziest, preferring to spend the day lounging about and catching up on my favourite Bollywood movies.

The day before the appointment, I had a late-night study session with my friends for our upcoming physics exam. We were so engrossed in our discussions about quantum mechanics and thermodynamics that we lost track of time. Before I knew it, it was dawn and I was still wide awake, my mind buzzing with equations and theories. Needless to say, I overslept and missed my dentist's appointment.

My mother was not pleased, to put it mildly. She gave me a stern lecture about responsibility and the importance of respecting other people's time. I felt terrible about the whole incident, not just because I had inconvenienced the dentist, but also because I had let my mother down. Since then, I've made it a point to be more organized and punctual, especially when it comes to appointments. It was a hard lesson, but one that I needed to learn.





Describe a time when you missed an appointment

Hindi Translation

Haan, mujhe ek baar yaad hai jab maine ek dentist ki appointment miss kar di thi. Yeh ek sharmnaak ghatna thi, lekin isne mujhe samay prabandhan aur sangathan ki mahatva ke baare mein ek mulyavaan sabak sikhaya.

Dekhiye, kuch samay se mera ek daant mujhe pareshan kar raha tha. Meri maa, jo ki ek typical Indian mother hai, unhe kaafi chinta hui aur unhone hamare parivaar ke dentist se turant ek appointment fix kar di. Appointment Saturday ki subah thi, jo ki aam taur par mera sabse aalsi din hota hai, jab main apna din aaram se bitaana aur apni pasandida Bollywood movies dekhna pasand karta hoon.

Appointment se ek din pehle, mere doston ke saath hamari aane wali physics ki exam ke liye raat bhar ki padhai hui. Hum quantum mechanics aur thermodynamics ke discussions mein itne magan the ki hume samay ka pata hi nahi chala. Jab mujhe hosh aaya, toh subah ho chuki thi aur main abhi bhi jaag raha tha, mere dimaag mein equations aur theories ghum rahi thi. Bina kisi shanka ke, maine oversleep kar diya aur dentist ki appointment miss kar di.

Meri maa bilkul khush nahi thi, halke shabdon mein kaha jaye toh. Unhone mujhe zimmedari aur doosron ke samay ki izzat karne ki mahatva ke baare mein ek kadi chetavni di. Mujhe puri ghatna ke baare mein bahut bura laga, sirf isliye nahi ki maine dentist ka samay barbaad kiya, balki isliye bhi kyunki maine apni maa ko nirash kiya. Tab se, maine yeh sunishchit karne ki koshish ki hai ki main adhik sangathit aur punctual rahoon, khaas taur par jab baat appointments ki ho. Yeh ek kathin sabak tha, lekin mujhe iski zaroorat thi.





Describe a time you were very busy

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I vividly remember an instance when I was caught in a whirlwind of activities. It was my cousin's wedding in Bathinda, a grand Punjabi affair, and my semester exams were right around the corner. The timing couldn't have been more unfortunate, but such is life, I suppose.

The wedding was a riot of colours, music, and laughter. As is customary in Punjabi weddings, there were a plethora of pre-wedding rituals, each demanding my active participation. From the raucous 'sangeet' ceremony to the henna-filled 'mehendi' night, I was in the thick of it all. Simultaneously, I was grappling with my textbooks, trying to squeeze in as much study time as possible. The contrast was stark - the joyous cacophony of the wedding celebrations and the silent intensity of my study sessions.

The challenge was to strike a balance between the two, and it was no easy feat. I had to be meticulous with my time management, allotting specific hours for studying amidst the wedding hullabaloo. I remember waking up at the crack of dawn to revise my syllabus, then rushing off to help with the wedding preparations, and then burning the midnight oil to cover the day's study target. It was exhausting, but the adrenaline rush kept me going.

Looking back, I realise that it was a period of tremendous personal growth for me. I learned to juggle multiple responsibilities and prioritise tasks effectively. The experience also taught me the value of resilience and perseverance. Despite the stress, I managed to enjoy the wedding and also fared well in my exams. So, all in all, it was a time of hard work, but also of immense satisfaction.





Describe a time you were very busy

Hindi Translation

Main ek samay yaad karta hoon jab main kai gatividhiyon mein uljha hua tha. Yeh mere cousin ki shaadi ka samay tha Bathinda mein, ek shandaar Punjabi shaadi, aur mere semester exams bhi sir pe the. Samay ka chunav aur bhi bura ho sakta tha, lekin aisa hi toh jeevan hota hai, mujhe lagta hai.

Shaadi ek rang-birangi, sangeet aur hasi bhari jagah thi. Jaisa ki Punjabi shaadiyon ki parampara hoti hai, wahan anek pre-wedding rituals the, jinmein mera sakriya bhag lena zaroori tha. Shor sharabe wale 'sangeet' samaroh se lekar mehendi bhari 'mehendi' raat tak, main sab mein shamil tha. Saath hi, main apni textbooks ke saath joojh raha tha, jitna sambhav ho sake padhai ka samay nikalne ki koshish kar raha tha. Dono ke beech ka antar spasht tha - shaadi ki khushi bhari hulchul aur meri padhai ki maun gahrai.

Yahan tak pahunchne ka challenge tha dono ke beech santulan banaye rakhna, aur yeh koi aasan kaam nahi tha. Mujhe apne samay prabandhan par vishesh dhyan dena pada, shaadi ki dhoom dhaam ke beech specific ghante padhai ke liye allot karte hue. Mujhe yaad hai ki main bhore hone par apne syllabus ko revise karne ke liye utha karta tha, phir shaadi ki taiyariyon mein madad karne ke liye daudta tha, aur phir raat ko der tak padhai ke liye jaagta tha. Yeh thakanewala tha, lekin adrenaline rush ne mujhe chalne diya.

Peeche mudkar dekhte hue, mujhe samajh aata hai ki yeh mere liye vyaktigat vikas ka ek samay tha. Maine kai jimmedariyon ko sambhalna aur karya ko prathmikta dene ka tareeka seekha. Anubhav ne mujhe lagaan aur dridhta ki keemat samjhai. Stress ke bawjood, maine shaadi ka anand liya aur exams mein bhi acche marks liye. Toh, sab mila kar, yeh ek kathin kaam ka samay tha, lekin bhi atyadhik santushti ka.





Describe a childhood friend

Band 9 sample Response

Ah, the topic of childhood friends! It instantly transports me back to the carefree days of my youth. One friend who springs to mind is Ravi, a lad I grew up with in our small town of Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. We were inseparable, like two peas in a pod, and our friendship was as vibrant as the colourful kites we flew during Makar Sankranti.

Ravi was a bundle of energy, always brimming with enthusiasm. His eyes sparkled with mischief, and he had an infectious laughter that could light up even the gloomiest of days. We shared a common love for cricket, and many a summer afternoon was spent emulating our cricketing heroes on the dusty fields of our town. His passion for the sport was contagious, and he was the Sachin Tendulkar of our local team.

Our friendship was not just confined to the cricket field. We were partners in crime at school as well. I remember how we would sneak in samosas from the local vendor, defying the strict school rules. Our shared adventures, from cycling races to Diwali celebrations, added a dash of spice to our otherwise mundane school life.

Sadly, as we grew older, our paths diverged. Ravi moved to Mumbai to pursue his dream of becoming a cricketer, while I stayed back to take over my family business. Despite the distance, our bond remains unbroken. We may not meet as often as we used to, but whenever we do, it's like time has stood still. Ravi, my childhood friend, will always hold a special place in my heart. He is a cherished part of my past, a comforting presence in my present, and a hopeful promise for my future.





Describe a childhood friend

Hindi Translation

Ah, bachpan ke dost ki vishay! Yeh mujhe turant mere bachpan ke beparvah dinon mein le jaata hai. Ek dost jis ka naam mujhe yaad aata hai woh Ravi hai, ek ladka jis ke saath maine apne chhote shehar Meerut, Uttar Pradesh mein bada hua. Hum alag nahi ho sakte the, jaise do matar ki phali, aur hamari dosti utni hi rangeen thi jitne rangeen patang hum Makar Sankranti ke dauran udate the.

Ravi ek urja ka guchha tha, hamesha utsah se bhara hua. Uski aankhen shararat se chamakti thi, aur uski hansi itni sankramak thi ki woh sabse udaas dinon ko bhi roshan kar sakti thi. Hum dono ko cricket se pyaar tha, aur kai garmi ki dopahar hum apne shehar ke dhool bhare maidan par apne cricketing heroes ki nakal karte the. Uska khel ke prati junoon sankramak tha, aur woh hamari sthaniya team ka Sachin Tendulkar tha.

Hamari dosti sirf cricket field tak simit nahi thi. Hum school mein bhi saathi the. Mujhe yaad hai kaise hum school ke kadi niyamon ko tod kar sthaniya vikreta se samose chura lete the. Hamare saajha saahas, cycle daud se lekar Diwali ki khushi tak, hamare varna samanya school jeevan mein masala daalte the.

Dukh ki baat yeh hai ki jab hum bade hue, hamare raste alag ho gaye. Ravi Mumbai chala gaya apne sapne ko poora karne ke liye ki woh ek cricketer bane, jabki main wapas raha apne parivar ke vyavsay ko sambhalne ke liye. Duri ke bavjood, hamara bandhan tuta nahi. Ho sakta hai ki hum utna milte na ho jitna hum pehle milte the, lekin jab bhi hum milte hain, toh lagta hai ki samay ruk gaya hai. Ravi, mera bachpan ka dost, hamesha mere dil mein ek vishesh sthan rakhega. Woh mera atit ka ek anmol hissa hai, mera vartaman ka ek sukhad upastithi, aur mere bhavishya ke liye ek ashavadi vada.





Describe something that you have shared with others (or another person).

Band 9 sample Response

Well, sharing is indeed an integral part of Indian culture, isn't it? We share everything from food to festivals, and it's this very spirit of sharing that brings us closer as a community. One particular instance that springs to mind is when I shared my collection of Ruskin Bond books with my younger cousin, Ravi.

Ravi, you see, was always a bit of a reluctant reader. He'd rather spend his time playing cricket or watching cartoons. However, I firmly believe that reading broadens one's horizons, and I was determined to instill this love for books in him. So, I decided to share my cherished collection of Ruskin Bond books with him. Ruskin Bond, as you might know, is a celebrated Indian author known for his evocative descriptions of Indian life and landscapes.

I remember the day I handed over the books to him. His eyes widened in surprise, and he was a little overwhelmed by the sheer number of books. But I reassured him, telling him to take his time and enjoy the journey. I also suggested that he start with 'The Blue Umbrella', a delightful tale set in the hills of Himachal Pradesh.

Over the next few months, I saw a remarkable transformation in Ravi. He started reading the books, slowly at first, and then with increasing enthusiasm. He began to appreciate the beauty of the written word and started engaging in more meaningful conversations. Today, he's an avid reader, and I couldn't be prouder. So, this experience of sharing my books with Ravi was truly rewarding and reaffirmed my belief in the power of sharing.





Describe something that you have shared with others (or another person).

Hindi Translation

Accha, saanjha karna vaastav mein Bharatiya sanskriti ka ek abhinn hissa hai, kya nahi? Hum khaana se lekar tyohaaron tak sab kuch saanjha karte hain, aur yahi saanjha karne ki bhavana humein ek samaaj ke roop mein aur adhik nazdeek laati hai. Ek vishesh udaharan jo mere dimaag mein aata hai, woh hai jab maine apne chhote bhai Ravi ke saath apne Ruskin Bond ki kitabon ka sangrah saanjha kiya.

Ravi, aap dekhiye, hamesha thoda sa sankochi padhne wala tha. Vah apna samay cricket khelne ya cartoons dekhne mein bitana pasand karta tha. Halanki, maine dridhata se vishwas kiya ki padhna vyakti ke daayre ko vistaarit karta hai, aur mujhe ismein vishwas tha ki main usmein kitabon ke prati is prem ko sthapit karunga. To, maine decide kiya ki apne pyare Ruskin Bond ki kitabon ka sangrah uske saath saanjha karunga. Jaisa ki aap jaante honge, Ruskin Bond ek prasiddh Bharatiya lekhak hai jo Bharatiya jeevan aur paridrishyon ke liye apne jeevant chitran ke liye jaane jaate hain.

Main us din yaad karta hoon jab maine usse kitabein saunpi. Uski aankhen aashcharya se bhar gayi, aur vah kitabon ki badi sankhya se thoda sa abhibhoot ho gaya. Lekin maine use santvana di, use bataya ki vah apna samay le aur yatra ka anand le. Maine bhi sujhav diya ki vah 'The Blue Umbrella' se shuru kare, jo Himachal Pradesh ki pahadiyon mein sthit ek manohar kahani hai.

Agli kuch mahino mein, maine Ravi mein ek adbhut parivartan dekha. Vah kitabon ko padhna shuru kiya, pehle dheere dheere, aur phir badhti hui utsaah ke saath. Vah likhit shabd ki sundarta ko samajhne laga aur adhik arthpurn vartaalapon mein shaamil hone laga. Aaj, vah ek utsaahi pathak hai, aur main aur garv mehsoos nahi kar sakta. To, Ravi ke saath apni kitabon ka anubhav saanjha karne ka yeh anubhav sach mein puraskaar tha aur meri saanjha karne ki shakti mein vishwas ko punah sthapit kiya.





***Describe a story or a novel
that was particularly
interesting to you***

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I'm an avid reader and I've perused a plethora of books, but if I had to single out one that left an indelible impression on me, it would undeniably be 'The White Tiger' by Aravind Adiga. This novel, which bagged the prestigious Man Booker Prize, is a riveting tale that delves into the stark disparities in Indian society.

The narrative unfolds through the eyes of Balram Halwai, a village boy who ascends the social ladder to become a successful entrepreneur in Bangalore. The novel is a stark portrayal of the chasm between the haves and the have-nots in India, and it's this raw and unfiltered depiction that makes it so compelling. The author's dexterity in weaving a tale that is both gripping and thought-provoking is truly commendable.

What I found particularly intriguing was the protagonist's journey from a humble tea seller to a prosperous businessman. His transformation is symbolic of the aspirations of millions of Indians who yearn to break free from the shackles of poverty and attain a better life. The narrative is replete with instances of corruption, deceit, and moral ambiguity, which are unfortunately all too common in our society.

In conclusion, 'The White Tiger' is a novel that resonates deeply with me, not just because of its captivating storyline, but also due to its profound social commentary. It's a book that compels you to introspect and question the societal norms we often take for granted. It's a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the complexities of contemporary Indian society.





***Describe a story or a novel
that was particularly
interesting to you***

Hindi Translation

Accha, main ek utsaahit pathak hoon aur maine anek kitabein padhi hain, lekin agar mujhe ek aisi kitab chunni padti jo mujh par gehri chhap chhod gayi, to wo nishchit roop se Aravind Adiga dwara likhi gayi 'The White Tiger' hogi. Yeh upanyas, jo pratishtith Man Booker Prize prapt karne wala hai, ek romanchak kahani hai jo Bharatiya samaj mein teekhe antar ko ujagar karta hai.

Kahani Balram Halwai, ek gaon ka ladka, ki drishti se khulti hai, jo samajik sidhdhi ki seedhiyan chadhkar Bangalore mein ek safal udyamshilak ban jaate hain. Yeh upanyas Bharat mein sampann aur asampann ke beech ki gahri khai ka nanga darshan hai, aur yahi kacchi aur filter kiye bina chhavi use itna akarshak banati hai. Lekhak ki kahani ko bunaane mein jo nipunta hai, jo romanchak aur sochne par majboor karne wali hai, woh sach mein sarahniya hai.

Jo mujhe vishesh roop se romanchak laga, woh tha mukhya patra ka safar, ek samanya chai bechne wale se ek samridh vyapari banne tak. Unka parivartan un lakho Bharatiyon ka pratik hai jo garibi ke jakhmon se mukt hone aur behtar jeevan prapt karne ki lalsa rakhte hain. Kahani bhrashtachar, dhokha, aur naitik aspashyata ke udaharanon se bhari hui hai, jo durbhagyavash hamare samaj mein bahut aam hain.

Nishkarsh mein, 'The White Tiger' ek aisa upanyas hai jo mujhse gahraai se goonjta hai, sirf uske akarshak kahani ki wajah se nahi, balki uske gahre samajik tippani ki wajah se bhi. Yeh ek kitab hai jo aapko aatm-chintan karne aur samajik maanyataon ko sawaal uthane par majboor karti hai, jo hum aksar sammanit maan lete hain. Yeh ek aisi kitab hai jo samakaleen Bharatiya samaj ki jatilataon ko samajhne mein ruchi rakhne wale kisi bhi vyakti ke liye avashyak hai.





Describe a popular/well-known person in your country

Band 9 sample Response

Well, India is a country teeming with celebrities, from Bollywood superstars to cricketing legends. But if I had to pick one person who is universally recognised and admired, it would have to be Sachin Tendulkar, the iconic cricketer.

Sachin, fondly known as the 'Master Blaster', is a true embodiment of talent, dedication, and humility. Born in Mumbai, he started playing cricket at a tender age and quickly rose through the ranks due to his prodigious talent. His cricketing journey is nothing short of a fairy tale, filled with numerous records and accolades. His batting style, a perfect blend of aggression and technique, left spectators and opponents alike in awe.

What sets Sachin apart, though, is not just his cricketing prowess but his demeanour off the field. Despite his colossal success, he has always remained grounded and humble. He is known for his philanthropic activities, particularly in the field of education and healthcare. He is a role model not just for aspiring cricketers but for anyone who aspires to achieve greatness in their respective fields.

In conclusion, Sachin Tendulkar is a well-known personality in India, not just for his cricketing achievements but also for his humility and philanthropy. He is a living legend who continues to inspire millions of Indians with his life and deeds. His popularity transcends all boundaries, making him a true icon of India.





Describe a popular/well-known person in your country

Hindi Translation

Accha, Bharat ek aisa desh hai jahan har jagah celebrities ki bharmar hai, chahe wo Bollywood superstars ho ya cricket ke legends. Lekin agar mujhe kisi ek vyakti ka chunav karna pade jo universally recognized aur admired ho, to wo honge Sachin Tendulkar, jo ek iconic cricketer hain.

Sachin ko pyar se 'Master Blaster' kaha jata hai, aur wo talent, samarpan, aur vinamrata ka sachcha pratik hain. Mumbai me janme Sachin ne cricket khelna kafi chote umar me shuru kar diya tha aur unki adbhut pratibha ki wajah se wo jaldi hi ranks me upar uthe. Unka cricketing safar ek fairy tale se kam nahi hai, jo anek records aur sammano se bhara hua hai. Unka batting style, jo aggression aur technique ka perfect blend hai, ne darshako aur pratidvandviyo ko dono hi prabhavit kiya.

Lekin, jo Sachin ko alag banata hai, wo sirf unka cricketing gyan nahi hai, balki field ke bahar unka vyavhar bhi. Unki vishal safalta ke bawjood, unhone hamesha zameen se jude rehne ka acharan kiya hai. Unhe unke philanthropic activities ke liye jana jata hai, khas karke shiksha aur swasthya ki field me. Wo sirf aspiring cricketers ke liye hi nahi, balki kisi bhi field me mahanata prapt karne ki ichha rakhne wale logo ke liye role model hain.

Nishkarsh me, Sachin Tendulkar Bharat me ek prasiddh vyaktitva hain, sirf unke cricketing uplabdhion ke liye nahi, balki unki vinamrata aur philanthropy ke liye bhi. Wo ek jivit legend hain jo apni zindagi aur karmo se karodo Bharatiyo ko prerna dete hain. Unki lokpriyata sabhi seemaon ko par kar gayi hai, jisse wo sachche Bharat ke icon ban gaye hain.





Describe a time when you helped a child

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me take you back to a time when I was visiting my hometown in Kerala during the summer holidays. It was a typical afternoon, sweltering and sultry, and I was whiling away my time at home when I heard a commotion outside.

As I stepped out, I saw a group of children playing cricket in the narrow alley, and among them was a little boy, maybe around 7 or 8 years old, struggling to hold the bat properly. He was trying his best, but the bat was just too heavy for him. The other children, engrossed in their game, didn't seem to notice his struggle.

I felt a pang of empathy for the little boy and decided to step in. I walked up to him and offered to help him hold the bat. I showed him the correct stance and grip, and how to swing the bat. I also gave him a few tips about timing and footwork, which I had picked up from my school cricket days.

The transformation was immediate and delightful. The boy's face lit up with a broad smile and his confidence soared. He was able to hit the ball much better, and the other children also started to appreciate his improved skills. That moment of helping a child, and the joy it brought to him, was truly gratifying for me. It reminded me of the immense satisfaction that comes from lending a helping hand, especially to those who are younger and less experienced.





Describe a time when you helped a child

Hindi Translation

Accha, mujhe aapko us samay ki yaad dilane do jab main apne garmi ki chuttiyon ke dauran Kerala mein apne ghar ja raha tha. Ye ek samanya dopahar thi, garmi aur gilepan se bhari hui, aur main ghar par apna samay bita raha tha jab mujhe bahar kuchh shor sunai diya.

Jab main bahar gaya, to maine dekha ki ek samuh bacche ek sankirn gali mein cricket khel rahe the, aur unme se ek chhota ladka tha, shayad 7 ya 8 saal ka, jo sahi tarah se bat ko pakadne mein pareshan ho raha tha. Woh apni puri koshish kar raha tha, lekin bat uske liye bahut bhari thi. Dusre bacche, apne khel mein itne magan the ki unhone uski pareshani ka dhyan nahi diya.

Mujhe us chhote ladke ke liye ek tarah ka dard mehsoos hua aur maine decide kiya ki main madad karunga. Main uske paas gaya aur usse bat pakadne ki madad karne ka prastav kiya. Maine usse sahi stance aur grip dikhaya, aur bat kaise ghumaani hai. Maine usse apne school ke cricket ke dinon se sikhe kuchh tips bhi diye jaise ki timing aur footwork.

Parivartan turant aur manohar tha. Ladke ke chehre par ek badi si muskurahat chha gayi aur uska confidence badh gaya. Woh ab ball ko bahut acche se maar sakta tha, aur dusre bacche bhi uske sudhre hue skills ki sarahna karne lage. Ek bachche ki madad karne ka wo pal, aur usse jo khushi mili, woh sach mein mere liye bahut santushtikarak tha. Isne mujhe yaad dilaya ki madad karne se jo anand milta hai, woh behad adbhut hota hai, khaas kar ke un logo ke liye jo kam umar ya kam anubhav wale hote hain.





Describe a creative person whose work you admire

Band 9 sample Response

Well, the person who springs to mind when I think about creativity is none other than the legendary Indian film director, Satyajit Ray. He was a true polymath, a rare breed of genius who excelled in various fields such as filmmaking, writing, and music composition. His body of work is a testament to his creative prowess and his ability to weave magic with his storytelling.

Ray's films were a breath of fresh air in an era dominated by formulaic Bollywood flicks. His movies, like 'Pather Panchali' and 'Charulata', were deeply rooted in the Indian ethos, yet they resonated with a global audience. His ability to capture the nuances of human emotions and the complexities of social relationships was simply unparalleled. His characters were not just characters; they were real people with real emotions, and that's what made his movies so relatable.

What I admire most about Ray is his versatility. He was not just a filmmaker, but also a writer, a music composer, and a graphic artist. He penned numerous short stories and novels, composed music for his films, and even designed the posters and title sequences for his movies. His creativity knew no bounds, and he used it to its fullest potential.

To sum up, Satyajit Ray was a creative genius whose work continues to inspire millions around the world. His films are a masterclass in storytelling, and his multifaceted talents make him a true icon of creativity. His work has left an indelible mark on Indian cinema, and his legacy continues to live on.





Describe a creative person whose work you admire

Hindi Translation

Achha, jab mujhe rachnatmakta ke baare mein sochna hota hai, toh mere dimaag mein sabse pehle aata hai, mahan Bharatiya film nirदेशक, Satyajit Ray. Woh ek sachche polymath the, ek durlabh prajati ke genius jo vibhinn kshetron jaise filmmaking, lekhan, aur sangeet rachna mein shaan se ubharte the. Unka kaam unki rachnatmak shakti aur unki kahani sunane ki kala ko darshata hai.

Ray ki filmein ek yug mein jahan formulaic Bollywood flicks pramukh the, ek nayi saans thi. Unki filmein, jaise 'Pather Panchali' aur 'Charulata', Bharatiya sanskriti mein gahri jad thi, phir bhi unhone vishwa bhar ke darshakon se goonj ki. Unka manav bhavnaon ki bareeki aur samajik sambandhon ki jatilta ko pakadne ki kshamata behad adbhut thi. Unke patra sirf patra nahi the; ve asli log the jinke asli bhavnaen thi, aur yahi unki filmein itni sambandhit banati thi.

Jo mujhe Ray mein sabse adhik prashansa karta hai, woh hai unki bahulakshmi. Woh sirf ek film nirदेशक nahi the, balki ek lekhak, sangeet rachayita, aur graphic artist bhi the. Unhone anek laghu kahaniyan aur upanyas likhe, apni filmein ke liye sangeet racha, aur apni filmein ke posters aur title sequences bhi design kiye. Unki rachnatmakta ki koi seema nahi thi, aur unhone use poore potential par istemal kiya.

Sankshep mein, Satyajit Ray ek rachnatmak prajati the jinka kaam aaj bhi duniya bhar mein karodon logon ko prerna deti hai. Unki filmein kahani sunane mein ek masterclass hai, aur unki bahulakshmi unhe rachnatmakta ke asli pratik banati hai. Unka kaam ne Bharatiya cinema par ek amit chihni chhod diya hai, aur unki virasat aaj bhi jeevit hai.





Describe a difficult decision that you once made.

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I must say, the most challenging decision I've ever made was to take the IELTS and move abroad for my higher studies. It was a decision that required a great deal of introspection and contemplation.

You see, I hail from a small town in India where people seldom venture out of their comfort zones. The thought of leaving my family, my friends, and the familiar sights and sounds of my hometown was indeed daunting. But I was also aware that the world outside held a plethora of opportunities that could help me broaden my horizons and enrich my life in ways I could never imagine.

The decision-making process was a roller-coaster ride of emotions. I remember spending countless nights pondering over the pros and cons, the gains and the losses. The fear of the unknown was constantly at war with my desire to explore and learn. I sought advice from my teachers, my seniors who had already embarked on this journey, and of course, my parents. Their unwavering faith in me and their words of encouragement played a pivotal role in my decision.

Finally, I decided to take the plunge. I chose to face my fears, embrace the uncertainties, and step into the unknown. It was a difficult decision, but looking back, I realise it was one of the best decisions I've ever made. The journey has been challenging, no doubt, but the experiences I've gained, the people I've met, and the lessons I've learned have been absolutely priceless. It's a decision I'll never regret.





Describe a difficult decision that you once made.

Hindi Translation

Haan, mujhe kehna padega ki maine jo sabse kathin faisla liya tha, woh tha IELTS ki pariksha dena aur apni uchch shiksha ke liye videsh jaana. Yeh ek aisa faisla tha jisne mujhe bahut soch-vichar karne par majboor kiya.

Dekhiye, main ek chhote se shahar se hoon jahan log apne aaram daayi zone se bahar nikalne mein jhijhakte hain. Apne parivaar, doston aur apne ghar ke parichit drishyaon ko chhodne ka khayal sach mein bhaybheet kar raha tha. Lekin mujhe yeh bhi pata tha ki bahar ki duniya mein aise anek avsar hain jo meri soch ko vistarit kar sakte hain aur meri zindagi ko main kabhi kalpana nahi kar sakta tha, us tarah se samriddh kar sakte hain.

Faisla lene ki prakriya ek bhavnaon ka roller-coaster ride thi. Mujhe yaad hai ki maine anek raaton ko is par vichar kiya, ki laabh aur haani kya hogi. Anjaane se dar laga rehta tha lekin meri jigyaasa aur seekhne ki ichha se ladta tha. Maine apne shikshakon, un senior se salah li jo is yatra par pehle hi nikal chuke the, aur zaroori hai, mere mata-pita se. Unka mujh par atoot vishwas aur unke protsahan bhare shabd mere faisla mein mahatvapurna bhumika nibhaye.

Ant mein, maine faisla liya. Maine apne dar ka samna karna, asmanjas ko apnana, aur anjaane mein kadam rakhna chuna. Yeh ek kathin faisla tha, lekin peeche mudkar dekhta hoon to mujhe samajh aata hai ki yeh mere liye sabse accha faisla tha. Yeh yatra zaroori hai, lekin anubhav jo maine prapt kiye, log jo maine mile, aur jo sabak maine seekhe, woh bilkul anmol rahe hain. Yeh ek aisa faisla hai jise main kabhi pachhtaunga nahi.





Describe something that was broken in your home and then repaired

Band 9 sample Response

Well, let me tell you about an incident that happened a couple of months ago. It was the peak of summer in India, and as you know, the heat can be quite unbearable. Unfortunately, our air conditioner, which had been our saviour during these scorching months, decided to give up on us. It was a dreadful situation, to say the least.

The air conditioner, a decade-old model, had been working like a charm until that fateful day. It was a Sunday afternoon, and the temperature outside was soaring above 40 degrees Celsius. Suddenly, the cool breeze from the AC turned warm, and within minutes, it stopped working altogether. We were left in a state of shock and discomfort, drenched in sweat and utterly helpless.

Now, getting it repaired was a task in itself. Given the pandemic situation, it was challenging to find a technician who could come home and fix it. After a frantic search, we finally managed to find one. He arrived the next day, armed with his tools and a mask. After a thorough inspection, he informed us that the compressor had conked off and needed to be replaced.

The repair took a couple of days, but when the AC finally started working again, it was like a breath of fresh air, quite literally! The whole experience taught us the importance of regular maintenance and the value of a good technician. It also made us realise how dependent we've become on these modern conveniences. So, that's the story of our broken and repaired air conditioner.





Describe something that was broken in your home and then repaired

Hindi Translation

Accha, mujhe aapko kuch mahine pehle hue ek ghatna ke baare mein batane do. Yeh Bharat mein grishm ritu ke charam par hua tha, aur jaisa ki aap jaante hain, garmi kaafi asahaniya ho sakti hai. Durbhagyavash, hamara air conditioner, jo in jalane wale mahino mein hamara rakshak raha tha, usne hamein chhod diya. Kam se kam kahne mein yeh ek bhayanak sthiti thi.

Air conditioner, ek dashak purana model, us bhagyashali din tak ek charm ki tarah kaam kar raha tha. Yeh ek Ravivaar ki dopehri thi, aur bahar ki tapmaan 40 degree Celsius se adhik tha. Achanak, AC se aane wali thandi hawa garam ho gayi, aur kuch hi minutes mein, yeh bilkul band ho gaya. Hum ek shock aur asuvidha ki sthiti mein chhod diye gaye, pasine mein bheeg gaye aur puri tarah se sahayataheen.

Ab, ise thik karana apne aap mein ek karya tha. Mahamari ki sthiti ke chalte, ek technician dhundhna jo ghar aa kar ise thik kar sake, yeh challenging tha. Bechaini bhare khoj ke baad, humein akhirkaar ek mil hi gaya. Woh agle din aaya, apne upkaranon aur mask ke saath. Ek samagr janch ke baad, usne hamein bataya ki compressor band ho gaya tha aur ise badalna padega.

Marammat mein kuch din lag gaye, lekin jab AC phir se kaam karne laga, toh yeh vaastav mein ek taza hawa ki saans thi! Yeh pura anubhav hamein niyमित maintenance ki mahatvta aur ek acche technician ki keemat sikhata hai. Yeh hamein yeh bhi samajhne mein madad karta hai ki hum in aadhunik suvidhaon par kitne nirbhar ho gaye hain. Toh, yeh hai hamare toote aur marammat kiye gaye air conditioner ki kahani.





Describe an ambition that you haven't achieved

Band 9 sample Response

Well, I've always had a myriad of ambitions, some of which I've been fortunate enough to accomplish, while others are still in the pipeline. One such aspiration that remains unfulfilled is my dream of trekking the Himalayas, specifically the challenging Everest Base Camp trek.

You see, I've always been an ardent lover of nature and adventure. The idea of scaling the mighty Himalayas, breathing in the crisp mountain air, and beholding the majestic panorama of snow-clad peaks has always held a certain allure for me. It's not just about the physical challenge, but also the spiritual journey that such an expedition promises.

However, the rigours of daily life and professional commitments have kept this dream at bay. Preparing for such an arduous journey requires not just physical fitness, but also a significant amount of time and financial resources. And while I've been diligently saving up for this dream, the time commitment has been a stumbling block.

But I firmly believe that dreams are not meant to remain dreams forever. I am determined to turn this ambition into reality. I've started incorporating a rigorous fitness routine into my daily schedule and have begun researching the best time to undertake this trek. I am optimistic that in the not-so-distant future, I'll be sharing my exhilarating experiences of the Everest Base Camp trek with you all.





Describe an ambition that you haven't achieved

Hindi Translation

Achha, mujhe hamesha se anek lakshya rakhne ki aadat rahi hai, jinme se kuch maine kismat se pura kar liye hain, jabki baaki abhi pipeline me hain. Ek aisi hi abhilasha jo abhi tak adhuri hai, woh hai Himalaya ki yatra karna, vishesh roop se kathin Everest Base Camp trek.

Dekhiye, main hamesha se prakriti aur sahasik gatividhiyon ka jabra fan raha hoon. Shaktishali Himalaya ko chadhne ka vichar, taza pahadi hawa mein saans lena, aur barf se dhake shikharo ka shaandar drishya dekhna, mujhe hamesha se akarshit karta raha hai. Yeh sirf sharirik chunauti ke baare mein nahi hai, balki aisi yatra ek aatmik yatra bhi vaada karti hai.

Lekin, rozmarra ki zindagi aur vyavsayik pratibaddhataon ne is sapne ko rok rakha hai. Aisi kathin yatra ki taiyari ke liye sirf sharirik swasthya hi nahi, balki samay aur vittiya sansadhanon ki bhi zaroorat hoti hai. Aur jabki main is sapne ke liye dhiraj se bachat kar raha hoon, samay ki pratibaddhata ek badha ban gayi hai.

Lekin main dridhata purvak vishwas karta hoon ki sapne hamesha ke liye sapne nahi bane rehne chahiye. Main is lakshya ko vastavikta mein badalne ke liye dridh nischayi hoon. Mainne apne rozmarra ki karyakram mein ek kathor fitness routine shamil karna shuru kar diya hai aur is trek ko karne ka sabse accha samay khojna shuru kar diya hai. Main ashavadi hoon ki bhavishya mein jyada door nahi, main aap sabhi ke saath Everest Base Camp trek ke romanchak anubhav baant raha hoon.

