**Formula 3**

**What do you like to do (in your spare time)?**

In this lesson you'll master the Formula for What do you like to do (in your spare time )? type questions.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

What do you like to do when you are on holidays?

What do you like to do when you are not working?

**The formula**

When the examiner asks you What do you like to do (in your spare time)? type questions, YOU MUST:

Answer order:

1. Identify a couple of things you like doing.
2. Describe why you like them.

**Language steps**

1. Use either enjoy/ like + verb-ing or like + to verb.

I like *studying* English.

I like *to study* English.

2. Use one or two native speaker ways to say I like.

I 'm *quite into* playing guitar.

I'm *really* keen *on* studying English.

3. Use some adjectives of positive feeling to show the degrees of your interest.

I like playing football. It's *exciting.*

I'm quite into learning new languages. I find *it fascinating.*

Language step **1 Like & Enjoy**

Let's look at how the two candidates, use the verbs like and enjoy.

A: Well, I have lots of hobbies I like *to do* in my spare time. I'm very interested in studying English and I'm also quite into movies - sometimes I combine these two interests by watching British or American films. What I particularly *enjoy doing,* though, is playing football - it's so exciting! .

B: I work really hard during the day so in the evening, I like *to relax* and *unwind.* I'm a big fan of hip-hop and rock music, and I like *hanging out* with friends and *watching* gigs .. ..

Like and enjoy are two very common verbs that you need to master to do well in your IELTS test.

Like

Notice that B uses like in two different ways to say the same thing.

Like + to verb I like *to relax.*

like + verb-ing I *like hanging out* with friends.

Enjoy

Enjoy + verb-ing I really *enjoy playing'* tennis.

If you or the interviewer has already mentioned an activity, and you continue to discuss that activity, you can refer to that activity as it. For example:

I really enjoy studying English. *It* is fun.

In the second sentence, it refers back to studying English. Use it when you are sure that both you and the person you are speaking to are talking about the same thing. Remember, if what you were talking about before was plural, you must say they instead of it. For example:

I like watching football matches - *they* are so exciting.

Exercise: **Error Correction**

Each of the sentences below has at least one mistake. Identify the mistakes and write the correct sentences in the spaces provided.

1. When I'm not working, I really enjoy (to cycle)**cycling** in the countryside outside my city. (They are) **It is** a very healthy and exciting pastime.

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1. I really like (to) getting involved in team sports. It is particularly good for building up co-operative skills and healthy competition.

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1. I especially **like** (liking) to spend my free time sleeping and being lazy in my dormitory.

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1. My friends and I are really keen on (play) **playing** computer games. It is a really good way to spend an evening.

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1. I enjoy **taking part** (to take part) in martial arts like kung fu; they can keep you fit and make you strong!

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1. She enjoys **going** (go) out to bars on weekends and hang out with friends.

Language step 2 Native Speaker Ways to Say I Like

Let's look again at how the two candidates, express the idea I like.

A: Well, I have lots of hobbies I like to do in my spare time. I'm *very interested in* studying English and I'm also *quite into* movies - sometimes I combine these two interests by watching British or American films ...

B: I work really hard during the day so in the evening, I like to relax and unwind. I'm *a big fan of* hip-hop and rock music, and I like hanging out with friends and watching gigs. I'm also keen *on* reading novels and short stories ... '

Let's look at the structures for these native speaker ways to say you like something:

**I'm quite into + activity/hobby**

*I' m quite into playing tennis* - I get very excited about it.

**I'm a big fan of + activity / hobby**

*I'm a big fan of guitar music* - I often go to concerts.

**I'm keen on + activity/hobby**

*I'm really keen on going to eat* in Thai restaurants. I love Thai food .

I'm interested in + activity/hobby

*I'm very interested in law;* I'm always reading about the latest laws and legal cases.

Exercise: Word Order

Rewrite the sentences below in the correct order.

1. quite / on / detective / into / stories / I'm / TV / watching

-> I’m quite into watching detective stories on TV.

1. of/fan / comedies / huge / a / romantic / she's

> She’s a huge fan of romantic comedies.

1. interested / I'm / latest/ in / fashions / extremely / the

-> I’m extremely interested in the latest fashions.

1. very / dancing/he's/with/ at/ clubs/ on/friends/keen

-> he’s very keen on dancing with friends at clubs.

Language step 3 **Adjectives** of **Positive** **Feeling**

Let's take a look at how the two candidates, use adjectives of positive feeling.

A: Well, I have lots of hobbies I like to do in my spare time. I'm very *interested* in studying English and I'm also quite into movies - sometimes I combine these two interests by watching British or American films. What I particularly enjoy doing, though, is playing football- *it's* so *exciting!*

B: ... I'm involved in a reading group at my university and every so often we get together and discuss the latest books we've read over dinner - it's so *stimu1ating* to talk and hear different views about the books we've all read.

To explain why you like doing something, you should use adjectives of positive feeling.

It is often difficult for non-native speakers to use them correctly, and candidates frequently lose marks in the IELTS test because of this type of mistake.

Adjectives of positive feeling come from stative verbs such as satisfy, bore and excite. There are two ways to turn this type of verb into adjectives of positive feeling.

Use **be + verb-ed** when talking about the person who is experiencing the emotion:

He is *bored* when he has nothing to do.

She *is fascinated* by music.

They *are interested* in playing football.

I *am satisfied* with my lessons.

The boy is *excited* when I give him food.

Use **be + verb-ing** when talking about the thing that is causing the emotion:

Football is *boring.*

Music *is f ascinating.*

Studying English *is interesting.*

Seeing a concert is *exciting.*

Eating a big dinner *is satisfying.*

Exercise: **Sentence Completion**

Complete the sentences below by writing the correct forms of the words in brackets.

1. I really enjoy reading; a good book is so (satisfy).

2. I think movies are (bore).

3. My friends are all (excite) about the concert on Sunday.

4. I love studying English. I'm (fascinate) by the grammar.

5. I'm really (interest) in learning more about other countries.

6. Julia finds her art classes incredibly (satisfy).