

# Understanding **Vocab** for IELTS Speaking

A complete guide to enriching your lexical resources

**Words in context**

**Explore word knowledge**

**Understanding and Applying**

a revised version of Power Vocab



# Giới thiệu

Đây là cuốn sách đầu tiên trong chuỗi tài liệu tự học từ vựng thông dụng trong văn viết tiếng Anh. Nội dung sách bao gồm 16 chủ đề hay xuất hiện trong bài thi viết IELTS và tất cả những câu hỏi hay chủ đề sử dụng trong 16 bài học đều là những câu hỏi và chủ đề đã từng xuất hiện trong bài thi thật nhằm giúp người học có được sự tiếp xúc thực tế nhất đối với bài thi.

Sách được cấu trúc một cách tinh giản và thông tin được sắp xếp khoa học và thống nhất trong từng bài học. Sách từng bước hướng dẫn người học hiểu về văn cảnh sử dụng từ và cách áp dụng các cụm từ vào việc viết câu, viết đoạn và viết bài IELTS. Để có thể nhận được giá trị cao nhất mà sách đem lại, người học cần có nền tiếng Anh vững và kiên trì luyện tập thường xuyên. Tuy vậy, sách không thể thay thế cho vai trò của giáo viên cũng như việc học tập trên trường lớp của người học.

Ấn phẩm này là sản phẩm trí tuệ của ZIM School of English and Test preparation và không được sao chép hoặc tái sản xuất một phần hay toàn bộ nếu không có giấy phép chấp thuận từ phía ZIM.

# Mục lục

Hướng dẫn sử dụng sách	5
Unit 1: Technology	7
Unit 2: Education	13
Unit 3: Qualifications	19
Unit 4: Work	25
Unit 5: The environment	32
Unit 6: Animals	39
Unit 7: Tourism	46
Unit 8: Culture	53
Unit 9: Transport	60
Unit 10: Traffic	68
Unit 11: Personality	76
Unit 12: Relationships	83
Unit 13: Decisions	90
Unit 14: Feelings	97
Unit 15: Shopping	104
Unit 16: Money	111

# Hướng dẫn sử dụng sách

Mỗi bài học sẽ tập trung vào 1 chủ đề nhất định và được chia thành các phần chính theo sơ đồ dưới đây:

## Words in context

Nhận biết cách sử dụng từ và cụm từ trong tình huống cụ thể

## Explore word knowledge

Khám phá và mở rộng các cách sử dụng từ và cụm từ, ngữ pháp liên quan

## Understanding and Applying

Áp dụng từ và cụm từ vào trong bài thi IELTS Writing và Speaking thành công

**Words in context** là phần cung cấp các văn cảnh và các cách dùng khác nhau của từ vựng theo chủ đề của bài học. Sau khi đọc kỹ bài đọc đầu tiên (sử dụng phương pháp trọng ngôn ngữ), người đọc cần suy nghĩ và đoán nghĩa của những từ / cụm từ được in đậm ở bài đọc. Những cụm từ khó, cần lưu ý sẽ được chú thích dưới bài đọc.

**Explore word knowledge**, người học vận dụng những ý hiểu của mình về những cụm từ được đưa ra ở bài đọc để trả lời các câu hỏi ở phần tiếp theo. Đây là phần giúp người học mở rộng thêm về văn cảnh sử dụng từ cũng như hiểu rõ hơn về ngữ nghĩa của từ.

Ví dụ: Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong câu sau (Yes/No)

A self – centered person usually cares about other people's feelings

Một người **self – centered** thường sẽ quan tâm đến cảm xúc của người khác.

→ Trong trường hợp này, câu trả lời sẽ là **No** vì “**self – centered**” mang nghĩa là tự cho mình là trung tâm, kiêu căng và không nghĩ đến cảm xúc của người khác. Nếu không hiểu rõ ngữ nghĩa và cách sử dụng từ được in đậm thì sẽ đưa ra câu trả lời không chính xác.

Sau đó, phần điền từ tiếp tục lặp lại những từ theo chủ đề xuất hiện ở những bối cảnh sử dụng khác nhau để người đọc tiếp xúc liên tục với từ vựng mục tiêu. Các từ vựng / cấu trúc cần lưu ý sẽ được chú thích ở dưới.

Ví dụ: Điền đáp áp thích hợp vào chỗ trống để hoàn thành các câu sau.

Construction of tourism facilities can lead to<sup>(\*)</sup> the depletion of\_\_\_\_\_.

Việc xây dựng cơ sở vật chất du lịch có thể dẫn đến sự suy giảm\_\_\_\_\_.

- A. construction materials    B. natural resources    C. landscapes

<sup>(\*)</sup>To lead to something = to cause something: Gây ra vấn đề gì đó.

**Understanding and Applying**, các bài tập được sắp xếp từ dễ đến khó. Điều này giúp người đọc thích nghi dần với việc sử dụng từ vựng mục tiêu để diễn đạt các ý tưởng khác nhau một cách linh hoạt hơn.

Người đọc thực hiện phần luyện tập theo các bước sau để đạt kết quả cao nhất:

Bước 1: Đọc đề bài và viết đầy đủ câu trả lời của mình ra vở bài tập (cố gắng sử dụng từ vựng mục tiêu)

Bước 2: Đọc bài mẫu để tự điều chỉnh lại câu trả lời của mình

Bước 3: Tập đọc câu trả lời sau đó tập nói mà không nhìn vào câu trả lời mình viết trước đó

Bước 4: Viết các chủ đề/câu hỏi ra các mẩu giấy nhỏ và bốc bát kì để luyện tập trả lời khi không được biết trước chủ đề/câu hỏi

# 1

# Technology

## Technology in Education

Words in context

Online learning really **did wonders<sup>(1)</sup>** for my English skills.

Around three years ago, English was my **Achilles heel<sup>(2)</sup>**. I really struggled with grammar, and I **couldn't make head nor tail<sup>(3)</sup>** of what the teacher was trying to explain. However, one day, one of my friends introduced me to an English course on Canvas, an online learning website, and I was **completely hooked<sup>(4)</sup>**! You know, I have to admit that I am a little bit **slow on the uptake<sup>(5)</sup>**, but with this site, I was able to learn **at my own pace<sup>(6)</sup>** – I mean, I could replay the video lessons as many times as I liked until I completely **took in<sup>(7)</sup>** all the information. And you know what, my English improved **in leaps and bounds<sup>(8)</sup>** and in a few months, I passed my final test **with flying colors<sup>(9)</sup>**!

While online learning has been really convenient, social media has been a **real nuisance<sup>(10)</sup>** to my learning progress. It really **gets on my nerves<sup>(11)</sup>** when I am studying and somebody keeps messaging me every five minutes!

- 1 **To do wonders for somebody/something** = **To have a positive impact on something:** Có tác dụng tốt đến ai/cái gì
- 2 **To be one's Achilles heel** = **To be one's weakness:** Điểm yếu của ai đó
- 3 **Can't make head nor tail of something** = **Can't understand something:** Không thể hiểu được cái gì
- 4 **To be completely hooked** = **To enjoy very much:** Bị cuốn hút hoàn toàn
- 5 **To be slow on the uptake** = **To be slow to understand something:** Chậm hiểu
- 6 **To do something at one's own pace** = **To do something as fast / slow as they can:** Làm điều gì đó với nhịp độ phù hợp với khả năng
- 7 **To take in something** = **To understand or remember something:** Hiểu cái gì đó
- 8 **In leaps and bounds** = **Very quickly, very much:** Rất nhiều hoặc rất nhanh
- 9 **To pass exams with flying colors** = **To pass exams with very high results:** Qua bài kiểm tra với điểm số cao
- 10 **To be a real nuisance** = **To be an annoyance:** Điều gì đó gây khó chịu
- 11 **To get on someone's nerves** = **To make somebody annoyed:** Làm ai đó cảm thấy khó chịu

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 Using computers ten hours a day really **does wonders for** my eyesight.  
Sử dụng máy tính 10 tiếng một ngày thực sự **does wonders for** thị lực của tôi.
- 2 The lesson yesterday was so boring that everyone was **completely hooked** and felt asleep.  
*Bài học ngày hôm qua chán đến mức tất cả mọi người đều **completely hooked** và lăn ra ngủ hết.*
- 3 My neighbor's dog keeps barking at me everytime I walk pass his house, which is a **real nuisance**.  
*Con chó nhà hàng xóm cứ sửa mỗi lần tôi đi qua. Đây thực sự là **a real nuisance**.*
- 4 I got 4/10 in my math exam. Honestly, math is my **Achilles heel**!  
*Tôi vừa được 4/10 điểm trong bài thi toán. Thực sự thi môn toán là **Achilles heel** của tôi!*
- 5 I found today's lesson very easy to follow because I **couldn't make head nor tail** of what the teacher was saying.  
*Tôi thấy bài hôm nay rất dễ theo vì tôi **couldn't make head or tail** of những gì giáo viên nói trong buổi học.*
- 6 That kid kept pulling my hair and it's really **getting on my nerves**.  
*Đứa bé đó cứ kéo tóc tôi và điều đó thực sự **getting on my nerves**.*
- 7 If a person studies in a class where students are at different ability levels, he can study **at his own pace**.  
*Nếu một người học trong lớp mà học sinh đang ở nhiều trình độ khác nhau, anh ta có thể học **at his own pace**.*
- 8 If we strictly follow our study plan and do not get caught up with any distractions, we can improve our English **in leaps and bounds**.  
*Nếu chúng ta nghiêm chỉnh làm theo kế hoạch học tập của mình và không bị cuốn vào những trò tiêu khiển ngoài lề thì trình độ tiếng Anh của chúng ta sẽ tiến bộ **in leaps and bounds**.*

**2**

**Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

- A. completely hooked  
D. take in  
H. at my own pace

- B. couldn't make head or tail of  
E. slow on the uptake  
I. do wonders

- C. with flying colors  
G. Achilles heel

1 He passed his exam \_\_\_\_\_ even though he didn't study very hard throughout the semester.

Anh ấy vượt qua bài thi một cách \_\_\_\_\_ mặc dù anh ấy chưa học gì mấy trong cả kỳ.

2 He became \_\_\_\_\_ on the game after seeing Tom play it so well.

Anh ấy trở nên \_\_\_\_\_ vào cuộc chơi sau khi thấy Tom chơi quá tốt.

3 English was my \_\_\_\_\_ when I was in university. I hated it!

Tiếng Anh là \_\_\_\_\_ của tôi khi tôi còn đang học đại học. Tôi thực sự ghét nó!

4 Despite listening carefully, I still \_\_\_\_\_ what my tutor was saying.

Mặc dù lắng nghe rất cẩn thận, tôi vẫn \_\_\_\_\_ những gì chỉ gia sư đang nói.

5 If you want to \_\_\_\_\_ all the information in the letter, you should read it twice.

Nếu bạn muốn \_\_\_\_\_ tất cả thông tin trong lá thư, bạn nên đọc nó 2 lần.

6 He's pretty \_\_\_\_\_ so I usually spend more than one hour reviewing each lesson with him.

Anh ấy khá là \_\_\_\_\_ nên tôi thường dành hơn 1 tiếng để ôn lại từng bài với anh ấy.

7 I think using a computer is the best way for me to study \_\_\_\_\_.

Tôi nghĩ sử dụng máy tính là cách tốt nhất để tôi có thể học \_\_\_\_\_.

8 Drinking a lot of water can \_\_\_\_\_ for my health because it helps maintain the balance of body fluids.

Uống nhiều nước có thể \_\_\_\_\_ cho sức khỏe của tôi vì nó giúp duy trì sự cân bằng chất lỏng trong cơ thể.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Have you ever learned anything on an online platform?
2. Is online learning popular in your country?
3. What are some advantages and disadvantages of online learning?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a difficult subject you studied at school

You should say:

- What the subject was
- When and how long you studied it for
- What you studied as a part of this subject

And say why you found it difficult to study this subject.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |        |         |         |         |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 – No | 2 – No  | 3 – Yes | 4 – Yes |
| 5 – No | 6 – Yes | 7 – No  | 8 – Yes |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – C | 2 – A | 3 – G | 4 – B |
| 5 – D | 6 – E | 7 – H | 8 – I |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Have you ever learned anything on an online platform?

Yes I think online courses really come in handy. I took an English course on a self-study website and my English skills just improved in leaps and bounds.

### 2. Is online learning popular in your country?

I don't think so. Although online learning allows us to study at our own pace, many people still think that it is better to attend traditional classes.

### 3. What are some advantages and disadvantages of online learning?

Well online learning is very convenient and flexible. We can study in our room at our own pace and probably still improve at a good pace. However, no face-to-face interaction may be a drawback, because students can't discuss the lessons or exchange ideas directly with their peers and teachers.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a difficult subject you studied at school

You should say:

- What the subject was
- When and how long you studied it for
- What you studied as a part of this subject

And say why you found it difficult to study this subject.

## Bài mẫu

Ok, so when I was in grade 11 and 12 at high school I was able to choose Economics as one of my subjects to study, however, I really had no idea about what Economics involved but it sounded interesting to me. So during the first couple of weeks of studying this subject the teacher introduced a lot of new concepts that I had never learnt or thought about before, such as supply and demand, productivity and growth, and, debt and inflation, and so on, and to be honest, I was pretty slow on the uptake and couldn't make head nor tail of what the teacher was explaining most of the time. Actually, I think the teacher thought I was a real nuisance because I was always asking so many questions. I always performed quite well in all my other subjects but Economics really was my Achilles heel, and it really got on my nerves that I couldn't understand it very well.

So eventually I asked my parents to get me a personal tutor to help me with my Economics study for a few weeks. This allowed me to really take in all the knowledge because I was able to learn at my own pace with the tutor, unlike in the classroom. And you know, this extra tutoring really did wonders for me and I quickly became completely hooked on studying this subject and my knowledge started to improve in leaps and bounds. So after about a month or so of extra tutoring I was actually one of the top students in the class and no longer needed the extra help, and I eventually passed all of my exams with flying colours. So, even though this subject was difficult for me to learn initially, it eventually became one of my favourite subjects, though it always required a lot of study for me to still completely grasp all the knowledge.

# 2

# Education

## Studying at University

Words in context

Guys, I'm going to tell you the story of how I studied at university.

It was **way back**<sup>(1)</sup> in 2011. I **took a gap year**<sup>(2)</sup> after high school and it turned out to be one of the best decisions I've ever made. I **found my true passion in**<sup>(3)</sup> banking and financing. Then I attended **RMIT university**<sup>(4)</sup>, which is one of the top schools in Vietnam with **competitive admission**<sup>(5)</sup>. I **majored in**<sup>(6)</sup> Finance because I wanted to **fulfil my dream of**<sup>(11)</sup> working in a bank. You know, being a finance major meant that I had to work with numbers and **meet deadlines**<sup>(7)</sup> on a regular basis.

The environment was what I liked most in my university – I mean, the facilities were **top-notch**<sup>(8)</sup> with air conditioners and Apple iMac computers. On top of that, teachers were very supportive and friendly, who I always **turned to for advice**<sup>(9)</sup> before **sitting for an exam**<sup>(10)</sup>.

In a nutshell, I really enjoyed my time at RMIT and I wish I could somehow relive my time there once more.

1 **Way back** = A long time ago in the past:  
Rất lâu về trước

2 **To take a gap year** = To take a year off before college: Dành 1 năm nghỉ đi học hoặc làm hoặc đi du lịch

3 **To find my true passion for something** = To enjoy very much: Tìm thấy niềm đam mê thực thụ cho việc gì đó

4 **To attend university** = To study at university: Học tại trường đại học nào đó

5 **Competitive admission** = To be very difficult to get into university: Tỉ lệ chọi đầu vào cạnh tranh

6 **To major in something**: Học chuyên ngành nào đó

7 **To meet deadlines**: Hoàn thành hạn nộp bài/công việc

8 **Top-notch** = Modern: Hàng đầu, hiện đại

9 **To turn to for advice** = To ask for advice: Tìm lời khuyên từ ai đó

10 **To sit for an exam** = To take an examination: Tham gia kì thi

11 **To fulfill my dream of something** = To make my dream come true: Hiện thực hóa giấc mơ làm gì đó

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 Students who **take a gap year** will study at university earlier than those do not.  
*Sinh viên người **take a gap year** sẽ vào học đại học sớm hơn những người không học.*
- 2 After working part-time as an assistant at an English center, I **have found my true passion** for teaching.  
*Sau khi làm việc trợ giảng bán thời gian ở trung tâm tiếng anh, tôi đã **have found my true passion** for **sự nghiệp giảng dạy**.*
- 3 A person does not need to **attend university** to become a doctor or lawyer.  
*Một người không cần **attend university** để trở thành bác sĩ hoặc luật sư.*
- 4 Students who **major in** education will be taught to develop the skills to teach others.  
*Sinh viên người mà **major in** ngành giáo dục sẽ được dạy để phát triển kỹ năng để dạy người khác*
- 5 My dad has had a lot of life experiences and therefore is someone I can **turn to for advice** when I have to make an important decision.  
*Bố tôi đã có rất nhiều trải nghiệm trong cuộc sống và vì vậy ông là người mà tôi luôn luôn **turn to for advice** khi tôi phải đưa ra một quyết định quan trọng.*
- 6 IELTS Candidates will have their personal belongings inspected before they **sit for the exam** to ensure that no one is able to cheat.  
*Thí sinh thi IELTS sẽ bị kiểm tra tất cả các đồ dùng cá nhân trước khi họ **sit for the exam** để đảm bảo không ai có thể gian lận.*

**2**

**Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

- |                   |                      |                       |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| A. meet deadlines | B. sit for an exam   | C. turn to for advice |
| D. top-notch      | E. attend university | G. take a gap year    |
| H. majoring in    | I. admission         |                       |

- 1 More high school leavers \_\_\_\_\_ before going to university to work and save money.  
Nhiều học sinh tốt nghiệp cấp 3 \_\_\_\_\_ trước khi học đại học để làm việc và tiết kiệm tiền.
- 2 In Vietnam, students who want to \_\_\_\_\_ have to pass a university entrance exam.  
Tại Việt Nam, học sinh muốn \_\_\_\_\_ phải vượt qua bài kiểm tra đầu vào đại học.
- 3 International schools in Vietnam are often famous for \_\_\_\_\_ facilities.  
Trường quốc tế tại Việt Nam thường nổi tiếng về \_\_\_\_\_ cơ sở vật chất.
- 4 I'm \_\_\_\_\_ education, so I have to learn how to deliver a good lesson and deal with different students.  
Tôi \_\_\_\_\_ giáo dục, do đó tôi phải học cách làm như nào truyền đạt bài giảng tốt cung như xử lý nhiều đối tượng học sinh khác nhau.
- 5 Students should revise what they have learnt before they \_\_\_\_\_ to get a high score.  
Học sinh nên ôn lại những gì họ đã học trước khi họ \_\_\_\_\_ để đạt điểm số cao.
- 6 Many university students struggle to \_\_\_\_\_ because of their poor time management.  
Nhiều sinh viên đại học gặp khó khăn trong việc \_\_\_\_\_ bởi vì kĩ năng quản lý thời gian không tốt của họ.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Do you work or are you a student?
2. What are you studying?
3. What do you like most about your school?
4. What do you dislike about your school?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a period from your studies that you find difficult. You should say:

- When it was
- What you did at the time
- How you felt at that time

And explain why you think it's difficult.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

1 – No      2 – No      3 – Yes      4 – No  
5 – Yes      6 – Yes

## Câu hỏi 2

1 – G      2 – E      3 – D      4 – H      5 – B      6 – A



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Do you work or are you a student?

Sample answer: universities in Vietnam.

### 2. What are you studying?

I major in International economics and businesses. Actually I chose this major because my brother talked me into it. He said majoring in economics was going to help me a lot in my future career.

### 3 What do you like most about your school?

There's a lot to like about my school. It's hard to pick the one thing that stands out. Maybe I enjoy my school's top – notch facilities the most.

### 4. What do you dislike about your school?

Not particularly. I mean the teachers are great and the environment is the best. There's nothing to complain to be honest.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a period from your studies that you find difficult. You should say:

- When it was
- What you did at the time
- How you felt at that time

And explain why you think it's difficult.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so a hard time that I had during my studies was when I was in my final year of high school. At that time my academic performance was not as good as I had hoped and I was trying extra hard to prepare for the university entrance examination. The university that I was hoping to apply for was one of the top ranking universities in my country and had a very competitive admission. This particular university specializes in engineering and science studies and provides students with top notch facilities that help to enrich their learning experience through a lot of hands-on experience, helping to better prepare students for their future careers.

So, as I was saying, I was having quite a difficult time trying to prepare for my end of year high school exams and the university entrance examination, and I was beginning to feel a lot of pressure to perform well, in order to secure my place at university, and follow the path to a rewarding and satisfying career. I guess the main reason that I found this time so difficult was because I had to study for so many different exams in such a short period of time. You know, I wasn't naturally talented in any subject at school so I really had to study extra hard in order to attain my desired academic results.

But, after about three months of a really hectic study schedule I managed to exceed my expectations and I just about aced all of my exams. I got the results that I wanted and was admitted into my chosen university. So, although it was an extremely stressful time that I prefer to forget about, my hard work all paid off in the end.

# 3

# Qualifications

## Qualifications and Experience

At a job interview for a teaching position:

A: interviewer – B: interviewee

**A:** Hello. Please have a seat. How are you today?

**B:** Well honestly, although I am well-prepared, I still have **butterflies in my stomach**<sup>(1)</sup>.

**A:** Haha, don't worry! **Put your mind at ease**<sup>(2)</sup>. This is just a normal conversation. Ok, so now. Let's get started. First, tell me something about your background.

**B:** I've got a bachelor's degree from the University of Pedagogy, an IELTS certificate of 8.0 overall as well as an A-level certificate in Computer Application.

**A:** That's great. However, those things are already listed in your CV. Could you please tell me more about your experience?

**B:** Well okay. I have 1-year experience teaching kids in ABC center and another year teaching IELTS students. I know that besides **academic achievements**<sup>(3)</sup>, experience also plays an integral role in finding a well-paid job. Therefore, I **worked part-time**<sup>(4)</sup> regularly when I was at university.

**A:** Oh, great to hear that. Ok, one last question: Why did you choose our company?

**B:** Because you **have a great reputation for**<sup>(5)</sup> IELTS training. I was really impressed by your student hall of fame. Besides, there are also many **rewarding perks**<sup>(6)</sup> in your job description. Those two factors really displayed to me that you are an ideal workplace.

**A:** Thank you. OK, now the interview is over. I would like to inform you that there is now a period of **probation**<sup>(7)</sup>. After two months, if there is good feedback from students, you will be officially employed. What do you think?

**B:** Thank you for giving me such an opportunity. I will try my best.

**A:** Ok, see you next Monday, B.

**B:** See you. Have a good day

1 To have butterflies in my stomach = To be very nervous about something: *Cảm thấy rất lo lắng*

2 To put one's mind at ease = To stop being anxious: *Ngừng không lo lắng nữa*

3 Academic achievement  
*Thành tựu học tập*

4 Work part-time = To have a part - time job:  
*Làm việc bán thời gian*

5 To have a reputation for something = To be well-known for: *Nổi tiếng về cái gì*

6 A rewarding perk: *Phần thưởng*

7 Probation: *Thời gian thử việc*



**Experience** (danh từ không đếm được) mang nghĩa là kinh nghiệm; **Experience** (danh từ đếm được) mang nghĩa là trải nghiệm.

**A certificate** là một loại chứng chỉ có thể có được sau khi tham gia một khóa học (thường là dưới 1 năm); **A degree** là một loại bằng cấp có được sau khi hoàn thành một chương trình học đại học.

### 1

### Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau

- 1 When I stood up in front of my whole class and gave a presentation in English, I always had **butterflies in my stomach**. I just froze and couldn't say anything.  
*Khi tôi đứng trước cả lớp và thuyết trình bằng tiếng Anh, tôi luôn had butterflies in my stomach. Tôi cứ cứng đơ người và chẳng nói được gì.*
- 2 Many university students only choose to **work part-time** because they need time for their study.  
*Rất nhiều học sinh đại học chỉ chọn work part-time vì họ cần thời gian để học tập nữa.*
- 3 Everyone in my team has to work overtime without pay to finish the project on time, which is one of the **rewarding perks** of this job.  
*Ai trong đội của tôi cũng phải làm việc quá giờ mà không được tính lương để hoàn thành dự án này theo đúng thời gian quy định. Điều này là một trong những rewarding perks của công việc này.*
- 4 I had had a lot of experience in public speaking; so before my graduation speech, my teacher told me to **put my mind at ease**.  
*Tôi đã có rất nhiều kinh nghiệm nói trước đám đông nên trước bài phát biểu trong lễ tốt nghiệp, thầy giáo bảo tôi cần put my mind at ease.*

**2**

*Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:*

A. work part - time  
D. degree

B. has a reputation for  
E. certificate

C. academic achievement  
F. rewarding perks

- 1 A 7-day trip to Thailand is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ of this job.
- 2 After joining our voluntary program for 3 months, you will receive a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 She studies abroad to take a Masters \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Besides studying, students often choose to \_\_\_\_\_ at a convenience store to get hands-on experience.
- 5 Good \_\_\_\_\_ at school doesn't secure a good job in the future. A lot of A grades don't mean anything if you can't put what you learn into practice.
- 6 Oxford University \_\_\_\_\_ being one of the best institutions in the world.

# Practice



1. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a skill that cannot be learned at school.

You should say:

- What it is
- How to learn it
- How long it requires you to learn

Explain why we should learn it



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a job you think is useful to society.

You should say:

- What job it is
- What qualifications you need to do this job
- What kinds of people do this job

And explain why you think this job is useful to society.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

1 - Yes      2 - Yes      3 - No      4 - No

## Câu hỏi 2

1 - F      2 - E      3 - D  
4 - A      5 - C      6 - B



## Bài tập 1

Describe a skill that cannot be learned at school.

You should say:

- What it is
- How to learn it
- How long it requires you to learn

Explain why we should learn it

## Bài mẫu

Ok, so the skill that I would like to talk about that can't be learnt in school is cooking. You know, I think cooking is a vital skill that everyone should learn, even if it's just the basics. There are many ways that you can learn this skill, including learning from your mother at home, reading recipe books, and watching cooking shows on TV and even via YouTube. However the way that I learnt to cook was through a lot of experience and by gaining a certificate from a cooking school that had a reputation for producing a lot of talented chefs. I think that the time to learn how to cook can vary, it just depends on how good you want to be. You know it only takes a day or so to learn the basics, but it can take years of hard work and valuable experience to become a talented chef, which is the career path that I had decided to follow.

Before learning to cook, I didn't have any degree or great academic achievements, so when I decided to follow this career path, it really put my mind at ease. After completing the cooking course I was able to get a job at a fancy restaurant in a big city, and although I had gained some skills I was still very nervous on my first day and I had butterflies in my stomach for the

first week. But after my 2 month probation period had finished and I was offered a full-time position, I really gained a lot of confidence in my ability. I really enjoyed my job but after a year or so I decided to go on to university to further my education so I was then able to work part-time in the evenings and study in the day. You know, I think there are many reasons why people should learn this skill, but one of the most rewarding perks of knowing how to cook is being able to make delicious meals for my family and friends. I find it very satisfying when people eat the food that I have cooked for them and they really enjoy it and are really appreciative to me.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a job you think is useful to society.

You should say:

- What job it is
- What qualifications you need to do this job
- What kinds of people do this job

And explain why you think this job is useful to society.

## Bài mẫu

So I'm going to tell you about a job that I think plays an integral role in society, and that is the job of a farmer. To do this job you don't need any university degree or certificate or any fancy academic achievements, just a good understanding of how to grow plants and maybe some experience or someone to teach and guide you how to do it successfully, as it can be quite difficult to do this job well. Farmer's generally have a reputation for being poor people, especially in developing countries, which is unfortunate because we cannot live without farmers, so I think that they should be able to earn a better living than they do.

So I guess, the main reason I think this job is useful to society is because without farmers there would be no food to eat, which is still a problem in some very poor countries. Everybody needs to eat and growing your own food can be a very difficult task, so I think that farmers should get a lot more recognition than they do. Apart from all that though, I think that farming can be a satisfying job and I think that some farmers can live a very relaxed lifestyle as well. And one of the rewarding perks of the job is that you get to spend a lot of time in nature which is good for your health. But, overall, farming is a physically demanding job and usually lowly paid, however, it is an essential job for society to function.

# 4

# Work Work Life

## Words in context

I've been working as an English teacher at ABC university, which is one of the top schools in Vietnam.

I'm mainly responsible for<sup>(1)</sup> preparing English lectures and dealing with different types of students on a daily basis. I consider it to be a financially rewarding career<sup>(2)</sup> as I can make much more money than an average worker, which helps me to not only cover my bills<sup>(3)</sup> but also save extra money<sup>(4)</sup> each month. And you know what, I love the working environment as well - I mean, my coworkers and manager are so friendly and nice as they are always willing to give me a hand<sup>(5)</sup> dealing with my work problems.

However, honestly speaking, it is a challenging line of work<sup>(7)</sup>. I mean, I have a hectic schedule<sup>(8)</sup> as I have to sit in front of a computer screen all day long<sup>(9)</sup> to correct my student essays and meet deadlines<sup>(6)</sup>. That's why my colleagues and I often take part in recreational activities<sup>(10)</sup> when we get off<sup>(11)</sup> to relax and forget about life for a while.

- 1 To be responsible for something = To have a duty to do something: Có trách nhiệm làm gì đó.
- 2 To a financially rewarding career = A well-paid job: Sự nghiệp tăng tiến về mặt tài chính
- 3 To cover my bills = To pay for bills: Trả các khoản hoá đơn
- 4 To save extra money: Tiết kiệm được khoản tiền thêm
- 5 To give someone a hand = To help someone: Giúp đỡ ai đó
- 6 To meet deadlines: Hoàn thành hạn nộp
- 7 A challenging line of work = A challenging job: Công việc rất thử thách
- 8 A hectic schedule = A busy workload: Một lịch làm việc bận rộn
- 9 All day long = During the entire day: Cả ngày
- 10 Recreational activities = Leisure activities: Các hoạt động giải trí, thư giãn
- 11 To get off = To leave work: Tan làm (với nhân viên đi làm công ty)

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 Medical doctors are **mainly responsible for** examining, diagnosing and treating patients.  
Các bác sĩ **are mainly responsible for** khám xét, chuẩn đoán căn bệnh và điều trị cho bệnh nhân.
- 2 Cleaning is considered a **financially rewarding career** because a cleaner can make a lot of money.  
*Dọn dẹp* được đánh giá là **a financially rewarding career** bởi vì người dọn dẹp có thể kiếm rất nhiều tiền.
- 3 Many poor people are struggling to **cover their bills** on a daily basis.  
*Rất nhiều người* nghèo đang gặp khó khăn trong việc **cover their bills** hàng ngày.
- 4 As parents are very busy with work, children should **give their parents a hand** by doing housework like sweeping the floor or washing dishes.  
*Vì bố mẹ* rất bận rộn với công việc, do đó trẻ em nên **give them a hand** bằng việc làm việc nhà như quét nhà hoặc rửa bát.
- 5 My dad has **a very hectic schedule**, so he has a lot of free time.  
*Bố tôi* có **a very hectic schedule**, do đó ông ấy có rất nhiều thời gian rảnh.
- 6 In many companies, employees can **get off** early if they finish all their assigned tasks.  
*Ở* nhiều công ty, nhân viên có thể **get off** sớm nếu họ hoàn thành mọi công việc được giao.

**2**

**Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

- |                              |                      |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. meet deadlines            | B. save money        | C. get off                       |
| D. a hectic schedule         | E. cover their bills | G. financially rewarding careers |
| H. give their parents a hand | I. responsible for   |                                  |

- 1 Opening a bank deposit account is one of the good ways to \_\_\_\_\_ for many people.  
Mở một tài khoản tiết kiệm ngân hàng là một trong những cách rất tốt để \_\_\_\_\_ cho nhiều người.
  
- 2 In Vietnam, children are always taught to \_\_\_\_\_ by doing household chores.  
Tại Việt Nam, trẻ em luôn được dạy phải \_\_\_\_\_ bằng việc làm những công việc nhà.
  
- 3 Becoming a famous singer or footballer can be one of the most \_\_\_\_\_.  
Trở thành một người ca sĩ hoặc cầu thủ bóng đá nổi tiếng có thể là một trong \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 4 University students who always live on a tight budget usually find it difficult to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Sinh viên đại học người mà luôn sống trong ngân quỹ hạn hẹp thì thường gặp khó khăn trong việc \_\_\_\_\_ .
  
- 5 An architect is a person who is \_\_\_\_\_ planning, designing and reviewing the construction of buildings.  
Kiến trúc sư là một người mà \_\_\_\_\_ lên kế hoạch, thiết kế bản vẽ và giám sát lại sự thi công của tòa nhà.
  
- 6 Many employees struggle to \_\_\_\_\_ because they are bad at managing their time and have many assigned tasks to do.  
Nhiều nhân viên gặp khó khăn trong việc \_\_\_\_\_ bởi vì họ không giỏi quản lý thời gian cũng như có rất nhiều công việc được giao cần phải làm.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Do you work or are you a student?
2. What do you like about your job?
3. What do you dislike about your job?
4. What do you do after work?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a time when you changed your job.

You should say:

- When it was
- Why you changed
- What happened

What you felt after changing your job



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe your ideal job.

You should say:

- What job it is
- What qualifications you need to do this job
- Are there many of these types of jobs available

And explain why this is your ideal job.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |        |         |
|---------|--------|---------|
| 1 – Yes | 2 – No | 3 – Yes |
| 4 – Yes | 5 – No | 6 – Yes |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |        |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|
| 1 – B, | 2 – H | 3 – G |
| 4 – E  | 5 – I | 6 – A |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Do you work or are you a student?

I am working as a copywriter for a small tech company in Hanoi.

### 2. What do you like about your job?

There's a lot to like about my job. First, I do not have to work at the office all the time. I can work at a coffee shop if I want. Second, the salary is very satisfying.

### 3. What do you dislike about your job?

Probably the pressure. I have a crazy workload every week. But I mean it's not like only this job has pressure. The important thing is that I am able to deal with stress and maintain a work – life balance.

### 4. What do you do after work?

Usually I go grocery shopping and go home to cook dinner myself. At weekends, I sometimes go out for a walk around Ho Guom and sometimes have a beer with my friends at some bar.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a time when you changed your job.

You should say:

- When it was
- Why you changed
- What happened

What you felt after changing your job

## Bài mẫu

Ok, so I'd like to describe a time when I quit my job and started a new career, and that was about 10 years ago. So at the time I was working as an engineer for a large construction company but I had started to become a little bit sick and tired of the way I was treated by my superiors. You know, although I got along great with most of my colleagues, I felt that my boss didn't value all my hard work and dedication to the company, and in addition to this, because it was a construction company, I had to spend a lot of time in various workplaces where the conditions were sometimes quite harsh. Another factor that contributed to my decision to quit was because I knew that there was very little chance to get promoted in this company.

So after quite some time deciding whether to quit my job or not, I decided to throw chance to the wind and have faith that I would find another, better job. Something that I had thought about every now and then was having a go at teaching English. So I immediately enrolled in an English teaching course so that I could familiarize myself with the knowledge necessary to be a good teacher. I then emailed an English Language center in Vietnam that I knew about through a contact of mine and we discussed the details of a teaching position that I would go on to start a couple of months later. You know, initially I was really nervous about quitting my job and pursuing a new career in teaching, but after the first few months of living in a foreign country and gaining some valuable teaching experience, I never looked back. This was a great opportunity for me to broaden my horizons and I feel that this was a life changing experience.

### Bài tập 3

Describe your ideal job.

You should say:

- What job it is
- What qualifications you need to do this job
- Are there many of these types of jobs available

And explain why this is your ideal job.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so when I was young I wasn't sure about what I wanted to be when I got older, but every now and then I did think about having a go at working in business, or becoming a businessman. And, eventually, when I left school and went to university to broaden my horizons, I realised that being a businessman was actually my dream job. Actually there aren't any qualifications that are necessary to become a successful businessman, take a look at Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates for example, but I think it is a good idea to get a degree and an MBA from a reputable university to give you a solid foundation for your career. I think that there are quite a few jobs available in business, though many businessmen prefer to start their own companies instead of working for someone else, however, starting your own business requires a lot of dedication and faith in such a harsh and competitive business environment like in most countries today. But if you want some experience working for someone else before starting your own business, then there are always many jobs available for people with business qualifications, though the job market can be quite competitive so a contact in a company where you want to apply for a job is always of great value.

So there are a couple of reasons why this is my ideal job, but the first reason is because I've always loved the idea of working in a professional workplace, and the idea of being able to get promoted and climb the ladder within a company. And the second reason is because, eventually I really want to start my own business so that I can be my own boss, and have a more flexible work-life balance. Also, I have a few really great business ideas that I think could be a real goldmine in the future!

# 5

# The Environment

## Environmental Problems

### Words in context

**Jimmy:** Hi, Sam. How's your trip to Cat Ba island?

**Sam:** It was great. Cat Ba is no longer tourist trap because people were really **down to Earth**<sup>(1)</sup>. Also, I did a lot of hiking and swimming. But scuba diving was definitely the highlight. Here are some pictures.

**Jimmy:** The corals look great. But where **on earth**<sup>(2)</sup> did all the fish go? and why is there garbage all over the ocean floor?

**Sam:** Yes sadly the ocean is now filled with plastic bags, and it's still just **the tip of the iceberg**<sup>(3)</sup>. You can find plastic bags in every corner of the island, not to mention other problems that I noticed, such as **deforestation**<sup>(4)</sup> for the construction of hotels. I hope the local authorities could have a ban on plastic bags or something.

**Jimmy:** Banning the use of plastic bags is just **a drop in the ocean**<sup>(5)</sup>. We must ban all single-use plastic products!

**Sam:** You're right. Otherwise, both marine and **terrestrial animals**<sup>(6)</sup> will be **in deep water**<sup>(7)</sup> as their habitats are destroyed.

**Jimmy:** Our lives will be affected too. For example, when there are more **emissions**<sup>(8)</sup> released from factories or vehicles, more people will be likely to suffer from **respiratory diseases**<sup>(9)</sup> like lung cancer.

- 1 **To be down to Earth** = friendly = genuine = sensible: *thân thiện, mộc mạc, thẳng thắn*
- 2 **On earth** (dùng sau question word **why** or **where**): *nhấn mạnh rằng không có câu trả lời dễ dàng cho câu hỏi.* (*thế quái nào*).
- 3 **The tip of the iceberg** = a small part of a much bigger problem/ thing: *bè nỗi của tảng băng* (*phần nhỏ của một vấn đề/ sự việc lớn*)
- 4 **Deforestation:** *sự chặt phá rừng*
- 5 **A drop in the ocean:** *hạt muối bỏ biển* (*quá ít ỏi, không thấm tháp*)
- 6 **Terrestrial animals** = animals living on land: *động vật trên cạn*
- 7 **To be in deep water** = To be in great trouble: *gặp vấn đề lớn*
- 8 **Emissions:** *khí thải*
- 9 **Respiratory diseases:** *bệnh về đường hô hấp*

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau**

- 1 I'm pretty sure the guy next door stole our dog even though he kept denying it. He is so **down to earth**.  
Tôi khá chắc là ông nhà bên đã lấy trộm con chó của chúng ta mặc dù ông ấy cứ chối. Ông ấy thật là **down to earth**.
- 2 Why **on earth** did Jane fail the test? She has been studying so hard for it.  
Làm thế **on earth** nào mà Jane lại trượt bài kiểm tra ấy được? Con bé đã học rất chăm chỉ cho nó mà.
- 3 Raising a child is really difficult. Dealing with the crying and unstoppable whining is just **the tip of the iceberg**.  
Nuôi một đứa trẻ rất khó. Xử lý việc khóc lóc hay mè nheo không ngừng chỉ là **the tip of the iceberg**.
- 4 Due to **deforestation**, the percentage of forests in Vietnam has been greatly increased.  
Nhờ vào **deforestation**, tỉ lệ rừng ở Việt Nam đã tăng lên đáng kể.
- 5 The amount of money John has saved up is **a drop in the ocean** because he could cover most of his tuition with it.  
Số tiền John tiết kiệm được là **a drop in the ocean** vì anh ấy có thể trả được gần như toàn bộ học phí với nó.
- 6 When the teacher found out that she cheated, Jennie knows she's **in deep water**.  
Sau khi giáo viên phát hiện ra cô ấy gian lận, Jennie biết rằng mình **in deep water**.
- 7 **Emissions** is one of the main contributors to air pollution.  
**Emissions** là một trong những nguyên nhân chính dẫn tới ô nhiễm không khí.
- 8 Playing too much video games will make children vulnerable to **respiratory diseases** like obesity.  
Chơi game quá nhiều sẽ khiến trẻ em dễ mắc các **respiratory diseases** như béo phì.

**2** Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- A. Emissions  
D. A drop in the ocean  
H. Down to earth

- B. In deep water  
E. The tip of the iceberg  
I. Respiratory diseases

- C. Deforestation  
G. On earth

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_, along with global warming and pollution, is one of the major environmental issues we are facing.  
\_\_\_\_\_, bên cạnh nóng lên toàn cầu và ô nhiễm, là một trong các vấn đề môi trường chính mà chúng ta đang phải đối mặt.
- 2 How \_\_\_\_\_ could she think of such brilliant plots for her novels?  
Làm thế \_\_\_\_\_ nào mà cô ấy có thể nghĩ những cốt truyện xuất sắc như vậy cho các cuốn tiểu thuyết của mình?
- 3 Tony is \_\_\_\_\_ over his debts, the creditors will take away everything he got if he could not pay.  
Tony đang \_\_\_\_\_ vì các khoản nợ của anh ấy, những chủ đề sẽ lấy hết những gì anh ấy có nếu anh ấy không thể trả tiền cho họ.
- 4 When a motor engine starts, the burning of fossil fuels leads to the production of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Khi một động cơ được khởi động, năng lượng bị đốt cháy, dẫn đến sự tạo thành của \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 My father is really \_\_\_\_\_. He lives a simple life and never tell lies.  
Bố tôi rất \_\_\_\_\_. Ông ấy sống đơn giản và không bao giờ dối trá.
- 6 Make sure you wear a face mask before going out, or you'll catch some \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nhớ đeo khẩu trang trước khi ra ngoài, nếu bạn sẽ mắc một vài \_\_\_\_\_.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. What is the most serious environmental problem we are facing?
2. What will happen if people do not solve this problem?
3. Do you think we are doing enough to protect the environment?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a person who helps protect the environment

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How this person protects the environment
- What difficulty this person has faced

And how you feel about this person



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a polluted place in your country

You should say:

- Where it is
- What type of pollution there is
- The cause and effect of the pollution

And explain how this pollution can be controlled

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |        |         |         |        |
|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| 1 – No | 2 – Yes | 3 – Yes | 4 – No |
| 5 – No | 6 – Yes | 7 – Yes | 8 – No |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – C | 2 – G | 3 – B |
| 4 – A | 5 – H | 6 – I |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. What is the most serious environmental problem we are facing?

I would say deforestation. The recent forest fire in Amazon, which receives lots of public attention, has proven that deforestation is extremely dangerous and will have lasting consequences. The Brazilian government, who encourages farmer to cut down trees, is single-handedly destroying one of the most important lungs of our planet.

### 2. What will happen if people do not solve this problem?

Both human and animals will be in deep water if the problem is not solved. While terrestrial animals will lose their habitats, human will not have enough fresh air to breath and become prone to many respiratory diseases.

### 3. Do you think we are doing enough to protect the environment?

I don't think so. I think there are many issues, and we are just solving the tip of the iceberg. People must be educated to heighten their awareness of environmental preservation.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a person who helps protect the environment

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How this person protects the environment
- What difficulty this person has faced

And how you feel about this person

## Bài mẫu

Today I will talk about Howard Schultz, the CEO of Starbucks who has made a crucial decision to help protect our environment.

There is not much to talk about Mr. Schultz's background. He is the classic example of a success story: a poor kid starting from the bottom and working his way up to become the first person to attend college in his family, and now is the CEO of biggest coffee chain in the world. Still, he keeps his **down-to-earth** personality and never acts arrogant in public.

But let's set his past aside because what he recently did at Starbucks was what caught my attention. In 2018, Starbucks announced the plan to replace all of its plastic straws with paper straws by the end of 2020. The company aims to eliminate billions of plastic straws per year by greener products. Mr. Schultz still remains humble and said that this solution only addresses **the tip of the iceberg** and is just a **drop in the ocean**, as there are still thousands of environmental issues to deal with.

The elimination of single-use straws would undoubtedly have a positive impact on the environment, as we all know plastic takes hundreds of years to decompose. I believe that Mr. Schultz has proven to the world that he is not just blinded by profit but also cares about his customers and our world. It's always challenging to strike a balance between business and ethics, and that's why I really admire this guy.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a person who helps protect the environment

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How this person protects the environment
- What difficulty this person has faced

And how you feel about this person

### Bài mẫu

Let me tell you about Thai Thinh street, a really polluted place in my city.

Since my company is on this street, I must come here daily. Everyday from 4pm to 6:30pm, the street is as crowded as a beehive. People are everywhere, all of whom try to get out of the traffic as soon as possible. Some of them even try to invade the street or find shortcuts by turning into smaller lanes. Some people, like myself, just give up and check Facebook to kill time. The reason why Thai Thinh street is so crowded is because it is located in a really populous area. And also, in Vietnam, there is an excessive number of private vehicles.

As you can guess, the street is severely polluted, and one of the main contributors is the **emissions** from motor vehicles, especially from buses. Everyone must wear a face mask to protect themselves from **respiratory diseases**. However, if you stuck behind a bus for more than 10 minutes due to congestion, I don't think any kind of mask could save you.

I often ask myself how **on earth** could the government ignore such a problem, but I soon realized they probably knew but is still struggling to address it. It will require long-term solutions, such as improving traffic infrastructures or heightening people's awareness.

# 6

# Animals

## Protecting Endangered Species

**Robert:** Hey Julie. I got a lot of interesting information about endangered species for our presentation.

**Julie:** Me too! Do you know that rhino, one of the species in danger of **becoming extinct**<sup>(1)</sup>, are mostly hunted for their horns because many people believe that the horns have magical healing properties and could even cure cancer?

**Robert:** Wow, how could they be so gullible? Anyway, I also found out that when it comes to the number of threatened species, plants and floral species outnumber animals. Isn't it astonishing?

**Julie:** Yea, I only heard about animals that needs to be protected like panda **in the press**<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Robert:** Right? Like animal **poaching**<sup>(3)</sup>, human activities are pushing many plants to **the brink of extinction**. For example, the Coral Tree, which used to be popular among homeowners in South America, are now becoming less likely to be seen due to **overharvesting**<sup>(4)</sup>.

**Julie:** That's sad to hear. Should we include some solutions to preserving these species in our presentation?

**Robert:** I already got a few in mind. We can talk about the construction of more **nature reserves**<sup>(5)</sup> or national parks, which provide shelter for endangered species.

**Julie:** Like Panda. I read that bamboo forests, their **habitat**<sup>(6)</sup> and main source of food are mostly destroyed.

**Robert:** Exactly. We can also teach children about the important roles of these animals in the **ecosystem**<sup>(7)</sup>. It would help them to become more aware and responsible.

1 To become extinct / to be on the brink of extinction = To no longer exist : trở nên / đứng trước nguy cơ tuyệt chủng,

2 In the press = Newspapers, magazines, TV shows that broadcast news: ở trên báo chí, truyền thông

3 Poaching = Illegal hunting: săn bắt trái phép

4 Overharvesting: sự thu hoạch quá đà

5 Nature reserve = Wildlife sanctuary: khu bảo tồn thiên nhiên

6 Habitat = The natural home of a plant or animal: môi trường sống

7 Ecosystem: hệ sinh thái

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau**

- 1 The recent incident about the Amazon forest fire has been widely covered **in the press**.  
*Sự kiện gần đây về vụ cháy rừng Amazon đã được đưa tin rộng rãi **in the press**.*
- 2 Many animals rely on **poaching** to reproduce and find food or shelter.  
*Rất nhiều loài động vật dựa vào **poaching** để sinh sản và tìm thức ăn hoặc nơi trú ẩn.*
- 3 Because of **overharvesting**, wild palm trees whose leaves are used for food wrapping have significantly decreased in numbers.  
*Tại vì **overharvesting**, cây cọ hoang dã, loại cọ mà lá dùng làm màng bọc thực phẩm, đã bị giảm mạnh về số lượng.*
- 4 In an attempt to preserve rare animal species, the government has decided to send them to **nature reserves**.  
*Trong một nỗ lực bảo vệ các loại động vật quý hiếm, chính phủ đã quyết định cho chúng vào các **nature reserves**.*
- 5 The Polar region is the **habitat** of the Polar bear.  
*Khu vực cực Bắc là **habitat** của loài gấu Bắc Cực.*
- 6 **The ecosystem** of many marine animals are ruined because the ocean is too polluted.  
***The ecosystem** của rất nhiều loài động vật biển bị phá huỷ vì đại dương quá ô nhiễm.*

2

Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- A. Ecosystem
- C. In the press
- E. Become extinct
- H. Poaching

- B. Overharvesting
- D. Nature reserve
- G. Floral species
- I. Habitat

- 1 Marine biologists are asking the local authorities to turn Cam Ranh Bay into a \_\_\_\_\_ to protect dolphins.

Các nhà hải dương học đang yêu cầu các nhà chức trách địa phương biển vịnh Cam Ranh thành một \_\_\_\_\_ để bảo vệ loài cá heo.

- 2 Although considered a crime in most countries, \_\_\_\_\_ is still popular because of the monetary values it brings.

Mặc dù được coi là một tội ác ở hầu hết các quốc gia, \_\_\_\_\_ vẫn rất phổ biến vì những giá trị tiền bạc nó mang lại.

- 3 The forests provide a \_\_\_\_\_ for hundreds of species of plants and animals.

Các cánh rừng cung cấp một \_\_\_\_\_ cho hàng trăm loài động thực vật.

- 4 The Amazon rainforest, with millions of different kinds of plants and animals, is a complex and delicate \_\_\_\_\_.

Rừng mưa Amazon, với hàng triệu loại động thực vật khác nhau, là một \_\_\_\_\_ phức tạp và tinh tế.

- 5 The \_\_\_\_\_ of fisheries has led to increasing prices of tuna, salmon and halibut worldwide.

Sự \_\_\_\_\_ của thuỷ sản đã dẫn đến sự tăng giá của các loài cá ngừ, cá hồi và cá bơn trên toàn thế giới.

- 6 There are several theories regarding why dinosaurs \_\_\_\_\_.

Có một vài giả thuyết về việc tại sao khủng long\_\_\_\_\_.

- 7 Many names have been discussed \_\_\_\_\_ as potential candidates for the next U. S president.

Rất nhiều cái tên được thảo luận \_\_\_\_\_ là ứng cử viên tiềm năng cho vị trí tổng thống Mỹ tiếp theo..

- 8 There are about 400,000 \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth today, according to the U.K Royal Botanic Garden.

Có khoảng 400,000 \_\_\_\_\_ trên trái đất hiện nay, theo như số liệu của vườn bách thảo Hoàng Gia Anh.

# Practice



## 1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Why must we protect endangered animals?
2. How can we protect endangered animals?
3. Should the protection of endangered animals be the responsibility of only governments?



## 2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe an endangered animal you are interested in

You should say:

- What it is
- Why it is endangered
- What can be done to protect it

And explain why you are interested in it.



## 3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a park you like to visit

You should say:

- Where it is
- How often you go to this park
- What do you do in this park

And explain why you are interested in it.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- 1 – Yes      2 – No      3 – Yes      4 – Yes  
5 – Yes      6 – Yes

## Câu hỏi 2

- 1 – D      2 – H      3 – I      4 – A  
5 – B      6 – E      7 – C      8 – G



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Why must we protect endangered animals?

If we do not, we are pushing these animals to the brink of extinction. Many species in danger of becoming extinct serve an important role in the ecosystem or have other values. For instance, panda is a symbol of China and the Chinese government is trying the best to protect the last pandas at all cost.

### 2. How can we protect endangered animals?

We could build more nature reserves and national parks to provide habitats for threatened animals and floral species. Also, the government should use legal power to increase the punishment for illegal activities like poaching or overharvesting to deter people from harming these species.

### 3. Should protection of endangered animals be the responsibility of only government?

No. Individuals can also contribute to the preservation of such species. For one thing, celebrities, whose opinions are influential, could raise their voice to raise people's awareness. For example, Leonardo Di Caprio has repeatedly voiced his opinions regarding global issues in the press and attracted lots of public attention and support.

## Bài tập 2

Describe an endangered animal you are interested in

You should say:

- What it is
- Why it is endangered
- What can be done to protect it

And explain why you are interested in it.

### Bài mẫu

Let me tell you about panda, an endangered animal I'm interested in.

So the reason why panda is listed as an endangered animal is mostly due to the loss of its habitat and main source of food, bamboo forests. Human have chopped down much of bamboo forests and because pandas only eat bamboo, they cannot survive outside of these forests like other animals. Poaching is another threat pandas must face. Since the Ming dynasty, people believe that panda's skin has magical healing properties, making them extremely valuable in the black market. Last but not least, pandas are extremely picky when it comes to mating, and therefore struggle to reproduce. The Chinese government has constructed multiple nature reserves solely for pandas in an attempt to protect this endangered species.

Panda plays an important role to the Chinese, and that's why I grew a lot of interested in them. Panda is considered one of the symbols of China, as when many people think of this country, panda is the first thing that springs to mind. Also, panda is often compared to yin and yang because of its black and white fur. The panda's calm characteristic indicates that when in balance, yin and yang are harmonious and peaceful. As a fan of astrology and Feng Shui, I really want to meet and see this sacred creature for once with my own eyes someday.

Schultz has proven to the world that he is not just blinded by profit but also cares about his customers and our world. It's always challenging to strike a balance between business and ethics, and that's why I really admire this guy.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a park you like to visit

You should say:

- Where it is
- How often you go to this park
- What do you do in this park

And explain why you are interested in it.

### Bài mẫu

Today I'd like to tell you about a botanic garden that I frequently visit. It's not too far from my house. Perhaps about 15-minute drive away if the roads are clear.

As for the last time I visited it, if I remember correctly, it was last week. The park is surrounded by trees and a wide variety of flowers that bloom in the summer months. Roses, sunflowers, violets or daisies, you name it. I love to take a stroll across the garden after a long day at work to enjoy the pictureque beauty of the flowers. It's pretty quiet too, so whenever I come here I just feel at ease and I guess you could call it my happy place.

The reason why I'm interested in the park is because it holds many of my childhood memories. My parents took me here for the first time when I was six, and I was immediately amazed at so many floral species of different colors and shapes. I realized I have a soft spot for flowers and since then, with or without my parents, I still came here on a regular basis. This garden always has a special place in my heart and will always be the garden that I want to visit.

# 7

# Tourism

## Tourism and The Environment

### Words in context

Last month, I had a chance to **set foot on**<sup>(1)</sup> a **mesmerizing**<sup>(2)</sup> island located in the southwest of my country, named Phu Quoc. It's an island where mountains **dominate the landscape**<sup>(3)</sup>, and visitors can enjoy sunbathing on long stretches of white sand.

Many years ago, because Phu Quoc was quite **off the beaten track**<sup>(4)</sup>, there weren't many tourists arriving there annually. At that time, this island had many **unspoilt beaches**<sup>(5)</sup> and **tranquil**<sup>(6)</sup> atmosphere, suitable for those wanting to **kick back**<sup>(7)</sup> and seeking **inner peace**<sup>(8)</sup>. No light pollution, no noise pollution, visitors could **put up a tent**<sup>(9)</sup> on the beach to observe the Milky Way in the sky and listen to the rhythm of the waves.

However, the growth of tourism, in recent years, has **interfered with**<sup>(10)</sup> the peace of Phu Quoc island. Forests have been **felled**<sup>(11)</sup> to provide space for hotels and resorts while the beach is **littered with**<sup>(12)</sup> tin cans and plastic bags from travellers who aren't **eco-conscious**<sup>(13)</sup>. Many native species have **died out**<sup>(14)</sup> because of losing their natural habitats and consuming plastic waste. In other words, human civilization develops **at the expense of**<sup>(15)</sup> the environment.

- 1 To set foot on/in = Come, arrive at/in: *dặt chân lên*
- 2 To be mesmerizing: *đẹp mê hoặc, đáng nhớ*
- 3 To dominate the landscape = be everywhere, be all over the place, can be seen easily: (*núi, rừng*) *bao phủ khung cảnh*
- 4 To be off the beaten track = Unpopular, not well-known: *ít người biết tới*
- 5 Unspoilt beaches = Intact, unharmed: *bãi biển hoang sơ*
- 6 To be tranquil = peaceful, calm: *thanh bình*
- 7 To kick back = Unwind, blow off some steam: *thư giãn*
- 8 Inner peace = peace of mind, spiritual calmness: *sự yên bình trong tâm hồn*
- 9 To put up a tent = build a tent, make a tent: *dựng lều*
- 10 To interfere with = Obstruct: *can thiệp, làm quấy rối*
- 11 fell - felled - felled = cut down, clear: *chặt (cây, rừng)*
- 12 To be littered with = Be full of, be fraught with: *ngập tràn (rác, những thứ không tốt đẹp)*
- 13 To be eco-conscious: *có ý thức về môi trường*
- 14 To die out = Become extinct, disappear: *tuyệt chủng*
- 15 At the expense of something: *dánh đổi, với cái giá phải trả*

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau**

- 1 Nha Trang is no longer a **tranquil** city anymore as it is visited by thousands of visitors every year.  
*Nha Trang không còn là một thành phố **tranquil** nữa vì nó được viếng thăm bởi hàng ngàn khách du lịch mỗi năm*
- 2 Honestly speaking, I didn't enjoy my trip that much because there are very few **mesmerizing** sceneries in that coastal city.  
*Thực lòng mà nói thì tôi không thích chuyến du lịch đó lắm, vì có quá ít những cảnh **mesmerizing** ở nơi thành phố biển đó*
- 3 Military strength is often achieved **at the expense of** a country's economic health.  
*Sức mạnh quân sự thường đạt được **at the expense of** sức khoẻ kinh của một quốc gia.*
- 4 My hometown is very peaceful because it is quite **off the beaten track**.  
*Quê hương của tôi rất là thanh bình, bởi vì nó khá là **off the beaten track**.*
- 5 The surrounding environment of that tourist attraction is suffering from serious damage because all the tourists there are **eco - conscious**.  
*Môi trường của địa điểm du lịch đó đang phải chịu thiệt hại lớn vì tất cả du khách ở đó đều **eco - conscious**.*

2

Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| A. inner peace       | B. littered with          |
| C. eco - conscious   | D. set foot in/on         |
| E. died out          | F. put up a tent          |
| G. unspoilt beachers | H. dominate the landscape |

- 1 I decided to \_\_\_\_\_ and build a campfire as soon as I made it to the peak of the mountain.  
*Tôi quyết định \_\_\_\_\_ và dựng lửa trại ngay khi tôi leo tới đỉnh núi.*
- 2 Maldives is famous for \_\_\_\_\_ that can hardly be found in any other coastal cities in Vietnam.  
*Maldives nổi tiếng vì \_\_\_\_\_ mà khó có thể được tìm thấy ở bất kỳ thành phố biển nào khác ở Việt Nam.*
- 3 Many native species in Vietnam have \_\_\_\_\_ as their natural habitats have been destroyed to make way for tourism.  
*Nhiều loại động vật bản địa ở Việt Nam đã\_\_\_\_\_ khi môi trường sống của chúng bị phá huỷ để phát triển du lịch.*
- 4 This area will no longer be included in the must-visit destination list of tourists because the streets are always \_\_\_\_\_ plastic bags and tin cans.  
*Khu vực này không còn nằm trong danh sách những địa điểm phải tới của khách du lịch nữa bởi vì các con đường ở đây luôn \_\_\_\_\_ túi nhựa và lon t*
- 5 I am proud to say that the locals in my hometown are very \_\_\_\_\_; they always keep the street clean and use recyclable products.  
*Tôi tự hào khi nói rằng người dân ở quê tôi rất \_\_\_\_\_; họ luôn giữ sạch đường xá và sử dụng những sản phẩm có thể tái chế được*
- 6 That was the first time I \_\_\_\_\_ such a magnificent city.  
*Đó là lần đầu tiên mà tôi \_\_\_\_\_ một thành phố đẹp như vậy.*

# Practice



## 1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Are there many tourists in your hometown?
2. Where do many people nowadays go on holidays?
3. What are some drawbacks of the tourism development?



## 2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe an interesting part in your country

You should say:

- Where it is
- What people there are like
- What people often do in that place

And say why you find it interesting



## 3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a trip you had by car (a car journey you had)

You should say:

- Where you went to
- What you did there
- What was interesting about it

And say why you chose to travel by car

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- 1 – Yes      2 – Yes      3 – Yes  
4 – Yes      5 – No

## Câu hỏi 2

- 1 – F      2 – G      3 – E  
4 – B      5 – C      6 – D



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Are there many tourists in your hometown?

No. Despite having many mesmerizing mountains and beaches, my hometown doesn't attract many tourists. Maybe because it is too far from major cities and the publicity is quite poor, my hometown is off the beaten track. But I see this as a good thing since the locals, including me, can enjoy the tranquil atmosphere and our environment is safe from tourists, many of whom are not very eco-conscious, you know.

### 2. Where do many people nowadays go on holidays?

People nowadays seem to be sick of overcrowded destinations like densely-populated cities. I guess they have grown interested in unspoilt beaches which do not appear much on social media. I mean, they want to visit places that not many people have set foot in, so that they can avoid the crowd, noise and pollution to immerse themselves in tranquility and look for their own inner peace.

### 3. What are some drawbacks of the tourism development?

I have to say there are a lot of drawbacks associated with the development of tourism. First of all, trees are felled to make way for the construction of tourism facilities, while landscapes are littered with trash. Second of all, life quality of people residing in tourist attractions also suffers when the crime rate and the air pollution level increase. You know, the growing numbers of travelers in these places are the main culprit of these problems

## Bài tập 2

Describe an interesting part in your country

You should say:

- Where it is
- What people there are like
- What people often do in that place

And say why you find it interesting

### Bài mẫu

In my opinion, Tay Ninh is the most interesting part of my country. This is also my hometown, located in the southeast of Vietnam which is a mountainous area with lots fascinating things to mention.

You know, the landscape in Tay Ninh is dominated by mountains, with the most popular being Black Virgin Mount which attracts thousands of people annually. On the summit of this mountain lies a pagoda where visitors come to seek inner peace and make wishes. My parents and I also come here on the occasion of Lunar New Year as a tradition of my family.

There are also nice valleys which are quite off the beaten track and also famous among local people like us. I used to have an overnight picnic here. It's fantastic to put up a tent and build a campfire to enjoy a night in wildlife, which is a great way to kick back and get closer to nature. We can see fireflies and other beautiful animals which can hardly be seen in HCMC as they seem to have died out in cities.

Another interesting feature of this city is the specialties. Whenever tourists set foot in Tay Ninh, they always insist to taste rice paper, a delicious dish made from rice and served in daily meals of the locals. There are many variants of rice paper, like eaten like a snack, an appetizer or a side dish. Overall, despite being poor and underdeveloped, Tay Ninh is a mesmerizing part of my country.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a trip you had by car (a car journey you had)

You should say:

- Where you went to
- What you did there
- What was interesting about it

And say why you chose to travel by car

### Bài mẫu

I have had many trips in my life, most of which are by plane because I am afraid of lengthy journeys, but there was an occasion I travelled to Tay Ninh, a mesmerizing city with mountains dominating the landscape and local people being highly hospitable.

My destination was a pagoda that lied on the summit of a mountain in the outskirts of this city. As the area was quite off the beaten track, the transportation was quite poor. I mean no train stations, no airports, which was the reason why I chose to travel by car. The journey, in fact, turned out to be so bad.

On my way to the city, I could look at the landscape and enjoy it. That was pretty more interesting than travelling by plane because everything observed from the car was bigger, clearer and not covered by clouds. The sad thing was that we could easily see there weren't many trees on the side of the mountain. I guess people tried to develop tourism at the expense of the environment. Trees were felled to build cable cars for tourists to reach the pagoda.

After 3 hours' time on the car, we made it. That was the first time I set foot in this city. It was very clean and tranquil, unlike my hometown where streets are littered with garbage. So, after we got out of the car, we put up a tent and build a campfire at the foot of the mountain. Luckily, I wasn't carsick, so I felt quite good during that 2-day trip.

# 8

# Culture

## Culture and Travel

### Words in context

A: Where have you been? I haven't seen you for 2 months. You know what, **rumor has it that**<sup>(1)</sup> you have migrated to another country?

B: Not exactly, but yeah I did have a pretty long journey to several countries to **broaden my horizons**<sup>(2)</sup> and have **exotic**<sup>(3)</sup> experiences that I would never forget.

A: Fabulous! What countries did you go to, exactly?

B: My first destination was Thailand. I **set about** my trip in April, which precisely fell in the **festive season**<sup>(5)</sup> of Thailand. So, I decided to stay there in a **fortnight's time**<sup>(6)</sup> to better understand their culture. I also tasted various cuisines in this country, with the main flavors being spicy and sour.

A: That's **mouthwatering**<sup>(4)</sup>. How about the locals?

B: As soon as I came to the hotel, I tried to **strike up a conversation with**<sup>(7)</sup> some neighbours to ask about the way to the nearest supermarket. They were very **hospitable**<sup>(8)</sup> and supportive.

A: Yeah I know. I heard that their **livelihood**<sup>(9)</sup> mainly **derives from** tourism and hospitality. Annually, there are dozens of festivals and celebrations held to attract tourists all over the world, which greatly contributes to the **prosperity** of this country.

B: And then I departed for Norway, where some of my relatives have **resided**<sup>(10)</sup> for many years. Unlike cities in America which are full of **skyscrapers**<sup>(11)</sup>, urban architecture in Europe looks ancient and **unique**. In North Europe, especially, there are many constructions that **stand the test of time**<sup>(12)</sup>.

A: That really **blows my mind**<sup>(13)</sup>! I think I will arrange a trip like yours as soon as possible.

1 **Rumor has it that** = There is a rumor that: có tin đồn rằng

2 **To broaden my horizons** = expand my knowledge: mở mang kiến thức

3 **To be exotic** = new: mới lạ

4 **To be mouthwatering** = sound delicious, look delicious: gây thèm thường

5 **Festive season** = season of festivals: mùa lễ hội

6 **A fortnight** = two weeks, half of a month: nửa tháng, hai tuần

7 **To strike up a conversation** = begin to speak with: Bắt chuyện với

8 **To be hospitable** = Friendly, welcoming: Hiếu khách

9 **Livelihood** = source of income: nguồn thu nhập.

10 **To reside** = Live, inhabit: sinh sống, định cư

11 **Skyscrapers** = high-rise buildings: nhà cao tầng

12 **To stand the test of time** = Remains over a long period of time: trường tồn với thời gian

13 **To blow my mind** = Surprise, astonish: khiến tôi ngạc nhiên



### Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau

- 1 This village is located on a very high, secluded mountain where there are clouds and **skyscrapers** all year around.  
*Ngôi làng này toạ lạc trên một ngọn núi rất cao và hẻo lánh nơi có mây và skyscrapers quanh năm suốt tháng.*
- 2 The **prosperity** of this company is mainly thanks to the CEO's brilliant strategies and all employees's efforts.  
*Prosperity của công ty này chủ yếu là nhờ vào những chiến lược thông minh của CEO và nỗ lực của tất cả nhân viên*
- 3 I never eat that kind of fish because it is too **exotic**.  
*Tôi không bao giờ ăn loại cá đó bởi vì nó quá là exotic.*
- 4 I love to read books as this is a good way for me to learn new things and **broaden my horizons**.  
*Tôi thích đọc sách vì đây là một cách tốt để giúp tôi học thêm điều mới và broaden my horizons.*
- 5 That cartoon impresses the audience by its **livelihood**, sound effects and motion effects.  
*Bộ phim hoạt hình này gây ấn tượng cho khán giả bởi livelihood, và hiệu ứng âm thanh, chuyển động của nó.*
- 6 My neighbors are very **hospitable** as they are willing to support newcomers in my town.  
*Những người hàng xóm của tôi rất hospitable vì họ sẵn lòng hỗ trợ những người mới tới trong khu tôi sống.*



Chọn từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:

- A. rumor has it that
- C. derives from
- E. blows my mind
- G. stands the test of time

- B. resided
- D. strike up a conversation
- F. mouthwatering
- H. festive season

- 1 The dishes my mother cooked looked really \_\_\_\_\_. They were beautifully decorated with colorful ingredients.  
Món ăn mà mẹ tôi nấu trông thực sự rất là \_\_\_\_\_. Những món đó được trang trí đẹp với những nguyên liệu đầy màu sắc.
- 2 I am an introverted person, so I find it incredibly difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ with a stranger.  
Tôi là một người hướng nội, vì vậy tôi thấy rất là khó khi \_\_\_\_\_ với người lạ.
- 3 Built in the 1200s, this pagoda \_\_\_\_\_ and becomes the landmark of my hometown.  
Được xây dựng vào những năm 1200, ngôi chùa này \_\_\_\_\_ và trở thành điểm nhấn của quê hương tôi.
- 4 February is the \_\_\_\_\_ of my country because our Lunar New Year often falls at the beginning of this month.  
Tháng hai là \_\_\_\_\_ của nước tôi vì tết Nguyên Đán thường rơi vào đầu tháng này.
- 5 The way my mother processed and cooked that fish really \_\_\_\_\_. She skillfully used two knives at the same time.  
Cách mà mẹ tôi xử lý và nấu món cá đó thật sự \_\_\_\_\_. Bà đã sử dụng hai con dao điêu luyện cùng một.
- 6 Many people believe happiness \_\_\_\_\_ wealth accumulation or career success, so they spend their life chasing after materialistic values.  
Nhiều người cho rằng hạnh phúc \_\_\_\_\_ sự giàu có và thành công sự nghiệp, nên họ dành cả đời để theo đuổi những giá trị vật chất.

# Practice



1. *Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.*

1. Do you prefer travelling to cities or suburban areas?
2. What do travellers like when visiting your country?



2. *Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.*

Describe an interesting place that few people know about.

You should say:

- Where it is
- When you go there
- What you can do there

And explain why few people go there



3. *Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.*

Describe a place in your country that you would recommend to a foreign traveller.

You should say:

- Where it is
- How to travel there
- What they can do or see there

And explain why you think this is a good place for foreign tourists.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 – No  | 2 – Yes | 3 – No  |
| 4 – Yes | 5 – No  | 6 – Yes |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – F | 2 – D | 3 – G |
| 4 – H | 5 – E | 6 – C |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Do you prefer travelling to cities or suburban areas?

Well, there's no absolute answer to this question. I mean I love both and it depends on the purpose of each time I travel to decide which area to visit. For example, if I want to just stay at my hotel room and relax, I will choose to visit a suburban area. In other cases, I would choose a big modern city to visit and explore.

### 2. What do travellers like when visiting your country?

Probably they like trying the street food. Vietnam is pretty famous for its rich diversity of street food. Also, they may enjoy visiting historical sites because we do have a long history of war and conflict.

## Bài tập 2

Describe an interesting place that few people know about.

You should say:

- Where it is
- When you go there
- What you can do there

And explain why few people go there

## Bài mẫu

I am going to talk about an interesting place in my home city of Leeds, England.

The place is a huge secluded garden, hundreds of years old, nestled in the heart of a busy city. I often go there alone in the evening, or at the weekend with friends.

The garden is surrounded by a large stone wall that prevents entry to the grounds. There are two gaps in this wall where you can enter or exit. Once inside you will become immersed in the feeling of being somewhere else, as if you have entered another world entirely far away from the city. This is a great way for those who have itchy feet to briefly satisfy their thirst for travel in a way that doesn't cost any money.

Most of the garden consists of a small valley with well-trodden paths carved into the terrain. Most visitors spend their time walking along these winding paths, admiring the ancient trees, colorful flower blossoms and breathtaking scenery. There are also tennis courts where people can play on days when the weather is suitable.

I think that the main reason few people go here is because it is not a well-known destination. It is mostly visited by locals or long-term residents of the city. I like this because it creates an atmosphere of peace and tranquility.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a place in your country that you would recommend to a foreign traveller.

You should say:

- Where it is
- How to travel there
- What they can do or see there

And explain why you think this is a good place for foreign tourists.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so the place that I would recommend any foreign tourist to visit in Vietnam is Hoi An. Hoi An is located on the coast in central Vietnam about 45mins drive south of Da Nang. There are a few different ways that you can travel there but I think the most convenient way is to fly to Da Nang airport and then catch a taxi to Hoi An. So there's a bunch of things to do in and around Hoi An. For example, you can take a stroll through the ancient town, which is situated along the river and has been recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Centre, or take a nice leisurely bicycle ride through the surrounding tranquil countryside and admire the breathtaking scenery. And if you've got a thirst for shopping, then the old town is just the place for you. Here you can find just about anything you want, from wonderful handicraft souvenirs, to clothing, books, gifts and more.

So I think there's a number of reasons as to why it's a good place for foreign tourists. Firstly, it's a great place to immerse yourself in a unique part of Vietnamese culture. Hoi An was once a busy trading port in the 15 th to 19 th centuries, so it has quite a unique culture and history. Secondly, the food in Hoi An is also quite unique and also very delicious, and I think most foreign travellers would find it very appealing. And even though Hoi An can get quite busy during the peak tourist seasons, if you're looking for a more secluded place, then you can take a short drive out to one of the nearby beaches, like An Bang beach. There's also a good range of accommodation options to choose from, including many 4 and 5 star resorts stretching along the coast from Da Nang to Hoi An. And if your budget doesn't quite stretch that far, then there are many other good quality, low-cost guesthouses to choose from. And lastly, I think Hoi An is the perfect escape for anyone on a business trip in Da Nang.

# 9

# Transport

## Comparing Types of Transport

### Words in context

Now, before we start our journey around this lovely city tomorrow, I want to give you some brief information about the types of transport that we can use here.

First, we can consider using a motorbike which, in my opinion, is the best vehicle to use here. It can travel nearly as fast as a car, but the most wonderful thing is that the size of a motorbike allows the driver to **manoeuvre<sup>(7)</sup>** easily, even in a place where people don't **follow the traffic rules<sup>(2)</sup>** and travel by their own instinct like this city. Also, the **rental price<sup>(8)</sup>** of motorbikes here is quite low, only around 4 dollars per day. However, we have to check the bike very carefully before renting because some of them are stolen from the people around here, and I believe none of us wants any trouble when travelling, right?

Bus is also an option here. The biggest advantage when travelling by bus in this country is that the **fares<sup>(3)</sup>** are very low, so we don't have to worry about money. Besides, buses here cover most of the main routes, so it's quite convenient for us to **go from one place to another<sup>(5)</sup>**. However, please bear in mind that most buses here are always crowded and even **chaotic<sup>(6)</sup>** sometimes, which increases the risk of being pickpocketed. So, remember to always pay close attention to your phones and wallets if you still want to take them home with you.

If you don't like any of the mentioned forms of transport, we can consider **grabbing a taxi<sup>(1)</sup>**. The fares are much higher than buses, of course, but I'm sure they're still lower than some neighbouring countries. The good thing is that most taxi drivers here are very hospitable and helpful, and they do provide **door-to-door service<sup>(4)</sup>**, which is another great thing. Anyway, remember to check your belongings carefully before leaving the cab because once you've forgotten anything there, you're not likely to ever see them again, trust me.

- 1 To grab a taxi = To catch a taxi: *bắt taxi*
- 2 To follow the traffic rules = To obey traffic laws: *Tuân thủ luật giao thông*
- 3 Fare: *Tiền trả cho việc di chuyển bằng xe buýt, tàu hỏa hoặc máy bay*
- 4 Door-to-door service: *Dịch vụ đưa đón tận nhà*
- 5 To go from one place to = To get from A to B: *Đi từ nơi này đến nơi khác*
- 6 Chaotic = To be in no order: *Hỗn loạn*
- 7 Manoeuvre: *Điều chỉnh và định hướng cho một thứ gì đó*
- 8 Rental price: *Giá tiền thuê*

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau**

- 1 It's now very easy to **grab a taxi** in a big city.  
*Giờ đây rất dễ để grab a taxi ở một thành phố lớn.*
- 2 Most travel companies in Vietnam nowadays offer **door-to-door service** to their customers.  
*Phần lớn các công ty du lịch ở Việt Nam hiện nay cung cấp door-to-door service cho khách hàng.*
- 3 People need to **follow the traffic rules** to reduce congestion during rush hours.  
*Mọi người nên follow the traffic rules để giảm kẹt xe trong giờ cao điểm.*
- 4 It's very easy for a small, thin person to **manoeuvre** a large motorcycle.  
*Một người gầy, nhỏ có thể dễ dàng manoeuvre một chiếc mô tô lớn.*
- 5 Roads in many countries are **chaotic** during rush hours.  
*Các con đường ở nhiều quốc gia thì chaotic vào giờ cao điểm.*

2

Chọn từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:

A. grab a taxi

C. fare

E. go from one place to another

G. manoeuvre

B. follows the traffic rules

D. door-to-door service

F. chaotic

H. rental price

- 1 Most people in my country use cars to \_\_\_\_\_  
Phần lớn người dân ở đất nước tôi sử dụng xe hơi để \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 I prefer this company because they offer \_\_\_\_\_, which means they will send a car to pick me up from home before the departure time.  
*Tôi thích công ty này hơn vì họ cung cấp \_\_\_\_\_, nghĩa là họ sẽ cho xe hơi đến đón tôi từ nhà trước giờ khởi hành.*
- 3 Loaded trucks are difficult for inexperienced drivers to \_\_\_\_\_  
Những chiếc xe tải đầy hàng hóa thì rất khó cho các tài xế thiếu kinh nghiệm để có thể \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Traffic congestion has never been a big problem here because everyone \_\_\_\_\_  
*Kẹt xe chưa bao giờ là vấn đề lớn ở đây vì tất cả mọi người \_\_\_\_\_*
- 5 We have no car here, so if you don't like travelling by bus, the only option is to \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chúng ta không có xe, vì vậy nếu bạn không muốn đi xe buýt, cách duy nhất là \_\_\_\_\_*
- 6 Due to the increasing cost, the bus company has to raise the \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the loss.  
*Vì chi phí ngày càng tăng, công ty xe buýt phải tăng \_\_\_\_\_ để bù vào khoản lỗ.*
- 7 The park is \_\_\_\_\_ because everyone wants to be the first in line.  
*Công viên thì \_\_\_\_\_ vì ai cũng muốn đứng lên hàng đầu.*
- 8 I chose to rent a car from this company because of the low \_\_\_\_\_  
*Tôi chọn thuê xe ở công ty này vì \_\_\_\_\_ thấp.*

# Practice



**Bài 1: Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài 2 – 3 câu.**

1. What is the easiest way to get around your town/city?
2. Do you use public transportation or private transportation?



**2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe a form of public transport that is available in your city.

You should say:

- What it is
- If you ever use it and how often you use it
- What kind of people use this type of transport

And explain the advantages and disadvantages of using this form of transportation.



**3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe a journey by car that you remember well

You should say:

- Where you went to in this journey
- Who you went with
- Whether you had any difficulties during this journey

And explain whether you enjoyed this car journey



**4. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe a time when your vehicle was broken when travelling

You should say:

- Where you travelled to
- What vehicle you used
- What problem you had

And explain how this problem affected your journey

# Key

?

## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 – Yes | 2 – No  | 3 – Yes |
| 4 – No  | 5 – Yes |         |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |        |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1 – E | 2 – D | 3 – G | 4 – B  |
| 5 – A | 6 – C | 7 – F | 8 – H. |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. What is the easiest way to get around your town/city?

Because of traffic congestion, taking a bus may be the best way to get from place to place. Although during the rush hour, it's best just to travel on foot.

### 2. Do you use public transportation or private transportation?

Personally I use a motorbike to get around the city. It's more convenient than taking public transportation like buses or trains.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a form of public transport that is available in your city.

You should say:

- What it is
- If you ever use it and how often you use it
- What kind of people use this type of transport

And explain the advantages and disadvantages of using this form of transportation.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so the main form of public transportation in Hanoi are buses. Personally, I don't use buses very often because the current bus system is not very efficient, and it is much more convenient to ride a motorbike, however I have used them a few times in the past, and if the government upgrades the system in the future then I would definitely use them more often as a way to get from A to B. So the types of people who use buses these days I guess are people who either can't afford their own private vehicle or people who don't like to ride their own vehicle in the hectic traffic of the city. But I would probably say that the majority of people who use buses in my city are the elderly and children.

So there's a bunch of advantages and disadvantages when it comes to catching the bus. Firstly, the key advantage is that it is quite a safe and comfortable way to travel, providing you get a seat to sit on, because sometimes the bus is so full that people have to stand up, which is one serious disadvantage. Another advantage is that due to the ongoing problem of traffic congestion in the city, particularly during rush hour, being on the bus lets you escape from the polluted air outside from all of the vehicles. However, the disadvantage during rush hour is that because the bus is so big, it can't move very fast through the dense traffic, so if you're in a rush or cutting it fine to get to school or work, it could be a bad option.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a journey by car that you remember well

You should say:

- Where you went to in this journey
- Who you went with
- Whether you had any difficulties during this journey

And explain whether you enjoyed this car journey

### Bài mẫu

Today, I'm going to tell you about a car journey that I remember very well.

About 4 months ago, my girlfriend and I decided to take a trip to Da Lat, a lovely city located in the mountainous area of Vietnam, to celebrate the 2-year anniversary of our relationship and also to prepare for our wedding in the following month. As Da Lat is not very far from Saigon, we chose to get there by car, and it took us over 6 hours to reach the destination.

During our way, we could enjoy the natural beauty outside an urban area. There were barely any houses on the way and what captured our attention was only the picturesque landscapes. Upon reaching the destination, we took another drive around the city. The weather in Da Lat is quite unique as you can enjoy 4 seasons within just a day. A typical day in this city would start with some slight and cool winds in the morning, just like spring, then the temperature rises gradually and peaks at noon, showing the sign of the summer. After about 4 o'clock, the temperature starts to drop and the wind blows again to signal that the autumn has come, and finally, we can immerse ourselves in the cold weather of a winter when night falls.

During the time there, we shot some pictures at various popular spots like the central lake, the ancient palace and the strawberry hill. After that, we got back to our car and returned to Saigon, and this is when the saddest thing in my life happened: we ran into an accident with a truck. The car was completely broken, and my girlfriend couldn't survive the crash.

Now I'm still heavily obsessed with that accident, and I believe it will take me years to overcome that pain. I will never travel by car again.

## Bài tập 4

Describe a time when your vehicle was broken when travelling

You should say:

- Where you travelled to
- What vehicle you used
- What problem you had

And explain how this problem affected your journey

### Bài mẫu

Today I would like to tell you about my ride last weekend when my bike broke down halfway back home.

It was such a bright and sunny day that I decided to take my 3-year-old bike out for a ride to enjoy the sights along the street. Unlike other scorching hot days, it was one of those rare summer days when the temperature was about 26 Celsius degree, which was perfect for a nice ride around the city. I was fairly confident that my beloved bike would take me home safely as it still looked rather new and had been running flawlessly ever since.

Following some of my favorite roads, I made my way to Ton Duc Thang Street, enjoying the views of Sai Gon River and Bach Dang Wharf along the bank. The ride went well and smoothly until I set out to return home. While riding along a secondary road, I noticed that the chain of my bike suddenly fell off. I panicked for a while, before deciding to pull over in a park nearby. At that time, I was so sweaty as the temperature began to rise. Luckily enough, I came across a bike-repair shop on the pavement just after 10 minutes of walking. The repair was quick, so I did not have to wait for so long under the harsh sun.

It was a bit disappointing that the trip turned out to be a weary one, not as perfect as I expected. Another reason which let me down was that my lovely bike broke down only after three years. I guess it needs to be maintained more frequently from now on.

# 10

# Traffic Traffic Problems

Well, talking about the traffic situation in the city where I'm living now, I can only use one phrase: "a complete mess".

You know, private vehicles, things like cars and motorbikes, now **dominate the roads<sup>(3)</sup>**, and many drivers have very little awareness of obeying traffic laws. People **run a red light<sup>(2)</sup>** when there are no police around, **drive beyond the speed limit<sup>(1)</sup>** in crowded places, even when they see a person on the **pedestrian crossing<sup>(4)</sup>** right ahead. **Drunk driving<sup>(5)</sup>** is also a problem here as many people drive after having too much alcohol, which has largely increased the **accident risk<sup>(6)</sup>**. I really hope that the authorities will quickly come up with a solution, like **applying traffic-calming measures<sup>(7)</sup>** and give stricter punishments against driving offenses, to end this nightmare soon.

The public transport system is no better. Most buses are old, or even outdated, making people feel very unsafe when travelling by this mode. Therefore, buses in this city, despite the low fares, are still unable to attract passengers. We do have a subway line under construction, but I think it will take ages before anyone here can use it because the company has failed to meet the deadline so many times. Some people now even doubt whether this system would ever become a reality.

- 1 To drive beyond the speed limit = To drive faster than the permitted speed: *Lái xe vượt quá tốc độ quy định*
- 2 Run a red light: *vượt đèn đỏ*
- 3 Dominate the roads = To be the most popular: *Chiếm đa số trên đường*
- 4 Pedestrian crossing: *Nơi dành cho người đi bộ qua đường*
- 5 Drunk driving = Driving when drunk: *Lái xe khi say rượu*
- 6 Accident risk: *Rủi ro gặp tai nạn*
- 7 To apply traffic-calming measures: *Áp dụng biện pháp tăng cường an toàn giao thông*

**1** **Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp** của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong những câu sau

- 1 Driving beyond the speed limit is legal in many countries.  
*Driving beyond the speed limit* là hợp pháp ở nhiều quốc gia.
- 2 Bicycles now dominate the roads in some European countries like the Netherlands.  
*Xe đạp ngày nay dominate the roads* ở một vài quốc gia châu Âu như Hà Lan.
- 3 Applying traffic-calming measures is one of the most effective ways to increase road safety.  
*Applying traffic-calming measures* là một trong những cách hiệu quả nhất để tăng sự an toàn trên đường bộ.
- 4 People should be allowed to **run a red light** if they are in a hurry.  
*Mọi người nên được cho phép run a red light* nếu họ đang vội.
- 5 Drunk driving is now a big problem in many Asian countries.  
*Drunk driving* là một vấn đề lớn hiện nay ở nhiều quốc gia châu Á.
- 6 The accident risk can be reduced if we don't wear a helmet when riding a motorbike.  
*The accident risk* có thể được giảm nếu chúng ta không đội mũ bảo hiểm khi chạy xe máy.

**2**

**Chọn từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| A. drive beyond the speed limit   | B. running a red light |
| C. dominate the roads             | D. pedestrian crossing |
| E. drunk driving                  | F. accident risk       |
| G. apply traffic-calming measures |                        |

- 1 There should be a ban on alcoholic products to solve the problem of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nên có một lệnh cấm đối với các sản phẩm có cồn để giải quyết vấn đề \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 You should not \_\_\_\_\_ and keep your vehicle slow for your own safety.  
Bạn không nên \_\_\_\_\_ và chạy xe chậm vì sự an toàn của chính bản thân mình.
- 3 Though I'm a very careful driver, I still hesitate to drive on my own because of the \_\_\_\_\_ these days.  
Dù tôi là một người chạy xe cẩn thận, tôi vẫn ngại tự chạy xe vì \_\_\_\_\_ trong những ngày gần đây.
- 4 I think the authorities should immediately \_\_\_\_\_ in crowded residential areas to reduce the accident risk.  
Tôi nghĩ chính quyền nên ngay lập tức \_\_\_\_\_ ở các khu dân cư đông đúc để giảm thiểu rủi ro tai nạn.
- 5 Everyone here prefers using their cars or motorbikes, and therefore these vehicles now \_\_\_\_\_.  
Tất cả mọi người ở đây đều thích sử dụng xe hơi hoặc xe máy hơn, vì vậy những phương tiện này hiện nay \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 My friend never uses the \_\_\_\_\_. Instead, he always climbs the lane barrier to cross the road.  
Bạn tôi không bao giờ dùng \_\_\_\_\_. Thay vào đó, anh ta thường xuyên trèo dải phân cách để băng qua đường.
- 7 I know it's wrong, but it's very hard to avoid \_\_\_\_\_ in an intersection when I'm in a hurry.  
Tôi biết là sai nhưng rất khó để tránh \_\_\_\_\_ ở giao lộ khi tôi đang vội.

# Practice



**Bài 1: Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài 2 – 3 câu.**

1. How much time do you spend on travelling on a normal day?
2. What traffic problems are there in your area?
3. How does that traffic problem affect you?



**2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe something that needs to be improved in your city.

You should say:

- What it is
- Why it needs improvement
- How to improve it

And explain why your city will be better after this improvement.



**3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe an experience when you went out with your friends but did not have a good time.

You should say:

- When you had this experience
- Who you went with
- Where you went to

And explain why you and your friends did not have a good time



**4. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.**

Describe an unusual travelling experience you had

You should say:

- Where you went to
- Who you went with
- What vehicle you used

And explain why this trip was unusual

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |        |         |         |
|--------|---------|---------|
| 1 – No | 2 – Yes | 3 – Yes |
| 4 – No | 5 – Yes | 6 – No. |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |        |       |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| 1 – E | 2 – A | 3 – F  | 4 – G |
| 5 – C | 6 – D | 7 – B. |       |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. How much time do you spend on travelling on a normal day?

Not much really. I always work from home so the only time I go out is to have lunch.

### 2. What traffic problems are there in your area?

My hometown is renowned for crazy traffic. Traffic is especially dense during the rush hour, when it seems to only move at a snail's pace. And the city authorities haven't really done anything to address this problem yet.

### 3. How does that traffic problem affect you?

Not very much. As I said, I don't go out much so traffic congestion doesn't really affect me. Having said that, when I go out for lunch or dinner and see vehicles tailing back for miles, I find it really annoying.

## Bài tập 2

Describe something that needs to be improved in your city.

You should say:

- What it is
- Why it needs improvement
- How to improve it

And explain why your city will be better after this improvement.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so I think the main thing that needs to be addressed in my city is the traffic infrastructure. Hanoi is a very busy city with an increasing population and the current roads and traffic systems cannot cope with the increase in the number of vehicles driving on the streets, especially during rush hour. During the morning and afternoon rush hours, when everyone is going to work or coming home from work, the traffic is extremely dense and because everyone is driving at a snail's pace the traffic builds up and can tail back for miles. And to make matters worse, many motorbike drivers try to cut in on the traffic jam and this only disrupts the flow of traffic even more.

So I think there is a number of things that can be done to try and tackle this problem. Firstly, the government should try to upgrade all the roads around the city, especially the busiest roads where the traffic jams occur the most. And secondly, I think that the police should be stricter in enforcing the road rules. Many people break the road rules every day, and this is one of the main causes of traffic problems, for example, so many people don't stop at a red light, and this is very dangerous for other drivers, and it also disrupts the flow of traffic as well. And lastly, I think that if the public transportation systems were improved then this could reduce the number of vehicles on the roads and reduce the severity of the traffic jams. So, the main reason that I think this problem needs to be addressed is because it will make travel within the city much quicker, safer and less stressful

### Bài tập 3

Describe an experience when you went out with your friends but did not have a good time.

You should say:

- When you had this experience
- Who you went with
- Where you went to

And explain why you and your friends did not have a good time

### Bài mẫu

Today, I'm going to tell you about a bad experience I had when going out with my friend.

About 2 weeks ago, my close friend and I decided to travel to the outskirt of the city to relax after nearly a month drowning in deadlines and customer requests. My friend has his own car, so we could go on our own and didn't have to take any forms of public transport. The destination we headed to was not very far from our homes, only around 2-hour driving.

However, instead of driving in a normal way, my friend told that he wanted some kind of extreme feeling. Having said that, he immediately drove beyond the speed limit and refused to go below 80km/h, while the maximum speed allowed was only 50km/h. Not only that, he even ran a red light at many crossroads during our way, causing danger to pedestrians crossing the streets.

Things got worse when a police officer noticed his wrong doing and chased after our car. After nearly 1 hour chasing like in an American action movie, my friend finally had to stop by the road and talk to the police. However, when the policeman removed his helmet, we realised that he was actually my friend's older brother, so fortunately we were only criticised instead of being arrested for violating traffic rules. We got back to the car and continued the journey, of course, at normal speed this time.

And I think that's all I want to tell you about my experience.

## Bài tập 4

Describe an unusual travelling experience you had

You should say:

- Where you went to
- Who you went with
- What vehicle you used

And explain why this trip was unusual

## Bài mẫu

Now I'm going to tell you about an unforgettable experience when I travelled to Bao Loc, a mountainous city of Vietnam.

About 2 years ago, my friend and I decided to take a trip to Bao Loc as a way to let our hair down after a hard time cramming for the university entrance examination. This city is quite near my hometown, so we chose to drive our own car there, and, theoretically speaking, it would only take us 5 hours to reach the destination.

When we had already travelled for nearly 3 hours, we suddenly found ourselves driving in an isolated area with no sign of houses or living creatures nearby. At that time, it started to get darker and colder around us, and we didn't know why but we could sense that something unusual was going to happen, like a chill running down my spine. My friend, the driver, also had the same feeling so he decided to speed up to go across this area as soon as possible. During our way, we could hear some whispers somewhere around us. Though I tried my best to look for the sources of such sounds, I couldn't find any clues. Then, we encountered one of the most terrifying scenes in our life: my friend's car ran into a young woman in white clothing, blood was everywhere. I stepped out of the car to check whether that person was still alive but couldn't see anything, as if she had never been there. Suddenly, we both heard a scream coming out from the forest, the scream of a woman, and I had the feeling that someone, or something, was approaching. I ran back to the car very quickly and told my friend to the hell out of there as quick as possible. We travelled at the maximum speed and finally, after nearly 1-hour driving, we got ourselves out of that nightmare.

Upon reaching the destination, we asked a medium about the experience we encountered, and she said that the forest that I had travelled to is haunted by an evil spirit and that we had to go to a pagoda to pray so that the spirit would not follow us. To be honest, after that trip, we swore to ourselves that we would never travel on that road again.

# 11

# Personality

## Personality Traits

So, if I had to describe my family, I would say that my father is a real **laid-back**<sup>(7)</sup> type of guy who has a **great sense of humor**<sup>(2)</sup> and is always making really **witty**<sup>(3)</sup> jokes that keeps the whole family entertained.

My mother, however, is a little bit different, and she doesn't always appreciate my dad's jokes. She is, however, a very **open-minded**<sup>(6)</sup> person who **always sees the bright side**<sup>(9)</sup> of things, is a **good listener**<sup>(10)</sup>, and **always knows the right thing to say**<sup>(11)</sup> when people turn to her for advice.

My oldest brother, Tom, is the **smart cookie**<sup>(5)</sup> of the family. He has just finished his M.B.A and is determined to work his way up the career ladder to the CEO position, and I have no doubt that he will succeed because he's **always one step ahead** of everyone else and really **has his head screwed on**. Actually Tom is quite an **inspiration**<sup>(1)</sup> for me, I must say, although he can be pretty **hot-tempered**<sup>(14)</sup> at times.

My younger brother, Ben, is still studying at university. He loves socializing and has got a **wide circle of friends**<sup>(8)</sup>.

I, on the other hand, am the **black sheep of the family**<sup>(15)</sup>. I'm completely different from everyone else in my family, a **real individual**<sup>(12)</sup>. While most of my family have extroverted personalities and love to socialize, I can be **painfully shy**<sup>(13)</sup> at times, and I usually prefer to **keep to myself**<sup>(4)</sup> most of the time.

- 1 To be an inspiration = To be a motivation: Là một nguồn cảm hứng
- 2 To have a good sense of humour = To be humourous: Có khiếu hài hước
- 3 To be witty = To be able to say amusing things: Dí dòm, thú vị
- 4 To keep to oneself = To avoid meeting people socially: Khép kín
- 5 A smart cookie = A clever person: Người thông minh, nhanh nhẹn
- 6 To be open-minded = To be able to accept different ideas: Cởi mở với những cái mới
- 7 To be laid-back/easy-going = To be calm and relaxed: Thoái mái, bình tĩnh
- 8 To have a wide circle of friends = To have a lot of friends: Có quan hệ bạn bè rộng rãi
- 9 To always see the bright side = To be optimistic: Lạc quan
- 10 To be a good listener = To be willing to listen to other people: Người giỏi lắng nghe
- 11 To know the right thing to say = To be good at giving advice: Biết nên nói gì
- 12 To be a real individual = To be unique: Khác biệt
- 13 To be painfully shy = To be very nervous about speaking to other people: Rất nhút nhát
- 14 To be hot-tempered = To get angry easily: Nóng tính
- 15 To be the black sheep of the family: Lạc loài, khác biệt

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 A person does not need any **formal qualifications** to be a successful doctor or lawyer.  
Một người có thể không cần bất cứ **formal qualifications** nào để trở thành một bác sĩ hay luật sư thành công.
- 2 It is necessary to be well-educated in a **knowledge-based society**.  
Ở **knowledge-based society**, việc được giáo dục bài bản là rất cần thiết.
- 3 Joining a music club at school is considered to be an **extracurricular activity**.  
Tham gia câu lạc bộ âm nhạc ở trường được coi là một **extracurricular activity**.
- 4 Doing group presentations can help students improve their **practical skills**, which are very important for their future adult life.  
Làm thuyết trình nhóm có thể giúp học sinh cải thiện **practical skills** mà rất quan trọng với cuộc sống trưởng thành sau này.
- 5 **Interactive learning** undermines the role of teachers and therefore reduces educational outcomes.  
**Interactive learning** làm nhẹ đi vai trò của người giáo viên và từ đó làm giảm hiệu quả giáo dục.
- 6 Every job in today's world requires us to pursue **tertiary education**.  
Mọi ngành nghề ở thời đại ngày nay đều yêu cầu chúng ta theo đuổi **tertiary education**.
- 7 A person can enhance his/her **career prospects** by expanding his/her circle of friends at work.  
Một người có thể cải thiện **career prospects** bằng cách mở rộng mối quan hệ trong công việc.
- 8 Schools should focus on providing students with more hands-on experience instead of only **theoretical knowledge** about their future work.  
Trường học nên tập trung vào việc cung cấp cho học sinh nhiều kinh nghiệm thực tế hơn là chỉ có **theoretical knowledge** về công việc tương lai của họ.

**2**

**Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. have his/her head screwed on  | B. always see the bright side |
| C. an inspiration                | D. open – minded              |
| E. the black sheep of the family | F. easy – going               |

- 1 Parents should be \_\_\_\_\_ about new ideas and experience of their children.  
Cha mẹ nên \_\_\_\_\_ về những ý tưởng và trải nghiệm mới của con trẻ.
  
- 2 Anna invests most of her money instead of spending them all because she has always \_\_\_\_\_.  
Anna đầu tư tiền bạc thay vì tiêu xài chúng vì cô ấy luôn \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 3 My friend Jenny loves to socialize and is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
Jenny bạn tôi rất thích đi giao lưu và rất \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 4 My mom is really a positive person because she \_\_\_\_\_.  
Mẹ tôi thật sự là một người tích cực vì bà \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 5 She has different interests from her siblings and parents. She is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Cô ấy có những thú vui, hứng thú khác với bố mẹ và anh chị. Cô ấy là \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 6 I really admire Bill Gates, who is a well-known successful businessman all over the world. He is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Tôi thật sự ngưỡng mộ Bill Gates, một doanh nhân thành đạt nổi tiếng. Ông ấy là \_\_\_\_\_.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. What types of personality traits/characteristics do you admire in other people?
2. What types of personality characteristics should a good leader have?
3. Do you share any similar personality characteristics with other members of your family?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a part of your personality or character

You should say:

- what this part of your personality or character is
- how long you have been like this
- how it affects your relationships

And explain why you think it is good or bad.



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a friend or a person who encouraged and helped you to achieve a goal

You should say:

- who this person is
- what this person encouraged you to do
- how this person helped you

And explain why this encouragement helped you to achieve the goal

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

1 – No      2 – Yes      3 – Yes      4 – No  
5 – Yes      6 – No      7 – No

## Câu hỏi 2

1 – D      2 – A      3 – F      4 – B      5 – E      6 – C



## Bài tập 1

### 1. What types of personality traits/characteristics do you admire in other people?

Well personally I think I am a laid-back/easy-going kind of person so I also admire that quality in other people, though I do find people that are career-minded and motivated to be quite inspiring. Also I really love people who are witty and have a good sense of humour.

### 2. What types of personality characteristics should a good leader have?

Well I think a good leader should definitely be inspirational. If they want people to listen to them and follow them then they need to be able to motivate them. I think they also need to be quite out-going as they probably need to interact with many people, so they should have good social skills. And lastly, a good leader needs to have their head screwed on. They need to be smart in a practical way and be able to solve problems quickly.

### 3. Do you share any similar personality characteristics with other members of your family?

Of course, I was raised by my mother and father so I'm sure they have influenced my personality. In some ways I am very similar to my mother who is very open-minded and tolerant and also is a very good listener. But I also am similar to my father who is very career-minded and motivated.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a part of your personality or character

You should say:

- what this part of your personality or character is
- how long you have been like this
- how it affects your relationships

And explain why you think it is good or bad.

## Bài mẫu

Okay, I am going to talk about a part of personality that I think is a positive thing about me. When I was a child, I was painfully shy and always stayed at home instead of going out and playing with other kids in the neighborhood. I didn't go to school until I was 6 years old. Even then I wouldn't have gone to school if my parents haven't encouraged me every single day. They said that it'd be a lot of fun making new friends and learning new things.

The first few years of primary school didn't quite pique my interest. I still kept things to myself and hardly talk to anybody else in my class. Then I met Gwen, who was a new student from a nearby school and arranged to sit next to me. She's new so it's understandable why she didn't communicate with other people, except me. At first, I didn't care much, but after a few days, I felt like I could talk to her in a way that friends were supposed to talk to each other, something that I hadn't experienced before. Then I became more open and started to communicate with my classmates and helped Gwen get to know the new school. She said that because I was a good listener, she found it safe and comfortable talking to me. I considered that a compliment and also an encouragement.

I think being a good listener is a key to any relationships, not just friendship. If you are not willing to listen to other people, you can't expect them to listen to and respect you.

That's all I want to say.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a part of your personality or character

You should say:

- what this part of your personality or character is
- how long you have been like this
- how it affects your relationships

And explain why you think it is good or bad.

### Bài mẫu

Today, I'll tell you about my best friend, Tom, who encouraged and helped me a lot to achieve my goal.

When I was at high school, I studied so well that I was always one step ahead of my classmates in almost every subject. That was the reason why I was very laid-back about the university entrance exam. And disappointingly, I failed that important exam, while most of my friends passed with flying colors. At that time, I was totally depressed and desperate. Luckily, Tom did cheer me up a lot and encouraged me to set a goal of passing the exam in the following year.

Talking about Tom, I first met this guy when I was in secondary school and we became best friend since then because we share many things in common. Tom is a smart cookie and also has a good sense of humour. Since the day I got the result of the exam, I gradually became painfully shy and kept to myself. In those tough days, Tom was always besides me and encouraged me to see the bright side of the problem. He said that I was a real individual and there was no point in comparing myself with other people. That did motivate me a lot in achieving my goal.

The following year, I took the exam again and this time, I managed to pass it with an impressive result. If it had not been for Tom, I probably couldn't have achieved such goal.

That's all I want to say.

# 12

# Relationships

## Relationships

Words in context

I consider my relationships with my friends and family to be one of the most important things in my life. They are the people that I spend so much of my time with, so I really value and cherish all of those moments because you never know what might happen in the future.

I have **had many ups and downs<sup>(8)</sup>** with my friends and have occasionally **fallen out with<sup>(3)</sup>** some of them, and have even **drifted apart<sup>(1)</sup>** and **lost touch with<sup>(10)</sup>** some of the people that I no longer **see eye to eye with<sup>(11)</sup>**.

But my two best friends are the ones who I have the most **in common with<sup>(7)</sup>** and even after long arguments, we still **kissed and made up<sup>(6)</sup>**. We all met each other about 20 years ago, when we were in primary school, and we **got on so well with each other<sup>(4)</sup>** right from the start. Since then I have made many new friends<sup>(13)</sup> and gotten to know<sup>(5)</sup> a lot of people, but I can honestly say that I still **enjoy the company<sup>(2)</sup>** of my two childhood friends the most.

Now we are all older and getting married, starting our own families and **settling down<sup>(12)</sup>**, and we even live quite far from each other, but I really hope that we all try to **keep in touch with<sup>(9)</sup>** one another and remain close friends for life.

- 1 To drift apart = To become less friendly or close to someone: *Mất dần tình bạn*
- 2 To enjoy someone's company = To feel happy to be with somebody: *Thích ở với ai*
- 3 To fall out with = To argue/quarrel with: *Cãi nhau*
- 4 To get on well with = To be on good terms with: *Hòa hợp với*
- 5 To get to know = To have a chance to know someone: *Làm quen, biết*
- 6 To kiss and make up = To forgive and become friendly again: *Làm lành*
- 7 To have a lot in common = To share similar interests: *Có nhiều điểm chung*
- 8 To have ups and downs = To be through thick and thin: *Trải qua thăng trầm*
- 9 To keep in touch with = To keep contact with: *Giữ liên lạc*
- 10 To lose touch with = To lose contact with: *Mất liên lạc*
- 11 To see eye to eye = To agree: *Đồng ý*
- 12 To settle down = To have a quieter life: *Ôn định*
- 13 To make friends = To become friends: *Kết bạn*

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 It is common for people that aren't very close to **drift apart** over time.  
*Thường thì những người mà không thân thiết lắm với nhau sẽ **drift apart** qua thời gian.*
- 2 Once you get married and have children you should not really start to **settle down**.  
*Một khi bạn kết hôn và có con, bạn không nên bắt đầu **settle down**.*
- 3 I **fell out** with parents when I told them I was planning on taking a gap year because we have the same opinion.  
*Tôi **fell out** với bố mẹ khi tôi nói với họ tôi dự định nghỉ học một năm vì chúng tôi có cùng ý kiến.*
- 4 My friends and I really **see eye to eye** on almost everything because we always have different opinions.  
*Bạn tôi và tôi thật sự **see eye to eye** về mọi thứ vì chúng tôi luôn có ý kiến khác nhau.*
- 5 I really **get on well with** my family, so we are really close-knit.  
*Tôi rất **get on well with** gia đình mình, nên chúng tôi rất khăng khít và gần gũi.*
- 6 I don't like spending time with Justin because we **have a lot in common**.  
*Tôi không thích dành thời gian với Justin vì chúng tôi **have a lot in common**.*

**2**

**Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:**

A. lose touch with

C. have ups and downs

E. enjoy her company

B. get to know

D. make friends

F. kiss and make up

1 It is not easy to \_\_\_\_\_ with strangers.

*Không dễ để \_\_\_\_\_ với người lạ.*

2 My best friend and I \_\_\_\_\_ through our lives, which is why I really appreciate this relationship.

*Bạn thân của tôi và tôi \_\_\_\_\_ trong cuộc sống, đó là lí do tại sao tôi rất trân trọng mối quan hệ này.*

3 When you meet a new person, it can take some time to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

*Khi bạn gặp một người mới, cần thời gian để \_\_\_\_\_ họ*

4 Over the years, I \_\_\_\_\_ most of my high school friends.

*Qua các năm, tôi \_\_\_\_\_ với hầu hết các bạn trung học của mình.*

5 Linda understands me so well that I really \_\_\_\_\_.

*Linda hiểu tôi rất rõ nên tôi cực kì \_\_\_\_\_.*

6 We had a huge argument last week, but we \_\_\_\_\_ and everything is good now.

*Chúng tôi có cãi nhau to vào tuần trước, nhưng chúng tôi \_\_\_\_\_ và mọi thứ bây giờ ổn rồi.*

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Do you still communicate with all your childhood friends?
2. Do you have a good relationship with your family?
3. Do you think it is important to maintain contact with your friends once you get married?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe somebody that you have a good relationship with

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How long you have known them and how you know them
- What this person is like

And explain why you have a good relationship with that person



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a friend you feel proud of

You should say:

- who he/she is
- when you met him/her
- what he/she did to make you proud of

And explain how you feel about that person

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|
| 1 – Yes | 2 – No  | 3 – No |
| 4 – No  | 5 – Yes | 6 – No |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – D | 2 – C | 3 – B |
| 4 – A | 5 – E | 6 – F |



## Bài tập 1

### **1. Do you still communicate with all your childhood friends?**

Well not really. Actually I have lost contact with all of my childhood friends. We all live in different places these days so I guess we all just drifted apart over time.

### **2. Do you have a good relationship with your family?**

Yes, I get on really well with my family and really enjoy their company. We mostly see eye to eye, but of course we do fall out occasionally over something, but it's never much of a big problem, we usually sort it out fairly quickly. We have been through a lot of ups and downs throughout the years

### **3. Do you think it is important to maintain contact with your friends once you get married?**

Yes, I definitely think that you should keep in touch with your friends when you settle down and get married. Your friends are the people who you can really count on for support when your family can't help you.

## Bài tập 2

Describe somebody that you have a good relationship with

You should say:

- Who this person is
- How long you have known them and how you know them
- What this person is like

And explain why you have a good relationship with that person

## Bài mẫu

Well, the person I'd like to talk to you about is a very good friend of mine, Mai. She must be one of the nicest and most down-to-earth individuals I know.

If I were to describe how she looks I would say Mai is a very gorgeous and charming girl who always attracts a lot of attention from men. She is much taller than me so it's kind of embarrassing standing next to her to be honest. Mai also has straight brown hair and deep, dark brown eyes. Like most teenagers, she pays a lot of attention to her appearance and likes dressing in the latest and most snazzy fashion. I don't think I've ever seen her in a plain old T-shirt or jeans.

Anyway, we've basically known each other since forever because we were in the same class from high school through to college. You know, the first time I met her, she left a deep impression on me because on the first day at school, I got lost while trying to find my classroom and she was my saviour. Coincidentally, we were arranged by the teacher to become desk-mates.

And with regards to why she became my bestie, well, I guess the main reason is that we really got on well right from the start, and we also see eye to eye on a lot of things such as fashion, sport and even video games. She is my closest friend so I feel like we can share everything together, from schoolwork to our love lives. The thing I admire most about Mai is that she is really protective and likes to look after people. As a normal human being, however, Mai also has her shortcomings. She's never on time, and is sometimes quite absent-minded and inconsiderate and that makes people think she never takes things seriously. But I don't think this is true. She has a strong sense of responsibility and I know that I can always rely on her. I truly enjoy her company and I am proud to say that I have such a loyal and helpful friend – she's really one in a million.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a friend you feel proud of

You should say:

- who he/she is
- when you met him/her
- what he/she did to make you proud of

And explain how you feel about that person

### Bài mẫu

Today, I'm going to talk about Hoang, a friend that I really feel proud of. Back in high school, we used to hang out a lot until he went abroad for further education.

I got to know him when we were at high school. We got on quite well with each other as we had a lot in common. Even though sometimes I fell out with him, we could soon kiss and make up and everything has been good till now.

While I was doing really badly at Physics, he was considered as the most intelligent student in this subject at my school. He always stood first in all of the exams and no other student could come close to him. Every time the teacher asked us to solve a Physics question, it never cost him more than 3 minutes to do the task. Not only did he perform well in Physics but he also did brilliantly at other science subjects. This was why he could get a scholarship to study at a University of Science in America.

We still keep in touch with each other until now and I'm sure we can never drift apart. I am so proud to have such an intelligent friend like Hoang.

That is all I want to share.

# 13 Decisions

## Important Life Choices

### Words in context

These days it seems like there are so many important choices and **life changing decisions**<sup>(2)</sup> that we have to make, but one of the **toughest choices**<sup>(3)</sup> that I've had to make so far was the decision of what career path I should follow.

You know, when I was young and freshly graduated from high school, it really wasn't easy to think about what job I wanted to do for the rest of my life, and I definitely didn't just want to make a **snap decision**<sup>(6)</sup>.

So I tried to **keep my options open**<sup>(8)</sup> for as long as possible and I **turned to people I trusted for advice**<sup>(4)</sup> because I felt that I needed to make a **wise decision**<sup>(9)</sup> choosing what I would study at university as this would probably be a **pivotal moment**<sup>(13)</sup> in my life.

So, after **weighing up all the options**<sup>(10)</sup>, I ended up choosing to major in Engineering, though shortly after, I started to **have second thoughts**<sup>(7)</sup> about it, and **trusting my intuition**<sup>(5)</sup> I decided to change to Business Administration, which was actually my initial choice.

Well, it's been quite a few years since I made that decision, and I have just recently graduated from university, which was quite a **significant achievement**<sup>(11)</sup> for me and a really **important milestone**<sup>(1)</sup> in my life. I'm now ready to start looking for job and begin my career in business, but I'm a little nervous because I've become quite used to student life and now I'll have to **adapt to**<sup>(12)</sup> a new lifestyle of working full-time.

But, overall, I can say that choosing to study Business really was, without a doubt, one of the best decisions that I have ever made.

- 1 An important **milestone** = A very important event: *Cột mốc quan trọng*
- 2 A **life changing decision** = A very important choice/decision: *Một quyết định cực kì quan trọng*
- 3 A **tough decision**: *Một quyết định khó khăn*
- 4 To turn to someone for advice = To ask someone for advice: *Hỏi lời khuyên của ai*
- 5 To trust your intuition = To believe in your feelings: *Tin vào trực giác*
- 6 To make a snap decision = To decide very quickly: *Quyết định nhanh chóng*
- 7 To have second thoughts: *Suy nghĩ lại*
- 8 To keep your options open = To leave the decision for the future: *Bỏ ngỏ quyết định*
- 9 A wise decision = A good decision: *Một quyết định khôn ngoan*
- 10 To weigh up the options = To consider different choices: *Cân nhắc các lựa chọn*
- 11 A significant achievement = An important success: *Thành tựu quan trọng*
- 12 To adapt to something = To adjust to something: *Thích nghi với*
- 13 A pivotal moment = An important moment: *Giây phút trọng đại*

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 It is very easy for people to **adapt to** the new lifestyle when they begin living abroad.  
Người ta rất dễ **adapt to** cách sống mới khi họ bắt đầu sống ở nước ngoài.
- 2 Graduating from university is **an important milestone** in each person's life.  
Tốt nghiệp đại học là **an important milestone** trong cuộc sống của mỗi người.
- 3 I really don't know which university to choose. It was such a **tough decision**.  
Tôi thật sự không biết nên chọn trường đại học nào. Đó thật là **a tough decision**.
- 4 Making decisions on your own can be difficult. Sometimes you need to **turn to your parents for advice**.  
Tự đưa ra quyết định có thể khó khăn. Đôi khi bạn cần **turn to your parents for advice**.
- 5 My parents are so proud of me for getting the first place in the national Physics competition. It really was a **pivotal moment**.  
Bố mẹ rất tự hào về tôi khi đứng nhất trong kì thi Vật lý quốc gia. Đó thật sự là **a pivotal moment**.
- 6 I'm really good at **making snap decisions** because I always spend ages trying to consider all the different things I could choose from.  
Tôi rất giỏi trong việc **making snap decisions** bởi vì tôi luôn phải tốn "cả năm" cố gắng cân nhắc những thứ khác nhau mà tôi có thể chọn.

2

Chọn từ (và chia động từ) phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau:

- A. weigh up the options
- C. life changing decision
- E. have second thoughts

- B. wise decision
- D. keep my options open
- F. trust my intuition

- 1 I'm not very good at making logical decisions so I usually just \_\_\_\_\_.  
Tôi không giỏi trong việc đưa ra quyết định hợp lý, nên tôi thường chỉ\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Choosing to take a gap year after graduating from high school really was a \_\_\_\_\_ of mine.  
Lựa chọn nghỉ học một năm sau khi tốt nghiệp cấp ba thật sự là một \_\_\_\_\_ của tôi.
- 3 After rushing out to buy the latest iPhone 11 Pro Max, I started to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Sau khi vội vàng mua iPhone 11 Pro Max mới nhất, tôi bắt đầu \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 I'm \_\_\_\_\_ before I decide to apply for the job.  
Tôi \_\_\_\_\_ trước khi quyết định ứng tuyển vào công việc.
- 5 I wasn't sure if I would get the job I applied for. Therefore, I tried to \_\_\_\_\_ and apply for others.  
Tôi không chắc tôi sẽ được nhận vào công việc mà tôi đã ứng tuyển. Vì vậy, tôi cố gắng \_\_\_\_\_ và ứng tuyển vào các công việc khác.
- 6 I don't think you should buy that expensive house in District 1. It's not a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Tôi không nghĩ bạn nên mua căn nhà đắt đỏ ở quận 1. Đó không phải là một\_\_\_\_\_.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Are you good at making decisions?
2. How do you make a difficult decision?
3. What are the most important decisions that people are faced with in their lives?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe an important or difficult choice/decision you have made in your life

You should say:

- What the choice/decision was
- When and where it happened
- What actually happened

And explain why it was important or difficult.



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a time that you gave advice to others

You should say:

- Who you gave advice to
- What the advice was
- Why you gave advice

And explain how you felt about the advice

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 – No  | 2 – Yes | 3 – Yes |
| 4 – Yes | 5 – Yes | 6 – No  |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – F | 2 – C | 3 – E |
| 4 – A | 5 – D | 6 – B |



## Bài tập 1

### 1. Are you good at making decisions?

I think I'm quite good at making decisions. I can usually make snap decisions fairly well, and I can always trust my intuition when needing to make some more serious life changing decisions.

### 2. How do you make a difficult decision?

Well, normally I like to keep my options open for as long as possible so that I can weigh up the options carefully, then if I still need some help I usually turn to my parents or a close friend for advice. And if I still can't decide than I just try to trust my intuition.

### 3. What are some of the most important decisions that people are faced with in their lives?

Well, there are many important decisions people are faced with in life, for example, what career path they should follow, or when to get married, or, when or if to have children and so on.

## Bài tập 2

Describe an important or difficult choice/decision you have made in your life

You should say:

- What the choice/decision was
- When and where it happened
- What actually happened

And explain why it was important or difficult.

## Bài mẫu

So many years ago, back when I was finishing high school I had to make a very tough decision about what I should study at university the following year. The main difficulty that I was faced with at that time was that what I really wanted to study was architecture, however, unfortunately my grades in school weren't good enough for me to apply for that course so I had a difficult decision to make about what else I was interested in studying. And then, to make matters worse, my second choice, which was Construction Management, was being cancelled the following year, so I then had to rethink my choice again! So, after weighing up the options and turning to my parents and career guidance counsellor at school for advice, I chose to study Civil Engineering, as it just seemed like the wisest decision after my other two choices were not possible.

So, the following year I went off to university and began studying Civil Engineering, however, after my first year of studying I began to have second thoughts, so I then decided to change my course in my second year to Electrical Engineering. I then went on to finish that course, however many years later I did feel some regret towards that decision as ultimately what I wanted to study was related to building design and construction.

## Bài tập 3

Describe a time that you gave advice to others

You should say:

- Who you gave advice to
- What the advice was
- Why you gave advice

And explain how you felt about the advice

## Bài mẫu

Today, I'm going to tell you about a time I gave advice for my sister.

Two years ago, my sister turned 18 and that was the time she had to make a life changing decision on which university she should study for the next four years. To describe briefly about my sister, she was a smart girl and she performed excellently in most of her subjects and got some significant achievements at high school. Therefore, she had the ability to study in many different universities. That was why choosing one university to study was a tough decision for my sister, because she had to weigh up so many options.

At first, she was about to trust her intuition and basically chose the one she felt like it. But after spending some days rethinking, she had second thoughts. As this would be an important milestone in her life, she didn't want to make any mistake at all. Then, she decided to turn to me for advice. I then told her to follow her passion and choose the major which came with good career prospect in the future. Instead of making a snap decision, she spent nearly a month to reach the final decision.

My sister decided to study English Teaching at the University of Education because she had long been passionate about becoming a teacher in the future. Also, by teaching English, she could actually earn a lot of money as well. Till now, my sister is very satisfied with the decision she made that day.

# 14

# Feelings

## Memories and Feelings

When I **look back on**<sup>(11)</sup> my childhood, I can distinctly remember<sup>(2)</sup> many memorable moments that I shared with my family during our holidays in the summer time. We would always go to the beach for a few weeks and it was always **an incredibly exciting time**<sup>(7)</sup> for my brothers and I to pack our bags to get ready to go on a road trip. Though I think the idea of a road trip was more exciting than the reality of it because I have **vague memories**<sup>(1)</sup> of being extremely uncomfortable sitting in the back seat of the car for thirteen hours or more.

Something else that I vividly remember<sup>(3)</sup> from my childhood is my first day at school. If my memory serves me right<sup>(5)</sup>, I can say that I had experienced a roller coaster of emotions<sup>(6)</sup> as my mom left me for a whole day long with "strangers". But then it turned out to be extremely exciting because I made a lot of new friends and had so much fun. Having said that, I was really nervous and **had butterflies in my stomach**<sup>(9)</sup> a couple of times. But I think most of the other kids also fell the same at that time, which helped me **put my mind at ease**<sup>(15)</sup> a little.

Another unforgettable experience<sup>(10)</sup> that I can recall from my childhood was when I had to do my final exams in high school. You know, I was up to my ears<sup>(8)</sup> in a lot of homework and revision. On the next day, when I sat for the exam I totally freaked out<sup>(14)</sup> because my mind went completely blank<sup>(4)</sup> and I couldn't remember a thing<sup>(13)</sup> I had studied the night before. Afterwards I was feeling extremely disappointed because I thought I had totally flunked the exam, but a few weeks later when I received the results and I was pleasantly surprised to find out that I had actually done better than I thought and had gotten a very high grade. This publication's user rights are given to

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- 1 To vaguely remember something = To have vague memories about something: Nhớ điều gì một cách mơ hồ
- 2 To distinctly remember something = To clearly remember something: Nhớ điều gì một cách rõ ràng
- 3 To vividly remember = To have vivid memories: Nhớ điều gì một cách sống động
- 4 My mind went (completely) blank: Hoàn toàn không thể nhớ ra cái gì
- 5 If my memory serves me right/ well = if I remember correctly: Nếu tôi nhớ không lầm
- 6 A rollercoaster of emotions: Cảm xúc hỗn tạp, vui buồn lẫn lộn
- 7 An incredibly exciting time: Một khoảng thời gian thật tuyệt vời, hào hứng
- 8 Be up to my ears in something = To be extremely busy with something: Rất bận rộn với điều gì
- 9 To have butterflies in one's stomach = To feel very nervous about something: Cảm giác bồn chồn, hồi hộp trong lòng
- 10 An unforgettable experience: Một trải nghiệm không thể quên
- 11 To look back on = Nhìn lại điều gì đó trong quá khứ: To think about something in the past
- 12 To flunk the exam = To fail an exam or course of study: Thi trượt
- 13 To not remember a thing  
Tôi không thể nhớ ra được gì cả
- 14 To freak out: Hoảng loạn, sợ hãi
- 15 To put one's mind at ease: Làm cho ai cảm thấy dễ chịu, nhẹ nhõm

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 I have vague memories of visiting Da Nang because I can tell you every single detail of that trip.  
*Tôi have vague memories về chuyến tham quan Đà Nẵng vì tôi có thể kể bạn nghe từng chi tiết của chuyến đi đó.*
- 2 When my Literature teacher asked me when Shakespeare was born, my mind completely went blank and I kept standing like a tree.  
*Khi giáo viên dạy văn hỏi tôi Shakespeare được sinh ra vào ngày nào, my mind completely went blank và tôi tiếp tục đứng như trời trồng.*
- 3 His life has always been so plain, which makes him feel as if he's on a rollercoaster of emotions.  
*Cuộc sống của anh ta luôn nhạt nhẽo, điều đó giúp anh ta cảm thấy như mình đang on a rollercoaster of emotions.*
- 4 It was such an incredibly exciting time for me to go ice skating at Landmark 81 especially because I have never tried it before.  
*Đó quả thật là an incredibly exciting time với tôi khi được đi trượt băng ở Landmark 81 đặc biệt là khi tôi chưa từng thử nó bao giờ.*
- 6 I'm usually sweating my hands and getting butterflies in my stomach when I give a speech in front of a big audience.  
*Tôi thường chảy mồ hôi tay và getting butterflies in my stomach khi tôi trình bày bài phát biểu trước nhiều người.*
- 7 My neighbors sing karaoke every single night, and their voices help me put my mind at ease.  
*Hàng xóm của tôi hát karaoke mỗi tối và giọng hát của họ giúp tôi put my mind at ease.*

**2**

Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- |             |            |             |             |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| A. flunked  | B. blank   | C. remember | D. exciting |
| E. emotions | I. vague   | F. put      | J. had      |
| G. forgot   | K. vividly | H. distinct |             |

- 1 I only have \_\_\_\_\_ memories of what that movie was like. It's been years already.  
*Tôi chỉ nhớ \_\_\_\_\_ về bộ phim đó như thế nào. Đã mấy năm trôi qua rồi.*
- 2 I have to admit that my mind went completely \_\_\_\_\_ when I took a Chemistry exam. I could not \_\_\_\_\_ a single thing!  
*Tôi phải thừa nhận rằng tôi hoàn toàn \_\_\_\_\_. khi tôi làm bài thi môn Hoá. Tôi không thể \_\_\_\_\_ một chút gì cả!*
- 3 My friends and I had an incredibly \_\_\_\_\_ time during our holiday last year.  
*Tôi và bạn tôi đã có một khoảng thời gian \_\_\_\_\_ vào kỳ nghỉ của chúng tôi năm trước.*
- 4 I completely \_\_\_\_\_ that I had a school assignment due tomorrow.  
*Tôi hoàn toàn \_\_\_\_\_ rằng tôi có bài tập ở trường đến hạn chót vào ngày mai.*
- 5 I was on a roller coaster of \_\_\_\_\_ when I got accepted into the top university in my country.  
*Tôi trải qua \_\_\_\_\_ khi tôi được nhận vào một trường đại học hàng đầu trong nước.*
- 6 I didn't revise anything for the final test, that's why I \_\_\_\_\_ the course.  
*Tôi đã không ôn gì cho bài thi cuối kì, đó là lí do vì sao tôi \_\_\_\_\_ khoá học.*
- 7 I \_\_\_\_\_ remember my first day at work because it was more exciting than I imagined.  
*Tôi \_\_\_\_\_ nhớ ngày đầu tiên đi làm bởi vì nó thú vị hơn tôi tưởng tượng.*
- 8 My boyfriend totally \_\_\_\_\_ butterflies in his stomach. He was nervous about meeting my parents, so I tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his mind at ease.  
*Bạn trai của tôi hoàn toàn \_\_\_\_\_. Anh ấy lo lắng về việc gặp ba mẹ tôi, nên tôi cố gắng \_\_\_\_\_ cảm thấy nhẹ nhõm.*

# Practice



## 1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

1. Can you remember your childhood very well?
2. Do you often think about the past?
3. What do you usually do with your friends?
4. Did you usually get prizes from your parents when you were a child?
5. What rewards can children get from school?



## 2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe an experience that you went out with your friends and had a good time

You should say

- Where you went
- When you went out
- What you did

And explain why you had a good time



## 3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a time when you forgot something important.

You should say:

- what it was that you forgot
- when this happened
- where it happened

And explain what the result of your forgetting was and how you felt about it.

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

1 - No      2 - Yes      3 - No  
4 - Yes      5 - Yes      6 - No

## Câu hỏi 2

1 - I      2 - B&C      3 - D      4 - G  
5 - E      6 - A      7 - K      8 - J&F



## Bài tập 1

1. There are many unforgettable experiences from my childhood that I can clearly recall, like going on vacation with my family, and the times when I had to move towns and go to a new school. But I guess I can only vaguely remember other details of it.
2. Well I do look back on my past occasionally, to remember some of the more memorable moments. It is nice to think about the past to see how things have changed.
3. Definitely. I think that your most vivid memories are probably from times when you were either incredibly excited or extremely disappointed. I think the most memorable moments in our lives are when we are overwhelmed with some kind of emotion.

## Bài tập 2

Describe an experience that you went out with your friends and had a good time

You should say

- Where you went
- When you went out
- What you did

And explain why you had a good time

### Bài mẫu

When I look back on my teenage years, I can distinctly remember many memorable moments that I shared with my friends when we went on our school trip in the summer time.

If my memory serves me right, we had experienced a short trip to Vung Tau city which is a coastal area located in the Southern part of Vietnam and kinda close to HCM city.

It was such an incredibly exciting time for me and my group of friends, especially when we packed our bags to get ready to go on a road trip. We went shopping together and bought the same parody T-shirt. You know, at that time, we had just finished our final exams and had been through a stressful time. So this trip was the great event that helped us ease our mind and unwind a bit.

Talking about what we did during the trip, I have to say that I only had vague memories of being extremely uncomfortable sitting in the back seat of the car for two hours, and I had experienced a roller coaster of emotions as we had so much fun. We also had a full collection of our silly pictures though.

Another unforgettable experience that I can recall from that trip is when we all gathered up in front of a camp fire and shared our feelings about each other. I almost burst into tears when remembering about all of our high school memories. I could remember every single thing we had talked on that night. That's why this is one of the most memorable time I've experienced

## Bài tập 3

Describe a time when you forgot something important.

You should say:

- what it was that you forgot
- when this happened
- where it happened

And explain what the result of your forgetting was and how you felt about it.

### Bài mẫu

Ok, so about three years ago I was travelling in Asia, and at the time I had just spent about two weeks visiting some friends in Hong Kong and I was preparing to leave to cross the border to China on this particular day. So I was staying in my friend's apartment in the city and he had gone to work that day, so I spent the morning packing all my luggage. Then I had to travel into the city-center to meet my friend to give him back the key to his apartment before I caught the train to the Chinese border, however on my way into the city-center on the subway, the thought occurred to me to double-check that I had my passport and my money. Normally I didn't carry large sums of money with me when travelling, however for a particular reason I was carrying more than \$1000 in cash with me at that time. But when I checked my bag I couldn't find the money anywhere. I immediately freaked out because I didn't want to lose all that money, and I had also just had my iPhone pick-pocketed a week before after just arriving in Hong Kong, so I thought I was really having a streak of bad-luck!

So after getting off the subway and rummaging through all my belongings, I still couldn't find the cash, so I decided to get back on the subway again and head back to my friend's apartment as I thought maybe I had left the money there somewhere. So, about an hour later back at his apartment with butterflies in my stomach, I still couldn't find the money, and mind my was completely blank about what I had done with it, and then the thought struck me.....I distinctly remembered that I had hidden it in a small side pocket of my toiletry bag when I was packing late the night before. I was so tired that night when I was packing that I completely forgot that I had hidden it there. So after finding the money my mind was put at ease, and I went back to meet my friend and continued on my way to China....though, now I was really cutting it fine to make it there in time to catch the train in China that I had booked. This was definitely an unforgettable experience; I really experienced a roller coaster of emotions that day.

# 15

# Buying Buying things

Words in context

If you ask me whether I'm **fashion-conscious<sup>(1)</sup>** or not, I have to say that I used to be a bit of a **slave to fashion<sup>(2)</sup>**. To me, buying stuff is such a great way to uplift my mood whenever I feel stressful or bored. Back to the time when I was a university senior, I usually **splurged on<sup>(3)</sup>** designer clothing and purchased lots of **must-have items<sup>(4)</sup>** just to **keep up with the latest fashion trend<sup>(6)</sup>**. I even had a collection of **loyalty cards<sup>(5)</sup>** from those clothing brands. **In retrospect<sup>(7)</sup>**, I think that I have wasted too much money on expensive and unnecessary things.

However, since I moved out and lived on my own, I has changed my shopping habits a lot. Now I'm always looking for things that are affordable but still fashionable. Apart from the **high-end stores<sup>(8)</sup>**, there are a couple of really nice shops in the city that sell vintage clothes that never really **go out of fashion<sup>(9)</sup>**. Actually, I may find it uncomfortable wearing something old-fashioned, but I'm not as bothered as I used to be about what I wear. The thing that makes me feel a bit annoyed when I shop at local shops is that crowds of people all try to **snap up a bargain<sup>(10)</sup>** when the sales are on. I also **get irritated<sup>(11)</sup>** when shop assistants try to **give me the hard sell<sup>(12)</sup>** even though I just want to do a **window shopping<sup>(13)</sup>**.

Despite the fact that I'm no longer interested in **designer labels<sup>(14)</sup>**, when it comes to special occasions like my friends' wedding ceremony or parties at my workplace, I do buy some fancy clothes, except those which are **too rich for my blood<sup>(15)</sup>**.

- 1 **Fashion-conscious** = Very interested in fashion and want to wear fashionable clothes: Đam mê thời trang
- 2 **A slave to fashion:** Người nghiện thời trang
- 3 **To splurge (on)** = To spend a lot of money on something: Vung tiền vào việc mua cái gì đó
- 4 **Must-have item:** Món đồ không thể thiếu
- 5 **Loyalty card:** Thẻ khách hàng thân thiết
- 6 **To keep up with the latest fashion trend:** Bắt kịp xu hướng thời trang
- 7 **In retrospect:** Khi nhìn lại
- 8 **High-end brands:** Thương hiệu cao cấp, sang chảnh
- 9 **To go out of fashion/ style** = To not be in fashion any more: Lỗi thời
- 10 **To snap up a bargain** = to buy something quickly that is being sold cheaply: Mua món hàng với giá hời
- 11 **To get irritated** = To be annoyed: Khó chịu
- 12 **To give the hard sell** = To put pressure on someone to buy something Mời chào mua hàng quá nhiệt tình
- 13 **Window shopping:** Đi ngắm đồ và thường không có ý định sẽ mua
- 14 **Designer label:** Nhãn hàng thiết kế
- 15 **Too rich for one's blood** = Too expensive: Quá đắt, cho cũng không lấy

**1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau**

- 1 Anna is a **fashion-conscious** person because she always wears clothes that are designed by famous designers.  
Anna là một người **fashion-conscious** bởi vì cô ấy luôn mặc quần áo được thiết kế bởi những nhà thiết kế nổi tiếng.
- 2 I think that that \$3 dress is **too rich for my blood**.  
Tôi nghĩ cái váy 3 đô đó **too rich for my blood**.
- 3 Iphone 11 Pro is a **must-have item** for people who are big fans of Apple Inc.  
Iphone 11 Pro là một **must-have item** cho những ai là “fan cứng” của hãng Apple.
- 4 Jeans has **gone out of fashion** for years as a lot of people still wear them.  
Jeans đã **gone out of fashion** hàng năm trời vì nhiều người vẫn mặc chúng.
- 5 If someone keeps asking me the same question over and over again, I'll **get irritated** definitely.  
Nếu ai đó cứ hỏi đi hỏi lại một câu hỏi, tôi chắc chắn sẽ **get irritated**.
- 6 There are some second hand shops in town where you can **snap up a bargain** and get nice and cheap items.  
Có một vài cửa hàng second hand trong phố nơi mà bạn có thể **snap up a bargain** và mua được quần áo rẻ đẹp.
- 7 John usually buys the same style of clothing to **keep up with the latest fashion trend**.  
John thường mua quần áo có phong cách giống nhau để **keep up with the latest fashion trend**.
- 8 I rarely buy clothes at that shop, so I will get a **loyalty card** soon.  
Hiếm khi tôi mua quần áo ở cửa hàng đó nên tôi sẽ sớm có **a loyalty card**.

**2**

Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- |   |                          |                      |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|
| a. high-end brands                          | b. window shopping       | c. in retrospect     |
| d. keep up with<br>the latest fashion trend | e. giving me a hard sell | f. snap up a bargain |
| g. slurging on                              | h. too rich for my blood |                      |

- 1 When summer sales are on, people can have chances to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Rolex watch is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'll never save enough money to buy one.
- 3 My sister who majors in fashion design attends to a lot of fashion shows so as to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 It is not necessary to purchase things from \_\_\_\_\_ because there are a lot of local shops that sell high-quality products.
- 5 My brother is a person who always thinks carefully before \_\_\_\_\_ a new tech gadget.
- 6 I don't usually buy new stuff, but I like to go \_\_\_\_\_ in my free time.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ I probably should have worked harder in school.
- 8 Even though I said I just looked around and would come back later, she kept \_\_\_\_\_.

# Practice



1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

- 1 Do you like shopping?
- 2 How often do you buy something in a shop?
- 3 Are there many shops near your home?
- 4 In your opinion, what is more important when buying something, price quality?
- 5 Is shopping a popular activity in your country?
- 6 Why people like shopping for clothes online?



2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a good experience of online shopping

You should say:

- When it happened
- What you bought
- Why you bought it

And explain why you think it was a good experience



3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe a time you spent a lot of money on something

You should say:

- When you spent money
- What you bought
- Where you bought it

And explain why you spent a lot of money on it

# Key



## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |         |        |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 1 – Yes | 2 – No  | 3 – Yes | 4 – No |
| 5 – Yes | 6 – Yes | 7 – No  | 8 – No |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 – F | 2 – H | 3 – D | 4 – A |
| 5 – G | 6 – B | 7 – C | 8 – E |



## Bài tập 1

1. Yes definitely. Whenever I feel stressed, I go shopping for the whole day. However, for the most part I only go window shopping and hardly buy anything.
2. Apart from grocery shopping which I do every day, I usually buy things from a shop once or twice a week.
3. I live in the central district of Hanoi so there are tons and tons of shopping malls and small stores around.
4. Both price and quality are important when considering to buy something from shops. I mean, the majority of people care about the quality of the product they want to purchase. However, if they are on a tight budget, they also need to carefully consider the price as well.
5. Yes definitely. In fact, shopping is a popular activity in most countries, especially among young people. People shop because shopping is a relaxing activity and they can have time for themselves. Young people in my country usually go shopping in groups, which is a perfect way to spend time with friends.
6. There are several reasons. First, buying things from the Internet is a time – saving way of shopping because you do not have to go to physical stores to purchase clothes. Second, there are many deals and discount offers if one buys clothes from an online shop.

## Bài tập 2

Describe a good experience of online shopping

You should say:

- When it happened
- What you bought
- Why you bought it

And explain why you think it was a good experience

### Bài mẫu

Today, I'm going to tell you about a time when I bought clothes online and had a good experience.

You know, I've always considered myself as a fashion-conscious person as I splurge on clothing from high-end stores to keep up with the latest fashion trend. That's why I hit the mall on a very regular basis.

One day, while shopping around Gucci store in Ho Chi Minh city, I came across a pair of sneakers that looked absolutely chic. Unfortunately, my size was out of stock, so the shop assistant advised me to order online through Gucci's website. You know, the price of those shoes is exorbitantly high, but I really want to purchase them as a self-reward after a long year of hard work. Therefore, I decided to order them online.

Firstly, I sent the e-mail to ask for the item's availability in other chain stores. Then, the customer care officer replied my e-mail immediately within 2 hours and sent me the very detailed guidance of how to purchase their out-of-stock items. She also helped me through all of the ordering steps and informed when I could receive the sneakers. Last but not least, I was pleased with fast delivery since it only took 2 days to ship the package to my home. When I opened the box, there was a bunch of vouchers and she explained that those vouchers were their gift because I had spent my time waiting for them. The things that made me satisfied is not only their way of customer service but also the high quality of the product regardless of online or offline shopping.

All in all, that was a time when I do online shopping and achieved a good experience. Now I always prefer to do shopping through Gucci website.

### Bài tập 3

Describe a time you that you spent a lot of money on something

You should say:

- When you spent money
- What you bought
- Where you bought it

And explain why you spent a lot of money on it

### Bài mẫu

When it comes to talk about something that I had to spend a lot money, I'm going to share with you about a Macbook Pro which I've purchased a couple of months ago.

As I remember, at that time, I had just graduated from my high school and became a freshman majoring in graphic designer. That's why I really needed to buy a laptop which could serve my educational purpose. Honestly, I've been always dreaming of having a Macbook Pro which is a cutting-edge technological device equipped with state-of-the-art features, but its price cost a fortune for a student like me. Having said that, I think it was worth my saving money as I had been through a long year of hard work, so I can treat myself well by purchasing my favorite item.

If my memory serves me correctly, I bought the laptop at Mac Center which is located in District 1 and this store is well-known among Apple fans. With regards to how I feel about this experience, I have to say that I feel exhilarated when I could buy such an expensive item for myself. The first time I unboxed my Macbook, I was completely over the moon and couldn't be more satisfied with every single thing of it. By then, it has become a must-have item whenever I have assignments and projects at school. I know it's kinda weird but I've never got bored of looking at it up to now.

That's all I want to share!

# 16

# Money

## Spending and Saving Money

Nowadays it's becoming more and more difficult for people living **on a tight budget**<sup>(4)</sup> to **get by**<sup>(1)</sup> while living in big cities due to the fact that the cost of living is continually increasing.

Those who are **financially savvy**<sup>(3)</sup> would probably advise you **to set aside**<sup>(2)</sup> a portion of your earnings<sup>(5)</sup> each month and **to save it for a rainy day**<sup>(15)</sup>, because you never know what unexpected situation you may be faced with in the future. But with the cost of everything increasing these days, people's **living expenses** are therefore also increasing, making it particularly difficult to **build a nest egg**<sup>(6)</sup>.

Also, because people are exposed to so much marketing and advertising these days, they need to **take the plunge**<sup>(8)</sup> before purchasing things. In fact, there are some people who always **shop till they drop**<sup>(12)</sup> on their **payday**<sup>(13)</sup> and therefore they have to **tighten their belt**<sup>(14)</sup> for the rest of the month.

So, whether you are **broke**<sup>(9)</sup> or **loaded**<sup>(7)</sup>, or choose to buy products that cost an arm and a leg or things that are **cost next to nothing**<sup>(10)</sup>, you should be **careful with your money**<sup>(16)</sup> and manage it wisely. Remember that **money doesn't grow on trees**<sup>(17)</sup>.

- 1 **To get by** = **To have enough money to live**: Đủ tiền trang trải cuộc sống
- 2 **To set aside money** = **To save money for later use**: Để dành tiền
- 3 **To be financially savvy** = **To be very careful with money** = **To use money wisely**: Hểu biết về tài chính
- 4 **To be on a tight/meagre budget** = **To not have much money to spend**: Tiền bạc có hạn
- 5 **A portion of your earnings** = **An amount of your salary**: Một khoảng tiền lương
- 6 **To build/have a nest egg** = **to have some savings for the future**: Tiền để dành cho sau này
- 7 **To be loaded** = **To have a lot of money**: Có nhiều tiền
- 8 **To take the plunge**: Quyết định làm 1 việc sau khi đắn đo, cân nhắc
- 9 **To be broke** = **To run out of money**: Hết tiền
- 10 **To cost next to nothing** = **To be very cheap**: Rất rẻ
- 11 **To cost an arm and a leg** = **To be very expensive**: Rất đắt đỏ
- 12 **To shop till they drop** = **To do a lot of shopping**: Mua sắm rất nhiều
- 13 **Payday**: Ngày nhận lương
- 14 **To tighten your belt** = **To spend less money**: Tiêu ít tiền lại
- 15 **To save for a rainy day** = **To save money for later use**: Để dành tiền cho lúc cần thiết trong tương lai
- 16 **To be careful with money** = **To use money wisely**: Để dành tiền cho lúc cần thiết trong tương lai
- 17 **Money doesn't grow on trees**: Để Tiền không từ trên trời rơi xuống
- 18 **To earn/make money**: Kiếm tiền

## 1 Đánh giá mức độ phù hợp của những từ hoặc cụm từ in đậm trong các câu sau

- 1 Since I'm living on my own now, I really need to **tighten my belt**. I can't afford to spend as much money as I used to.  
*Bởi bây giờ tôi sống một mình nên tôi rất cần phải **tighten my belt**. Tôi không thể tiêu xài tiền nhiều như trước đây được.*
- 2 I've been saving a small amount of money each month from my salary. I'm **building a nest egg** for my retirement.  
*Tôi đã để dành được một ít tiền từ tiền lương mỗi tháng của tôi. Tôi đang **building a nest egg** cho lúc về hưu.*
- 3 When I have an eye for a shirt that is a bit expensive, I will **take the plunge** and buy it immediately.  
*Khi tôi để ý một cái áo khá đắt tiền, tôi sẽ **take the plunge** và mua nó ngay.*
- 4 The most effective way to save money is not to **set aside money** every day.  
*Cách hiệu quả nhất để tiết kiệm là không **set aside money** mỗi ngày.*
- 5 Jenny must be **loaded**. She has just bought a new \$4000 Gucci handbag  
*Jenny chẵn chẵn **loaded**. Cô ấy vừa mua túi xách Gucci mới giá \$4000.*
- 6 My friend has got a fully funded scholarship, so it may **cost an arm and a leg** for him to study there.  
*Bạn tôi nhận học bổng toàn phần nên nó có vẻ **cost an arm and a leg** với cậu ta để học ở đó.*
- 7 Being a student is the reason why I'm **on a tight budget**. Therefore, I can buy a lot of luxurious things.  
*Vì là học sinh nên I'm **on a tight budget**. Vì vậy tôi có thể mua rất nhiều thứ sang chảnh.*
- 8 We have to **be careful with our money** because we have to pay a lot of bills every month.  
*Chúng ta phải **be careful with our money** bởi vì chúng tôi phải trả rất nhiều hóa đơn mỗi tháng.*

**2**

Điền từ phù hợp để hoàn thành các câu sau.

- |              |            |            |            |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| A. set aside | B. careful | C. meagre  | D. get by  |
| E. rainy day | F. tighten | G. next to | H. grow on |
| I. expenses  | K. had     | L. plunge  | M. earn    |

- 1 As a student I don't have much money so I am really on a \_\_\_\_\_ budget.
- 2 Due to the fact that living \_\_\_\_\_ are rising, many people are having to work harder to make ends meet.
- 3 If only I \_\_\_\_\_ a nest egg, I could quit my job and move to the countryside.
- 4 I've had to \_\_\_\_\_ my belt since I stopped working full-time.
- 5 My parents always taught me to be \_\_\_\_\_ with my money.
- 6 He also decided to take the \_\_\_\_\_ and set up his own business.
- 7 Every month I like to \_\_\_\_\_ some money to save for a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 My secondhand shoes really cost me \_\_\_\_\_ nothing.
- 9 Money doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ trees, so you have to \_\_\_\_\_ money to pay your bills.
- 10 It can be really difficult for people to \_\_\_\_\_ on a low salary while living in the city.

# Practice



## 1. Trả lời những câu hỏi sau với độ dài từ 2 – 3 câu.

- 1 Is money important to you?
- 2 Do young people in your country like to save money?
- 3 What do people in your country save money for?
- 4 Do you consider yourself to be good at managing your money?
- 5 Do you think parents should give pocket money to the kids?
- 6 Is it important for parents to teach children how to save money?



## 2. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe something special that you saved money to buy

You should say:

- What was this thing.
- Why was it special to you.
- How much did it cost you.

How you felt after you bought it.



## 3. Sử dụng những từ đã học để mở rộng chủ đề sau.

Describe an effective way to save money.

You should say:

- When it was
- Why you saved money
- How did you save

How you felt about it

# Key

## Câu hỏi 1

- |         |         |        |         |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| 1 – Yes | 2 – Yes | 3 – No | 4 – No  |
| 5 – Yes | 6 – No  | 7 – No | 8 – Yes |

## Câu hỏi 2

- |       |         |       |         |        |
|-------|---------|-------|---------|--------|
| 1 – C | 2 – I   | 3 – K | 4 – F   | 5 – B  |
| 6 – L | 7 – A&E | 8 – G | 9 – H&M | 10 – D |

## Bài tập 1

1. Yes. I mean money is absolutely important not just to me but to anyone. Without money, we can't buy things that we want, be it for work or personal purposes.
2. A lot of young people in my country like to build a nest egg because they want to have a comfortable life in the future, probably even after retirement. However, the problem is that most of them do not really know how to save money partly because the education they receive at home or school do not help them with their money management
3. Some people save money to buy stuff that they want and that helps them with their study or work, for example a laptop or a smart phone. And some other people save money to buy houses or to have a financially comfortable retirement.
4. Some people save money to buy stuff that they want and that helps them with their study or work, for example a laptop or a smart phone. And some other people save money to buy houses or to have a financially comfortable retirement.
5. Yes and No. I mean it depends on both the parents and the kids. If the parents are too busy to take their kids out for lunch during school breaks, then they should give their kids some money. However, for young kids, parents should only give them a fairly small amount of pocketmoney.
6. Yes absolutely! In Vietnam particularly, children do not receive any financial education at school so they usually lack finance management skills after they leave school. However, such skills are of paramount importance in their future life; so parents should pay more attention to this subject and spend time teaching their kids how to save money.

## Bài tập 2

Describe something special that you saved money to buy

You should say:

- What was this thing.
- Why was it special to you.
- How much did it cost you.

How you felt after you bought it.

### Bài mẫu

I am going to talk about a clock necklace that I gave my best friend, Julie.

It was at the end of grade 10 that she left me to continue her study abroad. For fear that I would be forgotten someday, I tried to think of a farewell gift that could make her think of me every time she saw it. It was not an easy task to find the right present; maybe it was because I was being too picky. She was more than a friend to me, she's more like my sister, or my soul mate. I didn't want to waste my money on something meaningful but useless, or something useful but emotionally empty. I wanted something that was special, something that would make her say "wow" when she received it. I wandered from shop to shop to look for something, but I didn't know what.

One day, I came across something reminding me of her right away - a vintage necklace with a clock pendant. It perfectly suited her style, so she could wear it with any of her clothes. What I liked about the clock was that it was custom-made, I could design the number and write a message on it too. The thing is, when giving her the necklace, I set the clock to the local time in Vietnam, so whenever she needed to tell the time she would feel annoyed because of the difference in time zones, and I hoped that she would think of me right at the moment. The only thing was that it cost an arm and a leg for a student like me to buy. I had to skip breakfast for an entire month to purchase it, but it was totally worth it. She had no clue about how I bought it but she liked it anyway. I felt exhilarated when I could buy my bestie something beautiful that she deserved, and I hoped that this chain would tie us forever.

### Bài tập 3

Describe an effective way to save money.

You should say:

- When it was
- Why you saved money
- How did you save

How you felt about it

### Bài mẫu

When talking about a way to saving money effectively, I have to admit that I have a very limited skill in **personal money management**. I find that saving money is difficult for me as I always tend to buy things without considering carefully, especially on payday. I usually overspent and was out of money at the end of every month.

However, being a freshman and majoring in graphic designer, I have to buy a laptop to serve my educational purpose. Honestly, I've always dreamed of having a Macbook Pro which is useful for my future career. To achieve this goal, recently I have adopted a method that helps me save money much more effectively, which is setting aside a portion of my earnings and putting the money in my piggy bank.

Besides, I have to be extremely careful before taking the plunge when it comes to shopping stuff. Sometimes I do ask my mother to keep money for me as she is good at controlling expenses. You know, she is the most financially savvy person in my family. Well, this works wonders with me as my savings goes up significantly every month. Now I always ask myself whether it's necessary to buy things or I can save for a rainy day.

After a short time trying to save money like that, I find that I have an amount of money which is enough for me to afford a new Macbook Pro. And I think that I will maintain those saving habits to build a nest egg for future. That's all I want to share.