

## Transcript: Bonus Episode "Favorite Memories"

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Alright, so, in today's bonus episode, we're going to talk about some of my favorite memories from my childhood. So, I'm excited to talk about this because I love reminiscing and talking about great things from the past. In English, the word "reminisce" means to think back to past events or past things in a positive way and to remember them positively. This is to "reminisce." So, I love reminiscing about the past and remembering all the fun things I did as a child.

So, I'm excited to talk about this today. Remember that you have the transcript available for this episode. It's underneath the episode, so just click on that link. And you can use that to help you understand what I'm saying and see the new words that I teach you in this episode. Alright, let's get started.

Okay, so the first memory I want to talk about is going to baseball games. I've talked a little bit about this in other episodes, probably two or three different episodes. I've mentioned baseball games and how that in the US, you can go to a baseball stadium and watch a game and enjoy the experience even if you don't like this sport. Many people do this. It's really common for people to go to baseball games who have absolutely no interest in baseball, and they don't even know the rules of the game, and they can still go and have a great time.

So, it's not like other sports where you feel like you have to be a fan or at least know the rules if you're going to enjoy that experience at the stadium. Because at baseball stadiums, a lot of people don't really watch the game. There are many people that don't even pay attention to most of the action on the field. And they just socialize and walk around and enjoy the atmosphere. It's a really cool experience. And so, I loved going to baseball games when I was young. I remember going to baseball games when I was only six years old, seven years old. I went with my family.

And I remember that I became a pretty big baseball fan when I was about 12 years old, if I'm not mistaken. Remember that that phrase, "if I'm not mistaken," just means that I'm trying to remember some information and I don't know if I'm 100% correct, but I think I am. So, I can say "if I'm not mistaken." So, I think I was about 12 when I became a pretty big baseball fan for a couple of years. And during that time, I went to baseball games more seriously.

And I actually really paid attention to the game, and it was more meaningful for me because I actually really wanted the home team to win. In English, we talk about the two teams that are playing in a game or a match as the home team or the away team. So, the home team is the team whose stadium it is. They're the people that are playing in their home city. And the away team is the visiting team that's coming from another city to play against the home team. So, of course, most of the people in the stadium root for the home team because most of the people that are able to go to that game are people that live in this city. And so, they're probably fans of that team.

So, when I went to baseball games when I became a big fan of baseball, I actually cared about the outcome of the game. In English, the word "outcome" just refers to the result of something. So, I actually cared about the result or the outcome of the game. I really wanted the home team to win. And so, it was a little bit of a different experience from when I was a kid, but it was still equally as fun, and I loved the different traditions. I really loved the atmosphere there.

As I've talked about before, baseball is a classic American sport with a lot of interesting traditions that are decades old. So, for example, one of my favorite traditions at baseball games, and this is a tradition that you can also see at other sports events and in other countries too, I think. But I think that it's most popular in the US at baseball games, maybe, is the wave. We call it "the wave" because the people in the stadium, they raise their arms above their head, one section at a time.

So, for example, one section of the fans, they raise their hands over their head, and then the people in the next section do the same thing, and then the people in the next section do the same thing. And they continue doing this all around the stadium so that it looks like there's actually a wave going around the stadium because people are raising their arms above their heads. You might have seen this before, either in person or maybe on TV. This is something that usually people try to start at least once in every baseball game, or at least the baseball games that I've been to. They don't always succeed in actually getting it going and succeeding in taking the wave all around the stadium, but at least they try.

And I'm very proud to say that there was one occasion when my friend and I actually helped start the wave. We were the ones... we were in the section that was trying to start it at the beginning. And it took a few tries and finally, it caught on and everyone else did it, and we were able to start the wave and it went around the stadium. I said the phrase there, "caught on." This comes from the present tense phrase "catch on." When something catches on, this means that someone starts something or something starts, and then other people start to do the same thing later on. So, I can say for example, "This trend is starting to catch on." It means that people are starting to notice this trend and participate in this trend. It's catching on.

So, it was able to catch on, and then other people did the wave around the stadium and we were able to complete the whole circle around the stadium with the wave. So, I remember that memory very fondly. In English, when we say that you remember something "fondly," it just means that you remember something and it puts a smile on your face or it makes you feel positive about it. You remember it fondly.

And one other thing that a lot of people hope to do when they go to a baseball game is to catch a ball, because of course, sometimes, when the batters, the people who are hitting the ball, when they hit it, sometimes, it goes outside the field and into the

crowd. And so, a lot of people, especially kids, bring their baseball glove to the stadium hoping that they'll be able to catch a ball. That's every kid's dream when they go to a baseball game. So, that's another fun thing, another fun tradition that people like. They want to catch one of these balls if it flies outside the field, but of course, it's not very likely because there are many people there. And so, it's not likely that you're going to catch a ball. But, as you can see, I had a lot of fun going to baseball games when I was younger, and I really enjoyed this experience. And so, I think that's one of my greatest childhood memories.

The next one that I want to talk about is going camping. So, I think I also did a podcast episode on camping a long time ago. But I used to go camping every summer with my mom's friends from college. So, she kept in contact with a lot of her friends that she made when she was in college. And they had kids as well, and we were friends with some of them. And so, we would go camping with them every summer in a different location. Or sometimes, we would go to the same location that we had already been to. But we would alternate and go to different campsites in Southern California.

And some people slept in tents and some people slept in trailers. A trailer is kind of this vehicle, so to say, that you put on the back of your car and you can tow it. This means that you take it behind you. You tow it with you to the campground and then, you can sleep in this area. It's almost like a vehicle, like I said, or a big car, but it's for sleeping, and you usually have a kitchen in there, maybe a bathroom. And so, some people choose to sleep in their trailer if they have one. And this is a little more comfortable because you're inside. You're on a bed, so it's not the same as sleeping in tents. But I always slept in tents when I went camping. And I didn't necessarily love this, but it was a good experience. And I was used to it because I went camping every summer, like I said.

And it was very fun for me to spend so much time outdoors, because I'm the type of guy who really loves being outside. I love adventures. As a kid, I loved to explore in nature. So, you can imagine that going camping was great for me when I was a kid. I still like camping now, but I just don't have the opportunity to go. But I hope I can plan a camping trip soon. But yeah, I had a lot of fun camping when I was a kid. I had one friend in particular that I spent time with... I spent the whole time with him when we went camping. And what we love to do is we loved climbing trees. So, we would find these big trees with a lot of big branches, and we would spend hours climbing this tree or multiple trees if we could find more than one, and we loved doing this. I don't know why I loved climbing trees so much as a kid. But it was so fun for me. And I spent so much time up high on the branches. And so, that was one activity that we loved doing.

Another thing that I really loved doing when I went camping was roasting marshmallows. So, this means that we put marshmallows on the end of a skewer. This is a long thin stick, kind of, and we put these on the end and we would cook them over the fire. We call this "roasting marshmallows" in English. So, I loved this because I absolutely love roasted marshmallows. I love the taste. I love the texture. I love everything about this.

And I love eating s'mores. So, s'mores are these sandwiches that you make with these marshmallows that you roast? You combine them with chocolate and then put them in between two graham crackers, which are these sweet, sugary crackers. So, you take two of them and then you put the marshmallow and the chocolate inside. And you

make this kind of sandwich, and it's delicious. It's an amazing dessert to eat. Not everyone likes them, but I loved them as a kid. So, I loved roasting marshmallows and also hot dogs. Sometimes, we would cook hot dogs over the fire on these skewers, these sticks, and we ate them as well. So, I love cooking over the campfire. This is really fun.

And there were some times when we went fishing when we went camping. And I was a big fan of fishing when I was young. So, this was also a great activity for me, something that I loved doing when I went camping.

Alright, the next memory I want to talk about is playing basketball in high school. Specifically, I played on the freshman basketball team and the JV basketball team in high school. There are three levels of sports teams in high school. There are freshmen teams. These teams consist of only people in their first year of high school. So, these are freshman teams. And then there is a JV team for different sports. And these are people that are usually in their first or second year. So, it's a little bit higher than freshman sports.

And then, there's the varsity team. So, when you watch American movies and you see sports teams playing, you're always watching the varsity team. You always see this team. This is the highest level of team. This is the serious, competitive team. And so, anyone can be on the varsity team if they're good enough. They could be in their first year of high school or their last year, but usually, they're in their third or fourth year. Because these are the best, most athletic people. And so usually, if you're in your first year of high school, you play on the freshman team or the JV team. So, I played on both of these teams, the lower levels, and I had a lot of fun doing this.

And specifically, my best memory from playing basketball in high school was one game in particular, where we played against a really good team, and it wasn't expected that we would do well. But surprisingly, we did really well during this game. And I had the best game of my career. I did really well. I scored a lot of points. And if I remember correctly, this game went to double overtime. So, you know when in American sports, there's a tie at the end of a game, maybe it's 1-1 or 50-50, where both teams have the same amount of points, you play overtime. You go into this extra period to try to determine a winner, right? And we went into double overtime because we were still tied at the end of the first overtime period.

So, it was a really good game. It was really exciting. There were a lot of people watching us. In those moments, it feels like the whole school is watching you. So, it's really exciting. You feel like you're under the spotlight. In English, when we say that you're under the spotlight or in the spotlight, it means that everyone is watching you. So, that's how I felt. And like I said, I had the best game of my career. I did really well. And I was the person who scored the most points in this game, and I actually helped the team win in double overtime. And it was really exciting experience. Everyone was really happy. So, that's my favorite memory of playing basketball in high school. That was the best moment of my basketball career. So, of course, I remember that time fondly.

And lastly, let me talk about one more memory... and this was grad night. In the US, in many high schools, they have an event called "grad night," where people who are in their last year of high school, when they're almost done with the school year, they're almost ready to graduate, they have this event where they go to an amusement park like Disneyland, for example. And they spend the whole night there with students from

other schools as well. And they have this park open only for these high school students. And you're there all night and it's a really exciting and fun event.

And I had a lot of fun during this event, especially because that year, my school didn't go to Disneyland. And I am not a fan of Disneyland. I know a lot of you really love Disneyland, but I'm not a fan of this park. It's not that interesting for me. But I really love Six Flags, in particular, Six Flags Magic Mountain, which is in southern California, because they have a ton of roller coasters. I really loved roller coasters when I was younger. Nowadays, I'm a little bit more afraid of rollercoasters, but when I was younger, I absolutely loved every roller coaster. And so, I was really happy when they announced that we were going to go to Six Flags and not to Disneyland.

And so, we spent all night there. It was really fun. It was exciting. I went on all of my favorite roller coasters with my friends. There was a really interesting atmosphere there. There was music. It was a very unique event. Most people never get to experience this unless they go to high school in the US. But it was really cool to have the whole park just for us, students, and all night, you know... you're riding roller coasters at 3am, for example. It's really fun.

And of course, during that event, a lot of people are thinking about the end of their high school career because they're almost done. They're going to graduate in, like, two weeks or something. And so, it's just this really unique feeling because you feel like you've done it, you're finished, and you can just have fun and enjoy this last high school event. So, I really liked that grad night experience. I think I'll always remember it.

Alright, well, I hope this episode was interesting for you. I hope you liked hearing about some of my childhood memories and things that still mean a lot to me when I think about them. It's fun for me to reminisce about these things. Remember that you have the transcript available for this episode below this episode. So, click on that link if you need it.

And remember that if you're a Listening Time Member or Super Member, you can upgrade your membership to Listening Time Family Member if you want my advanced episodes, if you want two new advanced episodes every month to help you train and practice to become an advanced listener. So, make sure to upgrade your membership if you want that. Alright, well thank you for listening to this bonus episode, and I'll talk to you on the next one.