**UNIT 2. SPEAKING PART 1 – WORK & STUDY**

**PRACTICE**

**Exercise 1. Using the suggested phrases below, make statements about jobs.**

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| --- | --- |
| 1 | I enjoy watching TV because it helps me to wind down after a hectic day |
| 2 | I am interested in painting because it’s so relaxing. |
| 3 | Hitting the gym is my favorite hobby because it does wonders for my health. |
| 4 | Whenever I am working on my stamp collection, I feel so excited. |
| 5 | I started dancing at the age of 4 when I was in kindergarten. |
| 6 | I enjoy playing computer games because they are fun and challenging. |
| 7 | Whenever I am singing, I feel so happy and peaceful. |
| 8 | Travelling is my favorite hobby because it is a good way to get some rest. |

**Exercise 2, 3: Student’s answer**

**Exercise 4. (Suggested answers)**

**1.**

Since I was young, my father has always involved me in different activities. My father is a ping-pong coach in a high school. So, I always have a chance to follow him when he coached. When I was in the school, I got a chance to play with other students in other sports. So, that’s how I developed an interest in different sports.

**2.**

Yes, of course. Indulging in an interest can distract people from more important tasks or goals in your life. For example, with children it is important that they can focus on their studying.

**3.**

For playing the piano, there are only a few items that are necessary to purchase. Obviously, you have to start with buying a piano, although nowadays there are a lot of keyboards that give the feel of playing a real piano. You should also purchase a piano stool so that you learn to sit properly with a straight back, and a metronome is another important tool to help you keep in time.

**4.**

Well, first of all, it is a very good way for people to let off steam and relieve stress by taking it easy after a hard working week. Hobbies refresh them and make them more energetic. Another important reason is that taking part in group games provides them valuable chances to socialize and improve their relationships. In addition to this, if people play sports they will become healthier and more resistant to diseases.

**5.**

I usually sleep in on Saturday morning if I can, study in the afternoon in the library, and go out with friends in the evening. On Sundays, I like to go shopping and just spend time walking around outside if the weather is nice. If I don’t have much money, I still like to go window-shopping, and I get almost as much pleasure out of that!

**HOMEWORK**

**Exercise 1 (Suggested answers)**

**1.**

Definitely. I am quite keen on do gardening. If I can, I will do it every day because it is a good way to relax.

**2.**

Well, I love to be in touch with nature and feel happy when I see that a plant I have planted grows and produce flowers or fruits. I was inspired to take up this pastime activity from my grandfather who had been a devoted gardener. Over time, I have realized that gardening is a relaxing activity and gives me great joy.

**3.**

I guess hobbies which are beneficial, either physically or mentally, or both, are usually good ones. Good hobbies help people relax, enjoy their time, have positive effects in the long run and have no negative impacts on the surrounding environment. Besides, it enhances the skills of the person who has it.

On the contrary, hobbies which waste our time (such as playing video games for long hours) or harm the environment in any way (like killing butterflies and collecting their wings) are bad, in my opinion.

**4.**

Yes, I had a few hobbies in my childhood which I no longer continue. I used to collect "postal stamps" and read many comic books. I still keep those stamps and comic books but when I took up gardening as a hobby at a later stage of my life, I started feeling more passionate about it and devoted more time in gardening.