**Lesson 15. Describe something that you are proud of**

***Task1. Give your own opinion using the following sample.***

***You should say:***

- what you achieved

- when you achieved it

- what was difficult about achieving it

- and explain why you are proud of this achievement.

Ok, well what I’d like to talk to you about is the time when I got into the semifinal

of [name of a competition]. And this is completely true, by the way - I’m not

making it up. Although I have to admit, I was pretty gobsmacked when I

first heard about it, because I mean, that's an incredible achievement, as I'm

sure you’d agree, especially considering just how many people enter the

competition, which must be in the tens of thousands.

Anyway, it must have been about three years ago, by now, when it happened,

and I couldn’t believe my eyes when I was accepted by the judges when

performing old revolutionary song on the show. You know, it was almost like I

had transformed into another person and what was amazing was that at that

time I seemed so at ease up on stage. I mean, the fact that millions of people

across the country were watching didn’t seem to faze me in the slightest.

And I have to say that my performance was simply amazing. You know, the

audience absolutely loved it, and they even gave me a standing ovation

at the end.

So yeah, as I mentioned earlier, I think it was an unbelievable achievement,

not only in terms of how well I did in the competition, but also considering

the tremendous amount of courage it must have taken to do what I did.

***Task2.Answer the questions using the following samples.***

**Should parents set goals for children?**

I think young children should be given the freedom and autonomy to set

their own targets. This is because only when they love doing something can

they actually become proficient in it. If their parents don’t allow them to

choose what they like to do in life but force them to follow something else

instead, the chances are they won’t be able to father the confidence and

enthusiasm to pursue their life interests. What I mean here is that

parents should only offer proper guidance and orientation, the final decision

should be made by their kids themselves.

**What kinds of goals are not realistic?**

Personally almost any goal is achievable as long as we put our time and

effort into it. However, there are some targets which can be unrealistic

because there are other factors are involved besides determination or ability.

For example, some people may wish to become the president of a country or a

famous actor, but their family is religious or they don’t have a good appearance.

These things mean that social and personal contexts should be given

proper thought before people set a certain big goal.

**Why do people set goals?**

There are a number of reasons why people make a plan and set their target.

The first reason is that we can feel more motivated on the path to achieving

it. For example, a student are craving for scoring Band 8.0 in the IELTS exam

and he can stay up all night revising and reviewing the lessons to make

a proper preparation. The chances are that he can further approach his goal

and becomes less lazy, you see. The second reason can be we simply want to test

our limit, to see how far we can go. To illustrate, people often make New

Year resolutions like giving up smoking the next year. Such a decision is to

prove to others that they are being serious and try their utmost although it

might be challenging for them to achieve.