



Speaking Booster

Part 1 Topics, Cue Cards, Follow-ups
(January – April 2022)

Fully solved edition with **Band 8+** sample answers to improve your speaking instantly!!

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List of cue-cards

1. Describe a resolution you made in the new year
2. Describe a person you only met once and want to know more about
3. Describe your experience when you changed your school/college
4. Describe a toy you liked in your childhood
5. Describe a famous person that you are interested in
6. Describe something that was broken in your home and then repaired
7. Describe an ambition that you haven't achieved
8. Describe a time when you organized a happy event successfully
9. Describe something you received for free
10. Describe a course that impressed you a lot
11. Describe a special cake you received from others
12. Describe an interesting song
13. Describe an interesting conversation you had with your friend
14. Describe a place in a village that you visited
15. Describe a long walk you ever had
16. Describe an item of clothing that someone gave you
17. Describe a city that you think is very interesting
18. Describe a rule that you don't like
19. Describe someone you really like to spend time with
20. Describe a time you visited a new place
21. Describe a house or an apartment you would like to live in
22. Describe a person who contributes to the society
23. Describe a story someone told you and you remember
24. Describe a gift you would like to buy for your friend
25. Describe a thing you cannot live without
26. Describe a thing you did to learn another language
27. Describe a person you follow on social media
28. Describe a skill that you learned from older people
29. Describe a person who impressed you when you were in school
30. Describe an item on which you spent more than expected
31. Describe an activity that you usually do that wastes your time
32. Describe a skill that was difficult for you to learn
33. Describe a time you moved to a new home/school
34. Describe a time when you felt proud of a family member
35. Describe a difficult thing you did
36. Describe a time you got up early
37. Describe a person who solved a problem in a smart way
38. Describe an exciting book that you enjoy reading
39. Describe a café you like to visit

40. Describe a time you were friendly to someone you didn't like
41. Describe a time you bought something from street/outdoor market
42. Describe a time when you're waiting for something special
43. Describe a famous athlete you know
44. Describe a creative person whose work you admire
45. Describe a difficult decision that you once made
46. Describe a habit your friend has and you want to develop
47. Describe a bicycle/motorcycle/car trip you would like to go on
48. Describe a place you visited on vacation
49. Describe a good service you received
50. Describe a businessman you admire
51. Describe a foreign person who you've heard you think interesting
52. Describe an activity that you do after school/work
53. Describe a piece of equipment that is important in your home
54. Describe someone older than you, whom you admire
55. Describe a time when you tried to do something but unsuccessful
56. Describe a city/town where you would like to live in the future
57. Describe a street market in your city
58. Describe a law on Environmental Protection
59. Describe an argument that two of your friends had
60. Describe a puzzle [jigsaw/crossword/etc.] you have played
61. Describe a natural talent you want to improve
62. Describe a live sports match that you have watched
63. Describe a plan in your life that is not related to work or study
64. Describe a health article you read in a magazine or on the internet
65. Describe an occasion when you were not allowed to use your mobile
66. Describe a piece of local news that people are interested in
67. Describe a tall building in your city you like/dislike
68. Describe an occasion when many people were smiling
69. Describe a time you saw something interesting on social media
70. Describe an art or craft activity [painting/woodwork] that you had
71. Describe a company in your hometown that employs a lot of people
72. Describe a quiet place you like to spend your time
73. Describe a time when you helped a friend
74. Describe a leisure activity near the sea you want to try
75. Describe your favourite weather

List of Speaking Part-1 topics

- 1. SPENDING TIME WITH OTHERS**
- 2. PETS & ANIMALS**
- 3. HEADPHONES**
- 4. SHOES**
- 5. PUBLIC GARDENS & PARKS**
- 6. APPS**
- 7. COLOURS**
- 8. WEATHER**
- 9. GETTING LOST**
- 10. CONCENTRATION**
- 11. SCIENCE**
- 12. HOLIDAYS**
- 13. FLOWERS**
- 14. BARBECUE**
- 15. CAR TRIP**
- 16. RELAX**
- 17. WALLET**
- 18. ENVIRONMENT**
- 19. SPECIAL COSTUMES**
- 20. PRIMARY SCHOOL**
- 21. TREES**
- 22. NEW YEAR**
- 23. HAPPINESS**
- 24. DECORATION**
- 25. FARMING**
- 26. FURNITURE**
- 27. PHASES OF LIFE**
- 28. HOME COUNTRY**
- 29. VIEW FROM THE WINDOW**
- 30. NAME**
- 31. NEW ACTIVITIES**
- 32. READING**
- 33. GETTING UP EARLY**
- 34. SINGING**

35. RECYCLE

36. SMS/TEXT MESSAGING

37. SPORTS

1. Describe a resolution you made in the new year

You should say:

1. What is the resolution?
2. How will you complete it?
3. How do you feel about it?
4. Why you made this resolution?

Introduction

New Year is the beginning of new ambition, skill, education and most importantly, the new hope for most of us. So today, I would love to talk about my new year resolution which I am hoping to follow for the rest of the year.

What is the resolution?

- After a lot of introspection, I came up with this resolution of **losing weight**.
- In 2020-21, I **broke up** with dieting due to countrywide lockdowns.
- This is because sitting like a **couch potato** at home for longer hours made me overweight.

How will you complete it?

- I'm not sure whether I'll be able to complete it, but with some **blind belief**, I have taken this resolution.
- Losing weight means changing up my routine. So I'll cook healthier foods at home and head to the gym every day.
- Also, I have told all my friends to remind me whenever they feel like I am about to break my resolution.
- Next week, I have set a meeting with the fitness expert. He will suggest some realistic weekly weight loss goals, like two pounds a week.
- So, these are some **things on my plate** right now.

How do you feel about it?

- I feel that this resolution is an **uphill task**, but I am **determined** this time.
- I have always been the kind of person who would eat at Tim Hortons rather than cook food at home.
- Thus, I think that a weight loss resolution can bring a **positive turn of events** in my life.

Why you made this resolution?

- I made this 'weight loss' resolution because I most certainly **need a lifestyle change**.
- Also, When you struggle with weight, you often hear comments from people. Now I am tired of all their taunts and want to give them a **befitting** reply.
- Harsh comments from those people will only push me to work towards my weight loss resolution.

Conclusion

In the end, I would say that there are no shortcuts for weight loss or any other new year resolution. We have to stay consistent for the whole 365 days for the desired meaningful change.

Sample Answer #2

A New Year's resolution is a **promise to yourself** that you will change something about your life. Additionally, the new year makes people contemplate the future. One common way for doing this is making new year goals. I have made numerous resolutions in the past, just to break them a couple of weeks later.

But, this year I have kept a goal that I believe is more reasonable and I ought to have the option to accomplish it. My goal is about **staying healthy**. To get me in shape, I have concluded that I will need to do a lot of **brisk walking** every week. What's more, I have chosen to reduce my calorie intake and shelve the carbonated beverages from my diet which is a herculean task for me.

To stick to my resolution, I have installed a fitness tracker on my phone. This application will give me regular updates on the status of my **health**. Moreover, I can also share my daily achievements with other **fitness junkies** through this app. It has a great user-friendly interface. So far, I have connected with a few people in my neighbourhood with similar new year resolutions. I think being healthy is one of the main aspects of our life and still, we overlook it. That's why I made a resolution this time.

I feel rejuvenated every day while working towards my new year resolution. It provides me with a feeling of achievement and removes the stress from life. I am confident of keeping this resolution until the end of this year.

2. Describe a person you only met once and want to know more about

You should say:

1. Who he/she is?
2. When you met him/her?
3. Why do you want to know more about him/her?
4. Explain how you feel about him/her?

Introduction

At some point in our lives, we all have this one person who we met once and are **curious** to know more about him. Whether celebrity, national hero, popular artist, a political bigwig, or maybe a character from a movie, we have our own reasons of **inquisitiveness**.

Who he/she is?

- But today, I am going to talk about none other than **Mr Ratan Tata**.
- He is the present Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, the **Philanthropist** and son of Jamshed Ji Tata.
- Mr Tata is also a Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardee and one of the most successful businessmen India has ever produced.

When you met him/her?

- **Last year**, I had an opportunity to meet him once under my company's community outreach programme (or my school's annual festival).
- I can never forget the time we shook hands.
- Then, out of curiosity, I started reading his **biography**.
- Over time my ambition only grew stronger and raised my **spirit of inquiry**.

Why do you want to know more about him/her?

There are various reasons as to why I want to know more about Mr. Ratan Tata:

- I am impressed by his **business acumen**. I love his boldness in infusing his perspectives and generosity into his business model.
- Mr Ratan Tata's qualities like kindness and **empathy** make him a true gentleman.
- Moreover, this 84-year-old Indian business tycoon has proved that he is much more than an industrialist.
- Knowing more about him can teach important life lessons that can eventually lead us to become better human beings.

Explain how you feel about him/her?

- Apart from possessing remarkable business foresight, **I feel inspired by his utmost simplicity and humanity**.
- He never took his wealth for **granted** and still works actively at the age of 75.
- **Abandoning** luxury and taking a common man's approach is not what most wealthy people do. But for Ratan Tata, luxury is just a matter of choice.

Conclusion

In the end, if I had to describe Ratan Tata in words, I would say he is the [epitome of humility](#). In this era of [cut-throat competition](#) it is very much possible to drift away from our principles but meeting someone like Mr. Tata once in a while only assures us of what actually matters in life.

Sample Answer #2

I am a very friendly and [outdoorsy person](#). I like to engage with people at events, public meetings, work and my school/college. Though I am not great at remembering people who I have met only once, there is one person I remember so well and always want to know more about him.

Here, I am talking about Mr Raman Sharma. His strong personality left a lasting effect on me. On my way to my aunt's house in Chandigarh, I met him on the bus. He was seated next to me, working on some files.

Since it was a long journey and I was bored, I thought of talking to him. I asked him if I could be of any help with his work. He gave me some documents and told me to find any grammatical errors.

They were about some book that he was going to publish. So I read them from start and finish and marked the areas of improvement. I must say that the story he wrote was [thought-provoking](#). He told me that he is a part-time author and going to publish his first book.

Then we started to talk more, not only about his beliefs but also about my interests. It was the best conversation I had in a long time. Besides writing, he loved to hike in the mountains. Since I am also a travel freak, I wanted to know more about him. And then we exchanged stories about fascinating places he visited.

He told me about his actual job as a software engineer at Microsoft. I could feel the stress in his voice when he was talking about his work. So I [switched](#) the topic to his hobby of writing. His words left me feeling [jubilant](#), inspired and thoughtful. I completely lost track of time while talking to him.

It was a short but meaningful trip for me. We finally exchanged our contact details and parted ways. Nowadays, finding someone as [impeccable](#) as him is very difficult. I am planning to call him this weekend to find out more about how his life is going on.

Follow-up Question/Answer

1. How do people make friends in India?

In India, people do the following things on a regular basis to make friends:

1. Go on a friend date.
2. Pursue hobbies to **befriend** people with similar interests.
3. Use social media apps like Tinder, Instagram.
4. Go to community events to grow new friendships.

2. On what occasions do people like to make friends?

People usually make friends on occasions like **weddings, anniversary parties, corporate events** etc. Some people like to connect with others **while travelling and exploring different spaces and cultures**. People also **join a local book club** to meet potential new friends.

3. Is it important to have the same hobbies and interests when making friends?

Friends are a treasure and **it's important to gather people around** with the same hobbies or areas of interest. Having similar interests when making **friends** is essential because:

- **It is more fun to be together if you share an interest.**
- **Same hobbies and interests give you something similar to talk about.**
- **It can help your friendship last longer.**

4. What qualities make true friends?

There are **7 essential qualities** that make true friends:

1. True friends are **trustworthy**.
2. They're **honest**.
3. **Loyalty** comes to them naturally.
4. True friends show **empathy** for others.
5. They're **good listeners**.
6. True friends are **supportive** of others in their good and bad times
7. They're **fun** to be around.

3. Describe your experience when you changed school/college

You should say:

1. Why did you change your school/college?
2. When was it?
3. Was that helpful?
4. What were the consequences after that?

Introduction

I went to three different schools during my childhood. Though, I hated it. But as it's said, "[Life is a roller-coaster ride](#)".

So today, I am going to talk about my experience when I [switched](#) schools.

Why did you change your school/college?

- I spent my first year of high school in Public Senior High School at Patiala.
- Then **my father got a new job posting** at Chandigarh and that's the reason why I had to change school.

When was it?

- I got admitted to St. Xaviers in the year **2014**.
- It was one of the most renowned schools in the capital.
- My new school had all the facilities for sports, study and other activities.
- We had a huge playing ground where all students played different games like Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, etc.
- There was also a big skating rink.
- But my favourite part was The Art room, which is a big hall with lots of colourful charts and various types of paints.

Was that helpful?

- Overall it was helpful but initially, I was [apprehensive](#) about the whole change of school thing.
- My class at St. Xavier happened to be the class of competitive nerd students who used to get the perfect "A" scores for any subject including Maths and Science.
- I still remember after a Maths quiz, I was the only student who got a "D" while others scored an "A" or "B" and the teacher announced my name to everyone in the class.
- But I was lucky to find a kind-hearted boy in the class who encouraged me and offered help with my studies
- I finally managed to catch up with my classmates academically thereafter.

What were the consequences after that?

- The consequences after changing schools were not all in my favour.
- Since I was [apathetic](#) to the last school I attended and didn't want to make new friends even though I had a hunch it would be the last time I moved. This leads me to feel lonely at school and home.
- I felt like I didn't belong here. I had a few friends but I ate lunch alone for the first 6 months because I just didn't want to interact with people.
- Then, I started to reach out of my comfort zone and I met some great people.

- As a result, I discovered my passion and love of Science at St. Xavier.

Conclusion

In the end, I would say that the experience of [acclimating](#) to the new environment wasn't that easy but worth the hardship. Now next time big change comes, I know how to face it better.

Sample Answer #2

I have been to two schools in my whole period of education. Here, I would love to describe an experience when I changed schools.

My elementary school was not quite the same as my high school. I have faint memories of my primary school as I was a [tiny tot](#) at that time. So I changed schools in the year 2016 and moved from Govt. school to St. Xavier Senior Secondary School. I recollect that I was extremely anxious on the first day. This school was huge as compared to that of my elementary school. I was afraid of getting lost there.

However, I was somewhat excited. I just strolled inside the premises with different students and went where they were going. I was another newbie for them so many of them were gazing at me. Fortunately, I got some information from a girl about where 11th grade classroom was.

Coincidentally, she was also in the same standard. And, then she introduced me to her group. That was the start of my new friendship on the very first day. Her name was Sophia and till today we are in touch. She made me feel comfortable and all my [apprehensions](#) disappeared.

We went to the classes before the mid-day break and during a break, she showed me the entire school. I was [awed](#) by the infrastructure of the school. At the same time, I was also trying to learn about my new neighbourhood and trying to make friends there. The whole experience was so helpful.

There were independent labs for science and computers. I was amazed to see the multi-storey library. Badminton and volleyball courts were also present on the school premises. I feel that most of the staff were extremely decent and well respected by the students. I studied there for about 2 years. Certainly, that was the best phase of my life.

Follow-up Question/Answer

1. Are children better at solving problems than adults?

Young children are more open-minded than adults when it comes to solving problems. Whereas, **adults are more hesitant to revise their beliefs**. And even when they do so, they may only consider options that they truly believe in.

2. If people move frequently, is it better to stay in one house all the time?

If someone is working in a job where he has to move frequently, then it's not wise to own one house and stay permanently.

3. What are the pros and cons of living in a high-rise building?

Pros of living in a high-rise building:

- **Spectacular View:** One of the major benefits of a high-rise building is the remarkable view that it offers.
- **Safe and Secure:** With proper equipment and evacuation plans, a high-rise development provides you with a safe and secure environment.
- **Good living experience:** Minimal noise pollution, plethora of amenities such as a swimming pool, underground parking, lounge, dining options, workout areas, recreational facilities, and many more.

Cons of living in a high-rise building:

- **Risk of isolation:** High-rise buildings detach people from the street life, hence reducing the chance of encounters with others.
- **Disability Challenge:** Living on a higher floor can be challenging, especially if you or any of your family members have any physical disabilities.
- **High on cost:** High-rise residential buildings are generally premium projects, and the developers charge you more as you go up in the quest of a better view.

4. What are the pros and cons of living in an old and new neighborhood?

There are different pros and cons associated with living in an old and new settlement. **New homes generally are backed by a builder warranty** for the first 10-15 years or so. Your roof probably won't leak, and if it does, it's covered. Whereas, **older homes are notorious for needing repairs**. Moreover, new neighbourhoods have a clubhouse, pool, playground, or other recreational facilities to enjoy living. Most of these facilities are not present in old neighbourhoods.