

## Topic Cards for Speaking, Part 2 + Part 3

### 1. Describe a museum

- How often do you visit the museum?
- Which type of museum is popular in your country?
- Why do you want to visit the museum?

#### Follow-up:

- What do you think of the importance of museums in history?
- What do you think of the heritage of a country?
- Compare the museums nowadays and in the past

### 2. Describe your favourite photograph

- Where was the photo taken?
- Who took the photo?
- What can be seen from the photo?
- Explain why it is the favourite photograph for you.

#### Follow-up:

- How to take a good photo?
- When do people use cameras?
- How can the new technology put cinema's skill advanced?

### 3. The important historic place

- What is the place?
- Where is it located?
- Why do you think it is important?

#### Follow-up:

- What do you think of the historic place in the future?
- Will the government increase or decrease the safety guard?
- What are the changes to the local people and economy?
- What is the impact on the historic place by tourists?

### 4. Describe a party

- Why was the party held?
- Who attended the party?
- What did you do for that party?

#### Follow-up:

- What's the difference between serious party and friendly party?
- Why are some people late for parties intentionally?
- Why do some people like parties while others hate them?
- What would you do if the guests feel bored?

### **5. Describe a subject taught in your school?**

- Who teaches it?
- How is it taught?
- What do you learn from the class?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Is there any difference between the traditional and modern educational systems?
- What are the pros and cons of the current educational system in your country?
- Do you think it is necessary to give comment or criticism to teachers?

### **6. What is the important invention before the age of computer?**

- What is the invention?
- Why do you think it is very important?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the invention?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What is the significant impact of modern inventions on life?
- Which skills do you want to study in the future?

### **7. Describe a foreign country you have never been to**

- Where is the country?
- When will you go there?
- Why would you like to go there?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Say something about the tourism development in your country
- What is the importance of travel and tourism industry?
- What do you think the function of a tourist guide?

### **8. Describe your favourite movie**

- What's the name of the film?
- What's the idea of the film?
- Why do you like it?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Describe a type of movie you like.
- Why some people prefer to watch films at cinemas instead of watching them at home?

### **9. Describe a newspaper or a magazine**

- What are the benefits of reading?
- What's the main difference between newspapers and magazines?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What are the important qualities of a news reporter?
- What kinds of books/newspapers/magazines do people read in your country?
- With the popularity of Internet, do you think newspapers and magazines will disappear?

### **10. Describe a game for children**

- How is it played?
- What can you learn from the game?
- What impact does it have on the child's development?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What are the benefits of games for children?
- Nowadays children spend more time playing computer games than any other. What do you think about it?
- What do you think is the difference between games nowadays and games in the past?
- What're negative aspects of games?

### **11. Describe a happy event in your life?**

- When did it happen?
- Where did it happen?
- What was it?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What do you think is important in achieving happiness?
- How do the people of your country celebrate happy events?
- Does money represent happiness and why?

### **12. Describe a thing which is important to you**

- Who gave it to you?
- What is the thing?
- What does the thing mean to you?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What kind of things are usually important to people?
- Is it the value or the price that matters?

### **13. Describe one of your neighbours**

- When did you become neighbours?
- Do you often meet?
- State whether your neighbour is a good one

#### **Follow-up:**

- What is the difference between neighbours and friends?
- What do you think about the relationship in the city in general?
- How to improve the neighbourhood?

### **14. Describe one of the shopping centers you often go to**

- Where is the shopping center?
- How often do you go to the center?
- Why do you often go there?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Will smaller shops survive in the current business system?
- What are the characteristics of shopping malls and smaller shops and what is the difference between them?
- What is the trend of future shopping centers?
- Talk about shopping over the Internet.

### **15. Describe your favourite pet**

- What kind of pet is it?
- Describe it briefly
- Why do you like this pet?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What do you need to do to take care of it?
- What do you think about keeping a pet in a small flat?

### **16. Advertisement**

- What are the forms of advertisement?
- What are the functions of advertisement?
- What is the effect of advertisement on people?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Do you get bored of advertisement?
- What do you think are the criteria of assessing a good piece of advertisement?
- Should advertisement of alcohol drinks and cigarettes be banned?

### **17. Describe an important letter**

- When did you receive the letter?
- Who did you receive the letter from?
- Explain the reasons why it is important

#### **Follow-up:**

- What is the significance of handwriting?
- Compare the handwriting now and in the past
- With the popularity of computers and Internet, will people lose their ability to write letters?

### **18. Describe the best present you have received**

- Who sent it to you?
- When did you receive it?
- Give detailed information about the present

#### **Follow-up:**

- Do you think that giving presents will play an important role in people's lives in the future?
- Is the brand name very important for selling goods?

### **19. Describe your holidays**

- Where did you go?
- Who did you go with?
- Talk about any interesting things that happened

#### **Follow-up:**

- What do people of your country mostly do in their leisure time?
- What's the difference between holidays today and 5 years ago and what are the reasons for the change?
- Do you think people will spend more time on leisure in the future?

**20. Describing a piece of equipment you often use at home or at work**

- What is it ?
- How do you use it?
- How long have you had it?
- How important it is to you?

**Follow-up:**

- What role does technological development play in people's life?
- How will technology develop in the future?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of using a mobile phone?
- Why do many foreign countries develop faster than your country?

**21. Describing a well-known person**

- Who is he/she?
- What makes him/her famous?
- Why do you admire him/her?

**Follow-up:**

- Do you want to become famous?
- What kind of people can become famous in your country?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of being famous?
- What do you think of the privacy of well-known people?

**22. Describing a friend from your school days.**

- Who is he/she?
- When did you become friends?
- How did he/she influence you?

**Follow-up:**

- What is the difference between adults and children in terms of making friends?
- Can adults make friends with children?
- Why is it difficult for adults to make friends?

**23. Describing a person you like to work/study with.**

- Who is he/she?
- Why do you like to work with him/her?
- What can you learn from him/her?
- Why is he/she so special?

**Follow-up:**

- Do you like to work alone or in a team? Why?
- What do you think of teamwork and team spirit?
- What kind of people are good to work with?

**24. Describe a restaurant or a café.**

- Where is it?
- What kind of food does it serve?
- Why do you like it?

**Follow-up:**

- Do you like cooking?
- What do you think of the advantages and disadvantages of fast food?
- What kind of food is the most popular in your country?

### **25. Describing an interesting building.**

- Where is it located?
- What does it look like?
- Why do you like/dislike it?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What role do old buildings and new buildings play in modern society?
- How has architecture changed over the past few decades?
- Do you think it is necessary to protect old buildings?

### **26. Describing a book that you like.**

- What is the book about?
- Why do you like it?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What kind of books do children like? Why do they like reading?
- What is the difference between reading and watching TV?
- What are the advantages of reading books?
- What kind of books are popular in your country?

### **27. Describing music.**

- What kind of music do you like?
- What role does the music play in your country?

#### **Follow-up:**

- Why is it easier for children to learn playing the musical instrument?
- What are the benefits of learning to play musical instruments?
- Discuss the impact of western music on the world music?

### **28. Describing an interesting hobby**

- What is it?
- How long have you been doing it?
- How often you do it.
- Why do you like it.

#### **Follow-up:**

- Do you think that surfing the Internet, watching TV, listening to music or keeping a pet are interesting hobbies?
- Do you like hobbies requiring teamwork?
- What do people usually do in their spare time?

### **29. Describe an environmental problem**

- What is it?
- What effect does it have on people's lives?
- What can we do to solve this problem?

#### **Follow-up:**

- What causes environmental problems?
- What should the government do to protect the environment?
- What should we do to protect the environment?