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Verb to be

Present	past	past participle (3)
am/is/are	was/were	(have/has/had) been

I **have been** in the Red Crescent HR for 3 years/since 2018.

My wife **has been** a teacher for 10 years. (present perfect)

I **have seen** your letter.

Passive

Verb to be + past participle

Your letter **has been seen**. (Present perfect passive)

Wait

I **wait** every day. Habit (present simple)

I **am waiting** for you. (now) (present continuous)

I **have waited** for you for 2 hours. (Present perfect)

I **have been waiting** for 2 hours. (I'm still waiting).

I **had been** single before I married.

I **had eaten** my breakfast before I **went** to work.

Before I **went** to work, I **had eaten** my breakfast.

I **have been** a mother for 8 years.

I **have been** married for 10 years.

My mother **has been** here in Abu Dhabi for 2 weeks.

My mother **has been** in the UAE for 20 years.

I **had been** in Egypt before I came to the UAE.

I **had brushed** (past perfect) my teeth before I **took** (past simple) a shower.

I **am** ('m) a mother.

I **am not** ('m not) a nurse.

He **is** a good swimmer.

She **is not** (she's not) (She isn't) a good doctor.

We **are** (We're) happy.

We **are not** (We're not) (We aren't) happy.

British

student

new

during

American

student

new

during

...ing If the word has **ing**, don't pronounce the (**g**)

singing **amazing** **ringing** **eating** **swimming**

warm (o)

worm

want (o)

war (o)

ward (o) **room**

word (3r) (3:) (**bird**)

work (3r) (3:)

Verb to be (Question)

1- Yes/No questions

He is a teacher.

Is he a teacher?

I am late.

Am I late?

Yes, **you are**.

No, **you aren't**. No, **you're not**.

1- Wh/ questions (What/Where/When/How/How much/How old/How many/ What colour/Who?)

Where **is** your laptop?

My laptop **is** at home. It's **at** home.

We use the **present simple** to talk about **events** (**things**: train, plane ...etc.) that are scheduled in the future. (**planned future**)

The festival starts from 16th to 19th May.

The train leaves at 7.00 PM.

We use the **present continuous** to talk about **people** who have plans to be done in the future.

I'm shopping after the class.

They are travelling tomorrow. (**planned future**)

The woman is coming to Kenton on the 16th of May.

We cannot use two successive main verbs.

I love **go**.

I **love going** to malls during holidays.

Love= prefer= like = hate = start = finish = begin + verb +ing

-ed or -ing adjectives

interest**ed** (**feelings- people**)

interest**ing** (**things**)

I'm interest**ed** in movies.

The **film** is interest**ing**.

I'm **bored**.

The **class** is **boring**.

The children are amaz**ed**.

The show is amaz**ing**.

We're fascinated. The view from the window is fascinating.

The **police** in the US are exhausted. Climbing mountains is exhausting.

She's tired. Teaching **is tiring.**

***Mr. Ahmed** is an interesting teacher.

(I mean Mr. Ahmed's **way of teaching**)

Mr. Ahmed is interested in football.

(I mean **Mr. Ahmed's feeling**)

How to pronounce /l/

light /l/

learn

love

lute

lime

late

When /l/ is followed by a **vowel** (**iouae**), it is pronounced **light** with the **tongue** at the **front** of the mouth.

dark /ɫ/

ful |

sel |

beautifu |

go | d

il |

fil |

If the / | / is followed by a **consonant** (e.g. m, t, s, d...), it is pronounced **strong** with the **tongue** at the **back** of the mouth.

Anything that has got two parts is plural

trousers = they are.

glasses are = shorts are = slippers are = shoes are = sandals are

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How to pronounce (the)

The teacher = house = book = car

The apple = egg = umbrella = ice cream = orange

Tenses (12 tenses)

Present

past simple

Past participle

eat

ate

eaten (irregular)

speak

spoke

spoken

play

played

played (regular)

I eat an apple every day.

(present simple)

I am eating now.

(present continuous)

I have eaten a sandwich.

(present perfect)

I have been eating for 20 minutes.
(present perfect continuous)

I have been living in Ghayathi for 15 years (since 2005).

Example

I have been studying English for 13 years (since 2007).

Adjectives

Adjectives never take a plural form.

A beautiful view.

Some beautiful views.

day = days (countable nouns)

holiday = holidays

~~a few days holiday.~~

A few days' holiday.

Ahmed's car

The boy's toy

The boys' toy

It's about a five-minute walk.

It's about a five-minutes' walk.

How to pronounce (-ed)

(-ed) is pronounced (t)

1- /k/ looked (kt) cooked (kt) checked (kt) asked (kt)

2- /p/ stopped (pt) copped (pt) clapped (pt) dropped (pt)

3- /ʃ/ wished (ft) washed (ft) rushed (ft)

4- /tʃ/ watched (tft) matched (tft)

5- /s/ passed (st) relaxed (st) practiced (st)

6- /f/ laughed (ft) coughed (ft) briefed (ft)

(-ed) is pronounced (id)

1- .../d/ ended (id) landed (id) responded (id)

2- /t/ wanted (id) planted (id) started (id)

(-ed) is pronounced (d)

cleaned (nd) seemed (md) used (zd) arrived (vd)

4- arrived at + a small place (a building) (station - house - hospital – school)

arrived in + a big place (London – Abu Dhabi – Egypt – America ...)

a few day (adjective) holiday (noun)

Modal verbs

~~I can English.~~ Modal verbs **alone** can't make a complete sentence.

I **can read** English.

present	past
can	could
will	would
shall	should
may	might
must	had to

After the modals we use the **infinitive** of verbs

I will **travel**. We shall **go**. They can **come**. He may **swim**. It might **rain**.

You should **study** hard. (**now-** present situation)

Past form of Modals

You **should have studied** hard **last week**. (last year- past situation)

You might have dropped the box. (active)

The box might have been dropped. (passive)

Someone might have dropped the box. (**active**)

The money must have been stolen last week. (I can't find it)

You should be more patient.

You should have been more patient. (Yesterday)

Present perfect Passive

The city council (subject) **has changed** **some things**. (**active**)

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Somethings **have been** changed. (**present perfect passive**)

Somethings that have been retained.

Let me tell you about some of the changes that **have been** made and somethings that have been retained.

The statue of Diane Gosforth **has been** moved. (**passive**)

The playground **has been** enlarged and improved.

nouns	adjectives
north	north ern boundary
south	south ern gate
east	east ern gate
west	West ern gate

It is (It's) the responsibility of parents (the government to increase taxes on cigarettes – private cars) to monitor the number of hours their children (kids) usually spend in front of (TV) screens every day.

Everyone (Every citizen) can play a vital (an important) role to ... reduce their CO2 (carbon dioxide) footprint.

Everybody (Every citizen) can play a vital (an important) role to ... reduce the environmental pollution.

There is a big terrace where I love sitting and enjoy the fresh air and natural environment, especially in the early morning.

Using bicycles is environmentally useful, especially in densely populated areas.

Past perfect

We use the past perfect when there are two actions in the past to show which one happened first.

After I **had watched (action 1)** the film, I **went (action 2)** to bed.

I **went (action 2)** to bed after I **had watched (action 1)** the film.

Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
(a) boy(s) – two boys -a girl- 4 girls – a book – some books – a car – a lot of cars a = one	some oil – much sugar – little water – much information – some advice - chocolate – fish – butter – milk – much hair - money ...
many books – students How many employees do you have in your section?	much oil- much information How much _(money) does it cost?
a few questions – details – chances – minutes – days ...	a little sugar – a little advice – a little furniture ...

There are few students – houses - problems	There is little oil at home
Sorry, I have few coins. (problem – complaint-not enough). Fortunately, I have <u>a few</u> dirhams. (<u>enough</u>)	Sorry, I have little money. (problem – complaint-not enough). Fortunately, I have <u>a little</u> money. (<u>enough</u>)
“few” is fewer than “a few”.	“little” is less than “a little”.

For example, = For instance,
appears on = is displayed

Tag question

You are a teacher, **aren't** you?

They were late, **weren't** they?

She isn't here today, **is** she?

He **loves** fast cars, **doesn't** he?

We shall go to Abu Dhabi next week, **shan't** we?

You will study tonight, **won't** you?

Your daughter **saw** the film, **didn't** she?

Arranging adjectives

opinion	age	size	shape	colour	nationality	material	purpose	noun
----------------	------------	-------------	--------------	---------------	--------------------	-----------------	----------------	-------------

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comfortable	new	large	oval	black	Italian	leather	running energy	Shoes sources
beautiful								
renewable								

I have bought a pair of beautiful, new, large shoes.

I have bought a pair of beautiful new large shoes.

The shoes are comfortable, new, and leather.

For a number of years now, a wide range (variety) of renewable clean energy sources have been used to protect our precious environment.

Doubling the last letter of words

1- one-syllable words

sitting

getting

running - runner

cutting - cutter

shopping - shopper- shopped

swimming - swimmer

banned

fatter = the fattest = bigger = biggest

Conditions:

1- the word must end with a consonant.

2- the letter before the last must be a single short vowel

(i o u a e)

2- two-syllable words

preferred - preferring

submitted - submitting

inferred - inferring

beginner - beginning

3- in two-syllable words the **stress** must be on the **second** syllable.

Exceptions

waiting - **ea**ting - r**ai**ning

happening - **v**isiting - **o**pening - **l**istening

Different stress means different meanings

present (noun) pre**S**ent (verb)

Object (noun) ob**j**ect (verb)

project (noun) pro**j**ect (verb)

Exception

re**p**ort (noun) re**p**ort (verb)

Comment (noun)

Comment (verb)

access (noun)

access (verb)

Process (noun)

process (verb)

Pro **C**ess (walk)

ex **C**el

noun	Adjective + noun
north	northern river
south	southern gate
east	eastern gate
west	Western Union

People have made some of the changes (present perfect - active)

(Object) + be + past participle (present perfect- passive)

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Let me tell you about some of the changes that have been made.

Some things that have been retained. (present perfect- passive)

Using technology by children **has been discussed** worldwide by many specialists.

The statue **has been moved**.

We use (used to) (**yust tu**) to talk about something that happened in the past is no longer happening now.

There are two areas that are particularly intended for children.

The playground has been enlarged and improved.

They have been doubled to eight.

The plants that have been chosen.

urban = (city) X rural (countryside/village)

teacher = school

tutor = college/university/private

professor = higher rank tutor

agriculture – agricultural – agriculturist

pollutants = pollution

seem

You seem sad today.

You look sad today. (eyes)

You sound sad today. (ears). That sounds sensible. Sounds sensible.

The carpet feels soft. (fingers)

The ice-cream tastes too sweet. (tongue)

The tree smells nice. (nose)

make a decision.

We should think carefully before we take important decisions.

We should think carefully before taking essentially important decisions.

Making such a decision is never that easy.

Making such decisions isn't that piece of cake.

Pleased = happy = delighted = glad

Frustrated = self-confident = bored = interesting = interested = confused = worried

Dates

cardinals

~~1 (one)~~

~~2 (two)~~

~~3 (Three)~~

~~4 (four)~~

Fifth

ordinals

the first of (the 1st of April)

the second of (2nd April)

the third of (3rd April)

the fourth of (4th April)

Sixth

Seventh

Eighth

Nineth

Tenth

Eleventh twelfth

Thirteenth

Twentieth

21 twenty-first (21st)

22 twenty-second (22nd)

23 twenty-third (23rd)

24 twenty-fourth (24th)

31 the thirty-first (31st)

toxin = toxic

poison = poisonous

venom = venomous

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12 Tenses

Present	Past	Past participle
feed	fed	fed

1 - I feed my baby every day. (present simple) (fact- habit)

I don't feed my baby every day.

Do you feed your baby every day? Yes/No questions

When do you feed your baby? Wh/questions

She feeds her baby every day.

She doesn't feed her baby every day.

Does she feed her baby every day?

When does she feed her baby?

2- I am feeding my baby now. (present continuous) (now)

3- I have fed the baby. (present perfect) (something happening in the past with an effect now) The baby is not hungry.

4- I have been feeding the baby for 20 months. (Present perfect continuous) (something starting in the past and is still continuous until now) (I have been working for Al Dhafra Region/ADNOC for one year.)

5- I fed the baby two hours ago. (past simple) (specific time in the past)

6- I was feeding the baby when you called me. (past continuous) (something happening in the past and was continuous for some time)

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7- I had fed the baby before I went to work. (the first action which happened before another)

8- I had been feeding the baby before I went to work.

9- I will feed the baby later. (simple future) (something that will happen in the future)

10 – I will be feeding my baby tomorrow at 10.00 am. (future continuous)

11- I will have fed the baby before 9.30. (future perfect) (something will be completed before a specific time in the future.)

12- I will have been feeding the baby. (future perfect continuous)

countable and uncountable nouns

Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
(a) boy(s) – two boys -a girl- 4 girls – a book – some books – a car – a lot of cars	oil – sugar -water – information – advice chocolate – fish – butter – milk – hair ...
many books – students How many employees do you have in your section?	much oil- much information How much (money) does it cost?
a few questions – details - chances	a little sugar – a little advice – a little furniture ...
few children – houses - problems	little oil at home

Sorry, I have few coins. (problem – complaint-not enough). Fortunately, I have a few dirhams. (enough)	Sorry, I have little money. (problem – complaint-not enough). Fortunately, I have a little money. (enough)
“few” is fewer than “a few”.	“little” is less than “a little”.

Speaking

What kind of things do you usually do in a rush?

Well ... I usually do many things in a rush. For example, I actually prepare breakfast very quickly every day, cos I don't have enough time. I usually have only about 15 minutes to do this before I go to work. I also rush to aid my kids if they're in danger, especially when they're playing in a park. These are some things I have to do in a rush.

Well ... I guess all women, especially those who are married and have got kids, have to do a wide variety of daily activities in a rush, and I'm no exception, of course. Well ... for instance, I have to prepare meals, shop, do the house chores and sometimes I even eat in a hurry cos I have a lot of family **and** work commitments. So, I often don't have enough time to finish everything slowly.

Well ... that's a very important question, especially for a married woman who has got three kids like me. Well ... I have a wide range of work **as well as**

family commitments, making it quite natural to have to do a lot of things in a hurry. For example, I have to get up very early to prepare the breakfast before going to work. Of course, this has to be done very quickly cos I don't often have enough time. Another example would be, say, helping my kids with their homework. They usually have a lot of work to do and, unfortunately, they can't depend on themselves as they're still too young. Moreover, I sometimes have to rush to aid my kids, especially whenever they're in danger. For instance, if they're about to fall off a chair, a bed ... et cetera.

Well ... I think, I've been rushing all around all day since I got married. So, unfortunately, I wish I have never been asked such a question cos it brings lots of painful memories to me which I'm trying to forget. If I am to suggest a title for my life, I would absolutely choose "Hard Times" or "A Woman in a Constant Rush".

Is your hometown a safe place for children to live in?

Well I guess the UAE is officially classified as the safest Arab country. Abu Dhabi, where I live, is one of the safest places in the world. What I mean is, the **rate** of crimes in general, and against children, in particular, **is** extremely low. I think this safe entertaining environment has been achieved through the small number of people living here and the children protection policies, regulations and laws that are strictly implemented (applied) everywhere. For example, there are many children facilities that are quite safe, including public parks and kids' zones, even if parents are shopping, they can easily find a safe creche in which their children can be left. There are plenty of lectures (programs-campaigns) which are regularly run by both the ministries of education and interior to raise people's awareness of child protection measures. So, even virtual (online) bullying is fairly controlled. Although we're

living in a multi-cultural society, people are very kind and friendly with kids. Generally speaking, I would say that I'm quite happy to raise my children in such a safe place.

What do you do to stay energetic?

Well ... that's an important question, especially during the hard time we're experiencing (undergoing) these days. Staying fit and energetic has become absolutely challenging with the outbreak of the coronavirus (covid-19) pandemic which has led to closing most of the sports facilities I used to go to such as the GYM halls, sports clubs, swimming pools ... et cetera. In other words, it's not that easy to find a place where I can do some exercises like walking or running. But, anyway, I've found an alternative solution through buying a treadmill which I usually use for at least 30 minutes every day. This is the only choice available to keep energetic these days.

What might make you happy?

Well ... it's a hard question to answer cos happiness is something relative. In my opinion, it may depend on the person's marital status. While simple things like watching my favourite comedian, receiving some praise for my performance or passing an exam used to make me very pleased, now the level of my happiness is closely related to seeing a big smile on the faces of my children. For example, I usually laugh heartily whenever they do or say anything funny. I do appreciate laughter because I've heard once that this releases happiness hormones inside our bodies. So, I'd like to say the happier my children, the happier I will always be.

Learning Foreign Languages

Describe a time when you first communicated in a foreign language.

Is learning a foreign language important?

What have you done to improve your English?

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What was the most challenging thing about learning English?

Should children learn the foreign language at an early age?

Well ... learning foreign languages, especially English has become the most important language of communication all over the world.

Well ... the first time I needed to communicate in English was on (on board of) a plane while I was flying to (London-Dubai) about 10 years ago. When the air hostess came to serve me, unfortunately, she didn't speak Arabic. She started asking me about (my meal preferences) what I would prefer to have for my meal, but, unfortunately, I couldn't understand her (what she was saying) (a single word of what she had said).

Well ... of course, I felt **extremely** embarrassed, **and my face burned with shame**. Fortunately, there was a lady sitting beside me who spoke English fluently. She offered to help me, and she translated the conversation between me and the air hostess.

Well... after that situation, I decided to improve my English language. I **started taking** a course with private tutor. In addition, I used some websites and video clips to improve my communication skills. I also found reading short stories and chatting in English quite useful.

Well ... I think the most challenging part of learning the English language was the grammar. So, I started to follow some online (**virtual**) websites that focus on developing this important part of the language.

Well ... people learn foreign languages for many reasons. Personally, I need to have excellent language skills for a wide variety of purposes. For example, I need English to (continue my higher studies at university) (apply for immigration) (find a suitable job) (get a promotion). You know, English has become a primary (basic) requirement for (education-immigration).

Furthermore, this **globally dominant** language is used as a **lingua franca** in the UAE. I often need to communicate in English in many situations such as malls,

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hospitals, schools, airports or when I need a certain service on the phone like speaking to Etisalat, airlines and so on. These are some reasons (**that make mastering the English language an urgent necessity.**) why I'm trying to learn English.

Well ... **I guess this is a highly controversial issue.** What I mean, is when children start learning a foreign language at a very early age, they will be more able to master this new language. However, this might negatively affect their first language (mother tongue). So, I think, we should weigh the pros (**positives**) and cons (**negatives**) of choosing the right age to expose children to a second language.

Describe a situation when you felt embarrassed.

Well ... I guess everyone has faced some embarrassing situations throughout their life, and of course I'm no exception. I've been exposed to lots of situations in which I felt shy and even ashamed, but **the** one that I'll never forget was about 10 years ago when I was in a hurry preparing myself to meet some **of** my friends in a mall. I left my home quickly and took a **public** bus. When I wanted to pay for the ticket, I looked for my wallet inside my handbag, but, unfortunately, I couldn't find it anywhere. The driver was waiting patiently and smiled. I started to feel shy and **nervous**. I didn't know what to say. There was a kind **of** embarrassing silence. Fortunately, one of my friends called me and told me that she was **waiting** at the next bus stop. At that moment, I felt relieved and told the driver that I would pay later. As soon as my friend got onto the bus, I borrowed some money from her and paid for both of us. Since then, the last thing I usually do before going out is to make sure my wallet is inside my handbag.

Speaking

What do you do? Do you work or are you a student?

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Well ... I'm a student. I've finished high school and I'm planning to join university.

Well ... I'd like to study Business administration at HCT. I've chosen this specialization cos it's easy to find a job in this field after graduation.

Well ... I'm doing both actually. I'm working in a bank/magazine and studying English at the same time.

What games are popular in your country? Why?

Well ... there is a wide variety of games which are practiced in my country including football, volleyball, basketball, chess and, of course, video games such as Fortnite and FIFA, but the most popular **ones** are football for males (men) and volleyball for females (women).

Do you play any games? Why?

Well ... I've tried a **wide range** of **games**, but the most special **one has always been walking**. I **started this exciting activity** when I was just six. I **used to** walk with my mother in the public park. Nowadays, I do **this** in a sports club with my friends. What is really great about this **hobby** is that it doesn't need a lot of **equipment**. **However**, it's sometimes so difficult to walk in the summer because it's often too hot and humid. Generally, I really can't imagine my life without walking three times (**twice**) a week at least. This keeps me fit and healthy.

How do people learn to play games in your country?

Well ... that's an interesting question. **Learning** to play games depends mainly (**essentially**) on the **type** of (**v**) person and the **sort** of game. **What I mean is**, games like **football** don't need anybody to help us to learn. Children **usually** watch **young people** playing **it** and they just imitate **them**. Of (**v**) course, schools, clubs and private lessons -whether they are online (**virtual**) or offline (**face-to-face**)- can help a lot to learn many games. Finally, I **do** believe that talented people don't **usually** need **to be taught** how to play games. They naturally play very well.

Do you think it's important for people to play games? Why?

Well ... of course, games have got a wide variety of **pros** (**positives-benefits**). **These** include keeping people fit, healthy and active: both mentally and physically. **For example**, tennis can help them to be more immune against lots of serious diseases such as diabetes, heart attacks, blood pressure and obesity. **Furthermore**, games like chess keep their mind active and may help them solve life problems as it teaches them how to think carefully before making decisions. Generally, games are so useful and essential for a healthy lifestyle.

What would you prefer? Drinking tea or coffee?

Well ... **as you know**, tea and coffee are part of our Arabic culture. Sometimes, the Emirati culture is called “**the coffee culture**”. I **do** drink a lot of tea, especially when I go to the beach at the weekend. I love the tea that is prepared on coal. However, I just have one cup of coffee, especially in the morning with my husband. I’ve **read (heard)** once that coffee is very important for our heart. I can’t really pass one (a **single**) day without drinking **both**.

Tell me about a piece of advice you received and found helpful.

Well ... giving advice is an important part of our **religion**. So, we usually exchange advice with all people around us. Of course, I’ve received lots of **advice**, but the most important **one** was when I had a problem with physics at high school. One of my friends recommended an excellent teacher for me. When he helped me, I could easily pass the **exam**. Of course, I was very happy, and I **thanked** her very much for her sincere advice.

Who do you usually give advice to?

Well ... I usually give advice to many people including my children and my younger sisters **cos** I’m more experienced and they usually ask my advice before **making** important decisions.

Do you prefer outdoor activities or indoor ones? Why?

Well ... **unfortunately**, most people, and of course, I'm no exception, prefer indoor games, **especially** video games, chess and cards. **These** games are dangerous to our health because we sit for a long time without any **physical** activity which can cause many **serious diseases** like diabetes, heart attacks and obesity. As a **result**, we should encourage people to practice outdoor activities such as walking, running, swimming, football, volleyball and so on. **These** activities would keep us healthy and fit.

How can you take care of old people?

Well ... of course, elderly people, whether they are parents, grandparents, or close family members, usually need special care. For example, they need someone to give them their medicines regularly. Sometimes they need someone to read the news for them or help them move around or even eat. If they need more healthcare, we often hire a nurse or even a doctor to come home and check them. I take elderly care as a blessing, but for some, it's a challenging task. I know, in other cultures, some people would send their elderly to a nursing home, but this isn't commonly accepted in my culture.

Part 2

Describe something new or exciting (a new skill) you did.

Well ... I've experienced many new exciting things, but the best one was driving a car for the first time after passing the driving test. As I can remember, that happened when I completed 18 years old. As you know, according to the UAE traffic laws, we're not allowed to drive solo before this age. Of course, although my father/mother was with me during this first trip in my home city, Silaa, to make sure I was driving safely, I felt I were Michael Schumacher, the famous racing driver. Of course, I can't find suitable words to describe my feeling at that time. But I can simply say, I was extremely happy cos I eventually could fulfill my childhood dream. I will never ever forget this amazing experience.

Part 3

Why do you think people like doing new things?

Umm ... well ... that's a tricky question. I think that (guess) we are naturally born with curiosity. Children, for example, love trying (experimenting-exploring) new (novel) things, and this helps them explore the world around them. So, loving to try new, exciting things is genetically inherited. When we do the same things every day, we feel bored, and things become so dull. So, exploring new, exciting things refreshes both our

minds and bodies. Generally, I would say “doing new things is an absolutely healthy habit.” (The more we explore (curious we are), the more we learn and academically, personally, and professionally develop.)

What problems can people have when they try things for the first time?

Well ... it's absolutely (quite) normal for people trying (who try) new things to feel panic, scared and worried. But I do believe that risk is growth. In other words, if we want to develop our knowledge and skills, we must take the risk of trying to do unusual things. For instance, a person who is trying to practice sky diving for the first time may (would most likely) feel scared (nervous-afraid). However, many (people) manage to learn this dangerous sport. Children should be taught (We should teach children) at an early age that failure is the first step towards success. If we have such a (this) culture, then trying new things can be so easy (a plain sail-just a walk in a park). These are some challenges (problems-issues) that an explorer (a person trying new things) might face.

Do you think it's better to do things alone or with other people?

Well ... I'm such a social creature (person-woman) who can never (can't) live alone. I love being with other people all the time. As a result, I'd prefer to try new things with other people who can help me and support me with their experiences. I do believe in the saying “Two heads are better than one.” So,

teamwork (**collaboration- cooperation-group work**) is a basic (**primary- an essential**) key to success, especially when trying to explore new things.

What kind of things do children learn to do when they are very young? How important are these things?

Well ... there is a wide range of (**lots of**) skills children need to learn at an early age including (**like-such as**) how to eat, walk, read, ride a bicycle, use an iPad or any other gadgets ... et cetera. Of course, **these skills** are very important for a successful childhood. Children are usually better and faster than adults when learning (**they learn**) new things.

Consequently (As a result), they should be guided and strongly supported at this early stage of life when their characters **are being shaped**.

Do you think children and adults learn to do things in the same way? How is their learning style different?

Well ... of course, children and adults learn differently (**in relatively different ways**). For example, children can memorize new things better and faster than adults. **The younger the learner, the faster they learn**. For this reason, learning foreign languages is easier at an early age; usually before 7, otherwise learners will never be able to speak like native speakers. However, adults learn higher-thinking skills like analyzing, evaluating, and creating faster. I think **the older the learner,**

the better cos they often have fully developed brains and long experience to guide them, especially when learning **g** new things. Finally, while children would be better at learning **concrete things** like animals and colours, adults would learn **abstract** ideas like honesty, integrity ... et cetera faster and easier.

Some people say it is more important to learn new things nowadays than it was in the past. Do you agree or disagree with that? Why?

Well ... I would say, I completely agree (**yes, I can't agree anymore**) with this opinion. Yes, today's digital life is much more complicated than before. **What I mean is**, life in the past was much simpler and people needed **a few** skills to find a job in a farm or factory, for instance. **By contrast**, we're living in a knowledge society these days. **This** requires us to be highly **equipped** with a lot of skills and knowledge to be able to compete in a global workforce market. For example, most people in the past didn't complete their higher studies. **But** they could easily lead good lives. On the other hand, nowadays, you need to get a master's degree, at least, to get a suitable job. So, generally, we need to learn many skills that were not required in the past. For instance, there are lots of differences in abilities between the digital generation and digital immigrants. It is crystal clear that our technological skills are much better than those of our parents and grandparents.

Special gifts/presents

On what occasions do you usually exchange gifts/presents?

Well ... gifts are very important in our Arabic Islamic culture. We do believe that **exchanging** gifts or presents increases love and unity in communities. Of course, there is a wide range of **(lots of) occasions** when we buy different types of gifts. **These** include, birthdays, wedding parties, graduation ceremonies, Eids, the holy month of Ramadhan, when someone is ill ... et cetera.

How do you usually choose a suitable gift?

Well ... choosing the **suitable** gift depends on the type of occasion, the age of the person we are giving the gift to and how close this person is. For example, we usually buy things like perfumes, clothes, food, jewelry, flowers, gadgets for our adult friends and family members, but we may choose toys, a bicycle or even chocolate for young children.

Do you prefer shop-bought or home-made gifts?

Well ... sometimes, we buy shop-bought gifts which are usually much easier to get, especially when we can afford that. But sometimes we give home-made gifts such as cakes or traditional dishes. I think this takes a lot of time and effort which is more precious than money.

Describe a special gift you have received.

Well ... I've received a wide variety of gifts from many people, but the most special one was a Toyota car from my father (mother-husband). As I can remember, that happened just after I could pass my driving test and got the driving license when I completed 18.

Of course, I was extremely happy coz I had always dreamed to have my own car. Although it is a small car, it has got a lot of options such as a high-quality DVD and sensors for everything. Of course, I think, I will never sell this car cos it shows me how much love and care I have got from my dad (mother-husband).

Hometown

Describe your hometown.

Well ... I come from a small town called Ruwais (Abu Dhabi). I've lived there for most of my life.

Well ... it's a very (quite) quiet place about 250 kilometers west of Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE. It's got a wide range of advantages (many positives). These (positives) include its good location on the sea. There's a very beautiful beach, recreation facilities, big shopping malls, some attractive public parks, a very big vegetables, fruits and fish markets. Furthermore, it's a

multi-cultural city where a wide variety of people from different countries live in peace and harmony.

What do people do there?

Well ... most people there work for the government at schools, hospitals, the municipality, the police ... et cetera. Of course, there are some people who work as fishermen. So, fresh fish is always available there at cheap prices. Finally, many people have their own private businesses.

Well ... the only thing I don't like there is the crowds that cause traffic jams everywhere, especially during the rush hours. Generally, I think I'm so lucky to live in this nice city (in such a stunning place).

How do you usually move around where you live?

Well ... there are many transportation means where I live including private cars, public buses, taxis, motorbikes and bicycles. Well ... unfortunately, I'd prefer using my private car as it's faster, easier and more comfortable, though I know, this isn't eco-friendly.

Well ... choosing the suitable transportation means depends mainly on some factors. For example, while the poor would choose public transport, the rich would prefer private cars.

I think, we should increase people's awareness **of** protecting our dear environment **through** reducing the use of private cars to decrease air pollution.

Your favourite school subject

Tell me about your favourite school subject.

Well ... unlike most people who love non-academic subjects such as music and PE (physical education), I **love** a lot of academic **school subjects** including English, Arabic, physics, but the most special **one** for me is (**has always been**) math.

Well ... I've **loved** this school subject since I was very young. I don't know exactly the reasons why I love it, but I think it's a natural talent (**which is genetically inherited**). My father (**mother**) also **loved** it too, and by the way, she's a math teacher. In addition, I had a very kind math teacher who made me love this subject. Finally, I would like to study business cos math will help me.

What do you usually do at weekends?

Well ... there is a wide variety of activities I often enjoy doing when I'm not working (I usually do a lot of **free time activities**) at the weekend. **These (activities) may** include relaxing after a

week full **of** work or study stress. I often **sleep** for a long time **to refresh** my body and **relax**. In addition, I usually meet **up** with

my friends, **play** video games, **walk** in the public park or on the **beach**, **entertain** or **visit** (**be entertained by**) some relatives, or friends even neighbours. **These** are some of the **pastimes** I may do every Friday and Saturday.

What is your favourite sport?

Well ... I've **tried** many **sports** such as walking, running, volleyball and swimming, but the best **one** for me **has always been volleyball**.

Well ... I **started** playing **this sport** when I was (**at primary/preparatory/high school**) around 10 years old. I used to play with my friends at school. Nowadays, I can play with my friends at the local club.

Well ... I think this useful **free time activity** has got many pros including keeping me fit and healthy. What is great about **this hobby** is that it doesn't need any equipment; you just need a ball and a suitable place to play in.

However, the **only** thing I don't like about **this interesting sport** is that you sometimes can't find enough people to play with you. Really, I can **never** imagine my life without volleyball.

Describe a special place you've visited.

Well ... I've **been** to many **places** inside and outside the UAE, but the most special **one** was **Al-Ain**. It's a nice, beautiful city

located about 150 kilometers east of Abu Dhabi; the capital of the UAE.

Well ... I went there last winter with my family including my father, mother and brother. We went there by car and spent three days in that green place.

Of course, this nice city has got a lot of tourist attractions like Hafeet Mountain. The view from its top is really fascinating, especially (particularly) at night. We also visited lots of interesting places such as the zoo, fun cities, water springs and museums.

We stayed in a luxury (luxurious) hotel in the city centre. We ate in some excellent restaurants which offer the most delicious meals.

Well... the weather was nice at that time. Although it's a very good place, it isn't that expensive.

The only thing I didn't like was the traffic jams, especially during the rush hours.

Really, I'll never forget this exciting experience.

Do you prefer texting or phoning to communicate?

Well ... both "texting" and "phoning" have their pros and cons.

Personally, I prefer "texting" cos it has made communication easier, faster and more private. For example, when I'm in a

crowded place such as a mall or a meeting, I can receive and send messages, and nobody will know anything about the content. In addition, texting is cheaper.

Would you prefer texting or phoning to communicate?

Well ... people are using texting too much these days for many reasons. **For example**, if you're in a crowded place like a mall, a bus or even a meeting, you'll not be able to make or receive telephone calls. In these cases, texting will be better. **I mean**, no-one can overhear what you send or receive. **Most importantly**, messages are cheaper; you don't have to pay like with phoning. In addition, responding to messages can be more creative. **In other words**, we can use posters, emojis or even video clips to show our feelings and opinions. **For all these reasons, texting has become more convenient. So, I think, I prefer texting to phoning.**

Do think we should give a mobile to a child aged 9?

Well ... I think yes, we should give a mobile to children above **the age** of 8, especially girls. You know, children sometimes go out with their friends. So, parents can call them anytime to make sure they are ok. But parents should monitor their **use**. For example, they should block harmful internet websites and take the mobiles before they go to sleep. They should also

encourage their children to tell them about any bullying they may be exposed to.

How can we keep (preserve) our national identity?

Umm ... well ... that's an interesting question, let me think for a moment, ... ok, our national identity is **who we are**. It's our language, traditions, customs, religion and so on. Nowadays, with globalization, the world is becoming a small village, so many people are losing their national identity. For example, some young Emirati people **don't** wear the traditional clothes of the UAE or even speak Arabic in their everyday communication. Of course, I think this is not good for our national identity. **It's** a good thing to learn foreign languages and wear modern clothes, but we should teach our children to keep the right balance. I think, the UAE could keep this balance. For instance, wherever you go, you will enjoy seeing heritage villages, old houses and old souks (market). I **do** believe It's very important to preserve our history.

Do you prefer to buy things online or from stores?

Oh ... wow ... like most women, I **do** love shopping (**Well ... I guess most women do love shopping, and I'm no exception, of course**). Both online shopping and store shopping have their pros and cons. For example, online shopping is faster, cheaper

and more comfortable. You can order whatever you like from the comfort of your home through the different shopping Apps such as Noon and Amazon. However, sometimes the things you get aren't exactly what you had purchased. For instance, they may not be the right size or quality you had expected. By contrast, store shopping is fun. You can buy and enjoy seeing different people and places. Nevertheless, you may waste a lot of time and money to get to malls and markets.

Generally, I prefer online shopping to save my time and effort.

Writing

Introduction 1

Communication using "texting" has been rapidly developed all over the world over the last few years. People have used a wide variety of means to communicate such as telegraphs, letters, phone calls etc., which have been considered cost effective.

Although many people might argue that “texting” has more negatives than positives, I completely disagree with this idea. In this essay, I will provide some reasons why I would prefer this type of communication over other available means.

Introduction 2

Nowadays, every time you switch on your mobile, you find many text messages waiting for you. The **idea** of using “creative texting” for communication has become an attractive **one**, especially for today’s digital teenagers. Some people believe that texting is better than other communication means in many ways. I do agree with this opinion and, in this essay, I will discuss the reasons why I support **this**.

Introduction 3

“Texting” has recently **ly** been used at an alarming rate. For many, especially the digital generation, using “texting” rather than other traditional means has become very popular. It might be thought that “texting” has become the most preferred way of communication. I completely agree with this idea and, in this essay, I will support my opinion with examples.

Introduction 4

These days, people are using texting so much. For some, using texting as a communication way has been considered an

effective and practical method, especially between teenagers. Texting is seen as the best communication way between people. In my view, I would support this opinion, and, in this essay, I will discuss why I have chosen this attitude (side).

Body (Advantage 1)

Firstly, “texting” is far too secured and trusted for communicators. For example, if you get a message while you are in a **crowded room, subway, meeting** or a **mall**, this would not disturb you as the voice call might do. In other words, while in **these places**, you can adjust your mobile phone to the silent mood, and you can still feel the vibration of the incoming messages. What’s more, unlike traditional phone calls, you can read and respond discreetly. What I mean is, no-one of the people around you can know anything about your communication content. In this way, “texting” is safer and more convenient than other means.

(Advantage 2)

Another reason why I agree with using “texting” is that it is usually faster than other means. For example, when you text a person, you expect an immediate response in most cases. By contrast, using emails would take more time from the person you are communicating with to see and respond to, especially with many other unimportant or spam emails from unknown

people. Therefore, most businesses would choose immediate-response “texting”.

(Disadvantage 1)

On the other hand **(However, there are some challenges to be overcome when we text)**, there is an argument that “texting” can harm users’ language skills. A good **(typical)** example of this would be when people, particularly **(especially)** children, use short forms and symbols such as “LOL” and “24/7”, they would most likely forget the art of writing full sentences with accurate grammar and spelling. Furthermore, their oral speaking skills, which are essentially important, might also be harmed.

(Conclusion)

To put it in a nutshell, **(Everything considered,)** **(To conclude,)** like anything under the sun, “texting” has its pros including **(like)** discretion and speed of response and so on, and cons like harming both oral and written language abilities. Personally, I **do** believe that “texting” has made our communication faster, more secured and creative. **(I think the advantage of “texting” far outweigh any potential negatives).** **(As long as moderation is exercised, using “texting” would never seriously affect a wise user.)**

Studying from Home

Many people have found studying from home (distance learning) better than face-to-face learning. Do you agree with this opinion?

Opinion Essay (I must mention my opinion in the introduction and conclusion) (body must include two paragraphs supporting your opinion and one that shows the other opinion to convince the reader of your opinion and make the right balance between your opinion and the other one.)

Nowadays, distance learning has become an essential (a basic) method (way) of learning, especially with the outbreak of covid-19 pandemic. For many, it has been appreciated and valued over traditional face-to-face education (instruction). I completely agree with this opinion. In this essay, I will support my opinion with some reasons and try to draw some logical conclusions.

Let's begin by looking at the pros of studying from home. One of the most important positives of learning from home would be that it is more comfortable than face-to-face learning. What I mean is that, in e-learning, you can study any time, from anywhere. For example, you can follow your classes from the comfort of your home, garden or even car. Additionally, there are sometimes asynchronous (recorded) classes which can be followed whenever you have free time. In this way, it is more flexible and convenient, especially for working learners.

Furthermore, this type of education is cheaper than the face-to-face one. That is, when you study from home, you will not need to buy lots of clothes as you can wear anything while studying online. In addition to this, money spent on daily transportation to and from schools and universities would be completely saved. Finally, students would not be given a pocket money as they do not have to go out. Thus, online learning has been (is) highly valued, especially by the poor families.

On the other hand, some people would argue that this way of delivering education has some **challenges** (**problems-drawbacks-negatives-cons-disadvantages**) to overcome. **For example**, many students do not have enough technological skills to deal with different educational platforms. **Moreover**, it needs a strong internet connection, which is sometimes **neither** available **nor** affordable. **Finally**, young kids usually need some family members to help them most of the time.

In conclusion, **while** studying from home is more comfortable, flexible and cheaper, it has some problems such as the lack of ICT skills and availability of a strong reliable internet connection. **I strongly believe that the benefits of distance learning far outweigh any potential negatives.**

We add -ing:

1- After **prepositions** (**with-without-in-on-at-of-for-while-when- ...**)

Thank you **for** coming. I'm interested **in** cooking.

2- two successive **main verbs** (I love **swim**- I **love** swimming – **prefer** – hate – **started** studying)

Helping verbs (**be-have-do- can/could-will/would-shall/should-may/might- must**)

3- contracted forms (abbreviation). When the thief saw the policeman, he ran a way.

Seeing the policeman, the thief ran away.

I bought a villa overlooking **ing** the sea.

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4- Continuous tenses: I **am** playing- I **have been** playing – I **will be** sleeping – I **had been** sleeping- I **was** sleeping

Writing an introduction to an opinion essay

If we want to save the future of the planet, we will have to drastically change our way of life. What is your opinion?

These days, saving our planet has floated to the surface of serious debate. For many, the **need** to take urgent actions to stop pollution and harming our ecosystem **has** become a top priority. **Some believe that we should dramatically change our way of life if we would like to protect our environment. I strongly agree with this opinion** and in this essay, I will provide some examples to support my perspective.

Writing an introduction to a discussion essay

Sports stars are paid too much for what they do. Discuss.

Nowadays, celebrities can earn a lot of money compared to ordinary people. For many, there are some few people who get huge amounts of money while others are financially struggling. **For example, while some would argue that sports stars are given too much for their performance, others would suggest that they really**

deserve what they get. In this essay, I will be looking at both sides and express my opinion.

Conditional If

If (**Zero (modal)**) (**present**) (fact)

If you **are** hungry, **eat** something.

If you **heat** ice, it **melts**.

If + **present simple**, + **present simple (imperative)**.

IF (1) (possible **present and future**)

If you **study**, you **will** get a high mark in the exam.

If + **present simple**, + **will** (can – may – must) **infinitive** (get – eat – go)

IF (2) (**present**) (**false past-unreal past**) (**unlikely to happen**)

If I (was) **were** a bird now, I **would** fly high in the sky. (**impossible**)

If you **studied**, you **would** get a high mark. You can't study. You can't get a high mark.

If + **past simple**, (could – might – would) + **infinitive** (get – eat – go ... etc.)

IF (3) (real **past**)

If you **had studied**, you **would have got** a high mark last term. (**finished past**)

If + **past perfect**, + (would - could – might) + **have** + **past participle** (got – eaten – gone)

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IF (3) (the only real past)

If you had studied with me before your exam, you would have got a high mark. (Finished past) (You did not study/you didn't get a high mark)

If + past perfect, + (would - could - might) + have + past participle (got - eaten - gone - been ... etc.)

If I had got the money last week, I would have bought the iPhone.

I didn't have enough money. I didn't buy the iPhone.

If he had invited us, we would have attended the wedding last Friday.

This is a past situation. He didn't invite us. We didn't attend.

Mixed conditional

If I were a millionaire (if 2), I would have bought (if 3) a luxury villa. (mix = if 2 + if 3)

(present + past result)

If I had woken (if 3) up early, I would be (present) at work now.

(past + present)

If I wasn't so busy (now), I would come with you to the party tomorrow.

(present + future)

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Good Luck. For any further inquiries, don't hesitate to contact me (0505216608)