



1.9

1. What sports did you do when you were a kid?

→ To be honest, I've never been a **sporty person**⁽¹⁾, not even in my childhood. The only sport I played as a child was football, but I only played when my friends asked me to. If video games **were counted as**⁽²⁾ sports, then yeah, I have another one on my list.

⁽¹⁾**A sporty person:** một người thích thể thao

Sporty /'spɔ:rti/: thuộc về thể thao

Ví dụ: *He's a sporty person. He plays many sports like football, volleyball or basketball.*

⁽²⁾**Be counted as something:** được tính như là ...

Count /'spɔ:rti/: xem là, xem như

Ví dụ: *We don't usually talk, so I don't think he should be counted as my friend.*

2. What's your favourite sport? Why?

→ As I said, sport isn't really my thing, so I don't like any particular sport. If I had to choose, I think it would be video games. You know, now video games **are officially recognised as**⁽³⁾ "e-sports", so I think it's a **valid answer**⁽⁴⁾ to this question.

⁽³⁾**Be officially recognised:** được công nhận chính thức

Officially /ə'fɪʃəli/: một cách chính thức

Recognise /'rekəɡnaɪz/: công nhận

Ví dụ: *The bowling game is not officially recognized as a sport.*

⁽⁴⁾**A valid answer:** câu trả lời hợp lệ

Valid /'vælɪd/: hợp lệ

Answer /'ænsər/: câu trả lời

Ví dụ: *You are required to provide a valid answer. Otherwise, your team will lose this game.*

3. Have you ever watched a live sports match before?

→ Never. When I was at uni, the campus was right next to a stadium, but I've never been inside. I also have no desire to watch a live match since I can't stand being in crowded places.

4. Are you a fan of any sports teams? Why?

→ I was a fan of a football club called Arsenal based in England, but it was nearly 20 years ago. I liked the club but not because of the club itself. It was because of a player named Thierry Henry. But it was a long time ago. Now I'm not a fan of any team.

Recycle



1.10

1. Do you recycle now? Why?

→ Yes, but it depends on the material of the item. If it's a plastic bottle, I'll just throw it away because most plastics become toxic when used too many times. But if it's **cardboard**⁽¹⁾ or metal, the item can be recycled and used for other purposes.

⁽¹⁾**Cardboard** /'kɑːrdbɔːrd/: bìa các tông

Ví dụ: *This model is made of cardboard.*

2. Did you recycle when you were a kid?

→ No. I actually had no idea about recycling at that time. I just simply **got rid of**⁽²⁾ any used items. Maybe my parents did tell me something about recycling, but I just couldn't remember.

⁽²⁾**Get rid of**: loại bỏ một thứ gì đó

Ví dụ: *He is trying to get rid of smoking.*

3. Will you recycle in the future?

→ Yes. Recycling is a necessary thing to do. If we just throw everything away after just one use, it would be a huge waste, and sometimes it can be damaging to the environment, too. I **have a lot of concern over**⁽⁴⁾ environmental problems, you know, so recycling is something I'll surely do.

⁽⁴⁾**Have concern over something**: quan tâm/ quan ngại về một điều gì đó.

Concern /kən'sɜːrn/: lo lắng, quan ngại

Ví dụ: *Many people are having concern over bullying at schools.*

Picnic



1.11

1. Did you go on a picnic when you were a child?

→ Yes, a few times, mostly with my school. When I was in primary school, the school held a **field trip**⁽¹⁾ about once or twice per year, and we usually had a picnic on those occasions.

⁽¹⁾**A field trip:** chuyến đi thực tế

Field /fi:ld/: (công việc) quan sát, thực tế

Ví dụ: *Children are very interested in the annual field trips held by their schools.*

2. How often do you go on a picnic now?

→ Now I no longer have time for that. You know, I spend about over 10 hours per day at work, even on Saturdays, and a few hours on Sunday. So, I just have almost no time left for things like picnics. I often use the little free time I have for repairing stuff at home or cooking.

3. Where do you go on a picnic?

→ If I went on a picnic now, I think I'd choose Central Park in New York. I've always wanted to go to the US and have a picnic in the park there. And besides, Central Park looks really great in pictures, so I'm really **curious**⁽²⁾ about what it actually looks like in reality.

⁽²⁾**Curious** /'kjʊəriəs/: tò mò

Ví dụ: *Children are very curious about the wildlife.*

4. What is the difference between cooking at a picnic and cooking at home?

→ There are a lot of differences, you know. For example, it's easier when we cook at home because we can keep all the ingredients in the fridge and take them out whenever we need. But when it comes to a picnic, we need to find a way to preserve food because we can't **carry a fridge alongside**⁽³⁾. Usually food can't be kept for too long, or it'll go off.

⁽³⁾**Carry something alongside:** mang theo cái gì bên mình

Carry /'kæri/: mang theo

Alongside /ə,lɔ:ŋ'saɪd/: bên cạnh, dọc theo

Ví dụ: *I always carry a flashlight alongside when I go camping.*

List



1.12

1. Do you make a list when you shop?

→ Yes. I'm a **forgetful**⁽¹⁾ person, so it's impossible for me to do the shopping without a list. I did try to go without a list a couple of times, but I ended up forgetting one or two things.

⁽¹⁾**Forgetful** /fər'getfl/: hay quên

Ví dụ: She has become very forgetful in recent years.

2. Do you make a list for your work?

→ Yes. I make a to-do list every day based on a big plan that I've prepared for the whole year. I think a list like this is very important at work since it allows us to **keep track of**⁽²⁾ the things we need to do.

⁽²⁾**Keep track of something**: theo sát một thứ gì đó

Track /træk/: dấu, vết

Ví dụ: I can keep track of things pretty well, even without a to-do list.

3. Do you make a list for your work?

→ I think there are 2 types of people who do this. Some people have an excellent memory, so they can keep everything in their mind without writing it down. The second type are those who have no idea what they need to do, so there's no need for them to make a list.

4. Do you prefer to make a list on paper or your phone?

→ Personally, I prefer paper. Though it can sometimes be inconvenient because I have to carry a notebook with me all the time, I find it more effective than taking notes on a phone. Using a phone can be distracting sometimes since I may get distracted reading a message or watching something.