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# IELTS and Ideas Vocabulary

Chủ biên **CAROLYN CATT**

Chủ giải tiếng Việt **Nguyễn Thành Yến**



**NHÀ XUẤT BẢN TỔNG HỢP  
THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH**

**NTV**

**Công ty TNHH  
Nhân Trí Việt**

contents

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## IELTS Ideas and Vocabulary

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Không phần nào trong xuất bản phẩm này được phép sao chép, lưu giữ hoặc đưa vào hệ thống truy cập, hoặc được truyền tải, dưới bất kỳ hình thức nào hay bằng bất kỳ phương tiện nào, điện tử, cơ học, ghi âm, sao chụp, thu hình, phân phát qua mạng, hoặc các hình thức khác, mà không có sự cho phép trước bằng văn bản của Tác giả.

Ấn bản này được xuất bản tại Việt Nam theo hợp đồng chuyển nhượng bản quyền giữa Tác giả Carolyn Catt, New Zealand và Công ty TNHH Nhân Trí Việt, Việt Nam.

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# introduction

## TO THE STUDENTS

This book can be used for self-study on your own, or in a class with other students.

The exercises in the book will help you prepare for the topics and ideas that you may be asked to talk about in the speaking test or to write about in task 2 of the writing test. The same topics and ideas may also occur in the listening test and in the academic module reading test.

The main aims of the book are

- to help you to form your own opinions about a range of topics
- to increase your understanding of topics that you may read or hear about in the IELTS examination
- to develop your vocabulary so that you can understand and express ideas on a range of topics.

## TO THE TEACHER

*IELTS Ideas and Vocabulary* can be used in self-study mode by learners working alone, or in the classroom by teachers working with groups of learners. The Teacher's Notes section provides suggestions on tasks and classroom management techniques to provide opportunities for communicative and collaborative work in the classroom.

When preparing for the IELTS test, many students encounter difficulties in their expression and comprehension of ideas on frequently encountered IELTS topics because

- they have little knowledge about those topics
- they have insufficient language relating to those topics.

This lack of information and also of topic-specific language can cause them problems in both their productive skills (speaking and writing) and also in the receptive skills (listening and reading).

*IELTS Ideas and Vocabulary* was written to address these difficulties. The materials present learners with ideas relevant to common IELTS topics; they also support learners in the development and expression of their own ideas and opinions. The units include texts and tasks that

- introduce useful vocabulary
- personalise the topic for the learners
- focus on the learners' own cultures
- provide both speaking and writing practice
- present information or ideas on the topic
- encourage the learners to formulate their own ideas and opinions
- support the learners' own research of the topic.

The units generally become progressively more demanding from unit 1 to unit 13 and there is some recycling of language between the units. Teachers may, nevertheless, prefer to work through the units in a different order and will find that there is no real problem in adopting this approach.

## DISCLAIMER

The materials in this book are not taken from the IELTS examination.

# UNIT 1 food

## EXERCISE 1

### STAPLE FOODS<sup>(1)</sup>

- A** Match the staple foods in the left-hand column below with the countries in the right-hand column:

Staple Foods	Countries
bread	Paraguay
potatoes	China
rice	France
cassava/manioc <sup>(2)</sup>	Mexico
corn	Ireland

- B** What is the staple food of your own country? Is there more than one staple food? How many times a week do you eat your staple food(s)?

## EXERCISE 2

### COOKING METHODS

- A** Tick the cooking methods you can use with your own favourite staple food from the list below:

baking	roasting	steaming
boiling	stir-frying	grilling <sup>(3)</sup>
deep-frying (frying in a lot of oil)		
shallow-frying (frying in a small amount of oil)		

- B** Which of the cooking methods is least healthy? Which is most healthy? Why?  
**C** Which cooking method does the following paragraph describe and what staple food does 'them' refer to?

First you wash them carefully and dry them. You can rub<sup>(4)</sup> a little oil on the outside if you want. You heat an oven to about 180 degrees centigrade and put them in the middle of the oven. Depending on how big they are, they will be ready to eat in about 35 to 50 minutes. You can serve them with butter and salt, with grated cheese<sup>(5)</sup> or different sauces.

## EXERCISE 3

Write a paragraph describing how to cook your favourite staple food.

## EXERCISE 4

### INGREDIENTS AND TASTES

- A** Write the 5 groups of ingredients in the left-hand column below, next to the related taste:

#### Groups of ingredients:

soya sauce<sup>(6)</sup>, salt    sugar, honey    tofu<sup>(7)</sup>, flour    chilli    cheese, butter, cream

Ingredients	Tastes	Foods
_____	sweet	de'sserts, _____
_____	spicy	_____
_____	rich	_____
_____	salty	_____
_____	bland <sup>(8)</sup>	_____

1. staple foods /'steɪpl fʊ:dz/ (n, pl) thức ăn chính

2. cassava / manioc /kə'sɑ:və/ 'mæniɒk/ (n, u) củ sắn

3. grilling /'grɪlɪŋ/ (adj) nướng

4. rub /rʌb/ (vt) thoa, quết

5. grated cheese /'greɪtɪd tʃi:z/ (n, u) phô mai bào nhuyễn

6. soya sauce /,sɔɪə 'sɔ:s/ (n, u) nước tương

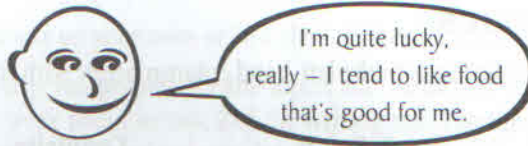
7. tofu /'təʊfʊ:/ (n, u) đậu phụ

8. bland /blænd/ (adj) có vị nhạt

- B** Which of the tastes above do you like most?  
**C** In the right-hand column, write 1 or 2 examples of food with the tastes in the list above. Mark the word stress. We have given you one example – de'sserts.

**EXERCISE 5**

a) What things do you think this person likes eating?



b) Check your ideas with the information below about what he likes eating:

I prefer savoury<sup>(1)</sup> food to sweet food; and I dislike rich food with lots of cream or butter in it. I enjoy simple, quite plain food – for example, lightly grilled fish with steamed vegetables. Some people consider that type of food to be bland and boring, but I think that if you use really good, fresh ingredients, it can be very tasty. I also like spicy food, things like curries with spices such as cardamom<sup>(2)</sup> and coriander<sup>(3)</sup> – but nothing too hot and I'm not keen on a lot of chilli. Fortunately, I don't enjoy fatty foods – things with a lot of oil or animal fat in them – so I don't eat much fried food.

**EXERCISE 6**

Write a paragraph about the types of food you like and dislike, using language from Exercises 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**EXERCISE 7**

**DRINKS**

Look at the list of drinks below. Circle the ones that you like to drink. Put a tick next to the ones that your parents like to drink.

- |   |               |  |            |
|---|---------------|--|------------|
| black tea                                 | green tea     | herbal tea <sup>(4)</sup>                  | coffee     |
| hot water                                 | hot chocolate | cold milk                                  | cold water |
| milk shakes                               | fruit juice   | beer                                       | wine       |
| spirits (e.g. whisky, rum, mao tai, sake) |               | soft drinks (e.g. Coca-Cola, fruit drinks) |            |

Do you and your parents like to drink the same things? If not, why not?

**EXERCISE 8**

**HEALTH PROBLEMS**

What health problems do you think may result from eating or drinking the following:

<b>Food/Drink</b>	<b>Possible health problems</b>
sweet foods	_____
spicy foods	_____
rich food	_____
salty food	_____
soft drinks	_____
alcoholic drinks	_____

1. **savoury** /'sɜ:vəri/ (adj) có vị mặn  
 2. **cardamom** /'kɑ:dəməm/ (n, u) hạt bạch đậu khấu (dùng làm gia vị)  
 3. **coriander** /,kɔ:'ændə(r)/ (n, u) cây rau mùi  
 4. **herbal tea** /'hɜ:bl ti:/ (n, u) trà thảo dược

Look at the sentences below. Tick any that are true about your country and change the others so that they are also true about your country.

- a) Children are getting fatter.
- b) More and more people are eating fast food such as burgers and chips.
- c) Most people eat their evening meals sitting in front of the television.
- d) People only eat traditional meals at festivals.
- e) Men and women share the cooking equally.
- f) Women prefer to cook frozen ready meals instead of preparing food from basic ingredients.
- g) People are eating more and more dairy foods such as butter and ice cream.
- h) People enjoy eating food from all over the world.
- i) People who live in cities eat out in restaurants 2 or 3 times a week.
- j) Only rich people can afford to buy good quality food.

Give reasons for the above statements. For example:

- a) Children are getting fatter because they eat a lot of junk food such as chocolate and soft drinks.

Find more information about the food in your country from a tourist guidebook, an encyclopedia or from one of these websites:

- For Japanese students, look at this website:  
 For all Asian students, look at this website:  
 For Brazilian students, look at this website:  
 For all nationalities, look at these websites:

**www.hirokoskitchen.com**

**www.asiarecipe.com**

**www.brazilbrazil.com**

**www.travel.yahoo.com**

*(then look at the map under 'Destination Guides' and click on your area of the world – e.g. Asia – then click on your country, then click on 'Dining')*

**www.topics-mag.com**

*(then click on 'World of food')*

Then choose webpages to read. When you find a useful webpage, print it out.

**NB** Do not memorise any texts you find. It will not help you in the IELTS examination. Only use the texts for information, for reading practice and to extend your vocabulary.



# UNIT 2 family

## EXERCISE 1 RELATIVES

A Which of the following are blood relatives and which are relatives by marriage? Write BR (blood relative) or RM (relative by marriage) next to each one. (Be careful, some could be a BR and a RM.)

mother	father	brother	sister
stepmother <sup>(1)</sup>	stepfather <sup>(2)</sup>	stepbrother <sup>(3)</sup>	stepsister
mother-in-law	father-in-law	brother-in-law	sister-in-law
aunt	uncle	nephew	niece
cousin	grandmother	grandfather	

B Mark the word stress for the vocabulary above.

C How many of these blood relatives and relatives by marriage do you have? Put a number next to each relative.

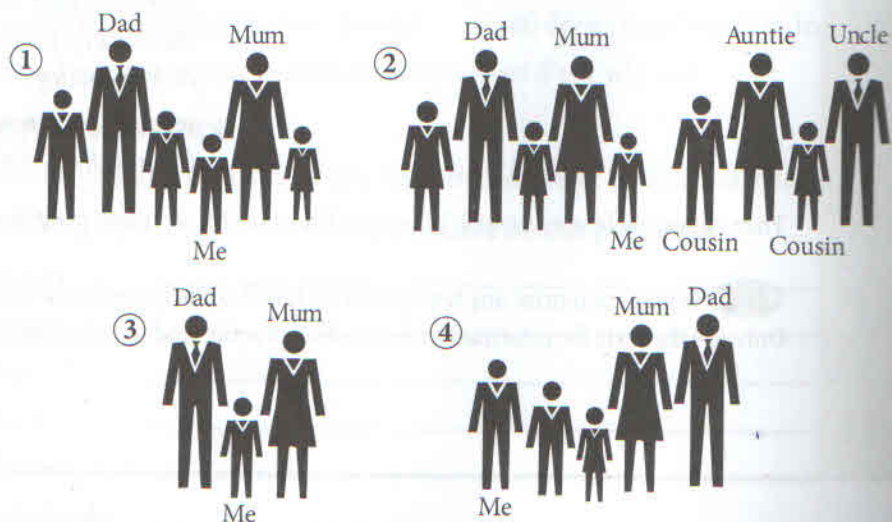
D What are the advantages of living in a large family? What are the advantages of living in a small family? Make notes below:

Large family	Small family

## EXERCISE 2 FAMILIES

Match the following statements with the pictures below.

- a) I'm an only child.      b) I have an older brother.      c) I have a younger sister.  
 d) I'm the youngest child in my family.      e) I'm the oldest child in my family.  
 f) I'm the third child.      g) I live in a nuclear family<sup>(4)</sup>.      h) I live with my extended family<sup>(5)</sup>.



- stepmother /'step,mʌðə(r)/ (n, c) mẹ kế
- stepfather /'step,fɑ:ðə(r)/ (n, c) cha kế
- stepbrother /'step,bɾʌðə(r)/ (n, c) anh/em trai (con riêng của mẹ kế/cha kế)
- nuclear family /,nju:kliə 'fæməli/ (n, c) gia đình hạt nhân (gồm cha mẹ và con cái)
- extended family /ɪk,stendɪd 'fæməli/ (n, c) gia đình nhiều thế hệ

**EXERCISE 3**

Mark the word stress for the following vocabulary and circle the correct word class (noun, verb, adjective) next to each word. Check you understand their meaning.

single	verb / adjective	engaged	noun / adjective
married	noun / adjective	separated	noun / adjective
divorced	noun / adjective	adopt <sup>(1)</sup>	verb / adjective
widow	noun / adjective	widower	noun / adjective
half-brother <sup>(2)</sup>	noun / adjective	half-sister	noun / adjective

**EXERCISE 4**

Look at sentences a) to j) below and change them so that they are true about you. Add 2 more sentences about your family.

- a) I'm married. I got married 2 years ago.
- b) I have no nephews or nieces.
- c) I don't have a father-in-law or any other 'in-laws' because I'm single!
- d) I have 3 grandparents – two grandmothers and one grandfather.
- e) My grandfather is a widower.
- f) I have a half-brother.
- g) I have two stepchildren.
- h) I live with my extended family.
- i) I'm an only child.
- j) My aunt and uncle have adopted 2 children.
- k) \_\_\_\_\_
- l) \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE 5**

In your opinion, which of the following is the best place for old people to live? Why?

- i) with a son and daughter-in-law
- ii) with a daughter and son-in-law
- iii) in a retirement home
- iv) alone in their own home
- v) (other) \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE 6**

Write a paragraph about your family, using language from Exercises 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**EXERCISE 7****VOCABULARY**

**A** What do the following parts of words mean? Match them with their meanings:

<b>Word parts</b>	<b>Meanings</b>
solo- (e.g. soloist)	one
bi- (e.g. bicycle)	alone, one
mono- (e.g. monoplane)	many
poly- (e.g. polygon)	two

**B** Find and underline 3 words in Exercise 8 that start with 'solo-', 'bi-', 'mono-' or 'poly-'. Guess their meanings before you check them in a dictionary.

1. adopt / ə'dɒpt / (vt) nhận làm con nuôi

2. half-brother/sister /'hɑ:f,brʌðə(r)/,sɪstə(r)/ (n, c) anh/chị/em cùng cha khác mẹ (hoặc cùng mẹ khác cha)

Answer these questions about your country:

- Is divorce common? What percentage of marriages end in divorce? Is divorce increasing? If so, why?
- Does the government help solo parents? If so, how?
- What age do most people marry? Is it different for boys and for girls? If so, why?
- Do many people in your country adopt children?
- Is bigamy<sup>(1)</sup>/polygamy<sup>(2)</sup> a crime in your country?
- How do most people meet their marriage partners? Are arranged marriages common?
- Describe a traditional wedding in your country.
- How do married couples celebrate their wedding anniversaries? Which anniversary is most important (e.g. their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary)?
- How many children do most people have? Is the number increasing or decreasing? Why?
- Is the number of old people increasing or decreasing? Why?

## Homework UNIT 2

Find more information about families and weddings in your country from an encyclopedia or from a website on the internet.

For information about weddings, look at this website:

**www.world-wedding-traditions.net**

*(then click on the area of the world that you live in – e.g. Asia – and then click on the name of your country)*

For other information, you can go to a search engine such as **www.google.com** and type in keywords; e.g.

“marriage age in China”

“marriage age in Russia”

“arranged marriages”+Japan

“arranged marriages”+Taiwan

“birth rate”+Malaysia

“family life”+China

“divorce rate”+Thailand

(Be careful to use + and “” as shown above.)

Then choose webpages to read. When you find a useful webpage, print it out.

**NB** Do not memorise any texts you find. It will not help you in the IELTS examination. Only use the texts for information, for reading practice and to extend your vocabulary.

1. bigamy /'bɪgəmi/ (n, u) tình trạng lấy hai vợ/chồng

2. polygamy /pə'liɡəmi/ (n, u) tục đa thê

# UNIT 3 clothing

## EXERCISE 1

### FASHION

A Put the following vocabulary into the table below:

silk	short-sleeved	cotton	shirt	blouse
polo-neck <sup>(1)</sup>	wool	suit	jacket	lycra <sup>(6)</sup>
skirt	polyester <sup>(2)</sup>	trousers	full-length	V-neck
close-fitting	linen <sup>(3)</sup>	morning suit	sweater	round-neck
nylon	long-sleeved	down	flared <sup>(4)</sup>	sleeveless
	sweatshirt		viscose <sup>(5)</sup>	

Type of fabric (noun)	Type of clothing (noun)	Style of clothing (adjective)

B Tick the fabrics in the left-hand column above that are synthetic (man-made).

C Look at the following list of clothing. Tick any that are fashionable now. Change the other clothing to describe what is fashionable now.

- i) Full-length linen skirts
- ii) Sleeveless down jackets
- iii) V-neck wool sweaters
- iv) Close-fitting silk shirts
- v) Flared lycra trousers

## EXERCISE 2

### COLOURS AND CLOTHING

A Add any more colours to this list that you know:

pink, pale blue, white, black, red, grey, dark green, blue, navy, maroon, purple, ...

B On the lines below, write the colours that are most usual in your culture for the following types of clothing:

- business suits \_\_\_\_\_
- a wedding dress \_\_\_\_\_
- clothes for women going to a wedding \_\_\_\_\_
- clothes for men going to a wedding \_\_\_\_\_
- baby clothes for boys \_\_\_\_\_
- baby clothes for girls \_\_\_\_\_
- clothes for people going to a funeral \_\_\_\_\_
- uniforms \_\_\_\_\_

1. polo-neck /'pəʊləʊ, nek/ (n, c) áo cổ lọ  
 2. polyester /,pɒlɪ'estə(r)/ (n, u) vải nhân tạo  
 3. linen /'lɪn/ (n, u) vải lanh

4. flared /fleəd/ (adj) loe  
 5. viscose /'vɪskəʊz/ (n, u) sợi viscô  
 6. lycra /'laɪkrə/ (n, u) vải có chất đàn hồi

**EXERCISE 3**

Write a short description of the clothes you are wearing now, using language from Exercises 1 and 2.

**EXERCISE 4**

To what extent do you agree with the following statements? Say why you agree or disagree.

- a) People who have pale skins do not look good in yellow clothes.
- b) People with black hair look good in black clothes.
- c) People with blonde hair look good in red clothes.
- d) People with blonde hair and blue eyes look good in white clothes.
- e) People with red hair look good in red clothes.
- f) Red clothes are lucky.
- g) Green clothes are unlucky.
- h) Old people should wear black clothes.
- i) Young children should wear brightly coloured clothes.
- j) Babies should wear pale-coloured clothes.

**EXERCISE 5**

Circle the item of clothing in each line below that is incorrect.

**Casual clothing:** jeans, polyester tracksuit, trainers, cotton T-shirt, silk bowtie

**Formal women's clothing:** high-heeled shoes, silk dress, wool suit, cap, silk blouse

**Formal men's clothing:** wool suit, cotton sweatshirt, silk tie, dinner jacket, cotton shirt

**EXERCISE 6****YOUR CLOTHES**

Answer these questions about yourself:

- a) What colours do you prefer to wear? Why?
- b) Describe the clothes you wear (the type of clothing, the fabrics and the styles):
  - to go to your work or your place of study
  - to relax at home
  - to go out with friends (e.g. to a bar, to the cinema, etc.)
  - to go to parties
- c) How often do you buy new clothes?
- d) Do you prefer to go shopping alone or with another person? Why?
- e) Do you or your family make your own clothes (by sewing or knitting)? Why/Why not?
- f) Do you or your family have your clothes made by other people? Why/Why not?

**EXERCISE 7****UNIFORMS**

**A** Tick the people in the list below who normally wear uniforms in your country.

the police	primary school children	secondary school children
nurses	workers in food factories	shop assistants'
doctors	postal workers	bus drivers
	hotel workers	

**B** Describe a uniform that people in your country wear.

C Look at the list of reasons below as to why people wear uniforms. After each reason, write the different people who wear a uniform for that reason:

- so that people can quickly recognise what job they do \_\_\_\_\_
- so that they look smart \_\_\_\_\_
- so that they are clean and hygienic<sup>(1)</sup> \_\_\_\_\_
- so that they do not try to compete with each other to look fashionable \_\_\_\_\_
- so that they feel that they are part of a team (i.e. a group of people working together) \_\_\_\_\_

Add any other reasons why people wear uniforms in your country.

## EXERCISE 8

### YOUR CULTURE

Answer the following questions about your own country:

- Is there a traditional costume that women wear? If so, describe it and say when they wear it.
- Is there a traditional costume that men wear? If so, describe it and say when they wear it.
- Who wears traditional clothing most – men or women? Why?
- Do people in different parts of your country wear different types of clothing? If so, why?
- In what ways are the clothes that you wear different from the clothes your parents or grandparents wear?

## UNIT 3

Find more information about clothing from a tourist guidebook, an encyclopedia or from one of these websites:

For Asian students, look at this website:

**www.asiarecipe.com**

(then type 'clothes' in the search box)

For all students, look at this website:

**www.costumes.org**

(then click on 'Ethnic Dress', then click on the area of the world that you live in – e.g. Asia – then look at any interesting webpages)

### OR

Go to a search engine such as **www.google.com** and type in keywords; e.g.

“traditional dress”+Korea

“traditional dress”+India

(Be careful to use + and “” as shown above.)

Then choose webpages to read. When you find a useful webpage, print it out.

**NB** Do not memorise any texts you find. It will not help you in the IELTS examination. Only use the texts for information, for reading practice and to extend your vocabulary.

1. hygienic /haɪ'dʒi:nɪk/ (adj) hợp vệ sinh