

➤ Questions

1. How do children celebrate birthdays in your country?
2. What do you usually do on your birthday?
3. How did you celebrate your last birthday?
4. Do you think it is important for you to celebrate your birthday?
5. Is there a difference between the way you celebrated your birthday in the past and in the present?
6. What kinds of birthday gifts do you like to receive?

Please Note:

Our model answers teach you useful language and give you ideas. However, it is not a good idea to try and memorise them and repeat them in the IELTS exam.



Prepare for {IELTS}

to hire = to rent; to pay money to use it

a soft play area = a place where children can play and (hopefully) not get hurt

to hold the party = to have the party

a buffet = finger food

1. How do children celebrate birthdays in your country?

Well, a lot of parents **hire** somewhere like **a soft play area** and **hold the party** there. They provide the food, usually **a buffet**, and the entertainment so it is much easier than doing it yourself.



Iain



Rebecca

NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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I'm not really into = I don't like

the centre of attention = the main person in the room

to detest = to hate

2. What do you usually do on your birthday?

Not a lot really, **I'm not really into** parties and being **the centre of attention**. **I detest** that kind of thing.



NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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a big deal = an important thing

a foodie = a person who loves food and is very interested in food

a slap-up meal = a large and enjoyable meal

sensational = amazing; wonderful

3. How did you celebrate your last birthday?

Birthdays are not **a big deal** for me but I am **a foodie** so I went out for **a slap-up meal** with my mates. We went to a new Korean restaurant and the food was **sensational**.



NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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I don't have an issue with = I don't have a problem with

Each to their own/to each their own = used to say that other people are free to like different things e.g. **I don't like football, but each to their own**

4. Do you think it is important for you to celebrate your birthday?

For me personally, no. **I don't have an issue with** others celebrating their birthdays though. **Each to their own.**



NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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EACH TO
THEIR
OWN

I used to have = good for
Grammatical Range and Accuracy

a smaller affair = a smaller event

5. Is there a difference between the way you celebrated your birthday in the past and in the present?

When I was younger, **I used to have** a party and invite all my classmates whereas now, I prefer **a smaller affair** with a few close mates.



Iain



Rebecca

NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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I'm not really bothered about = it is not important for me

if someone wanted to buy me one, I'd prefer = the second conditional - good for Grammatical Range and Accuracy

a gift card = a small card that can be used to pay for something in a shop or a service

fussy = hard to please

6. What kinds of birthday gifts do you like to receive?

I'm not really bothered about getting presents but **if someone wanted to buy me one, I'd prefer a gift card** so I could choose something I wanted. I'm a bit **fussy** with gifts!



NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH

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