

Year IV Speaking Topics : December 2008/January 2009

Iconic Images

Describe one historical event which has 'changed the world'. Say how you found out about this event and say why it was so important.
How important is the role of the media in making events iconic?
Talk about some of the 'life-changing' events in a person's life.

Image

It is said that we form 93% of our impression of another person before they speak. What factors influence our impression?
'Clothes are the best way to express our personality.' Do you agree? Why?/Why not?
Describe how you dress for different occasions. Talk about formal and informal occasions.

Family

Describe some different family models (eg nuclear family, extended family etc).
Talk about some areas of conflict between parents and young people. How can such conflicts be resolved?
'You can choose your friends but you can't choose your family.' Interpret and comment on this statement expressing your own opinion.

Relationships

What characteristics do most people look for in a) their friends and b) their partners (husband/wife etc)?
Describe one couple you know, or know about, who have a good relationship. Say what is good about it.
What characteristics do parents like to see in their son's/daughter's future partner?

Money

'Money doesn't guarantee happiness but lack of money guarantees unhappiness.' Do you agree? Why?/Why not?
If you won 1,000,000SK, what would you do with it?
Women are often the breadwinners in families these days. Would you say that society's attitudes to this fact have changed? Justify your answer.

Health

'There are fewer life-threatening diseases these days but modern society faces its own health problems.' Comment on this statement and talk about some 'modern health problems'.

Talk about some ways in which people can preserve their own good health.
Would you say you have a healthy lifestyle? Justify your answer.

Rituals and Superstitions

What rituals might people follow in these situations?

- a) before an important examination
- b) before a dance/ball

Think of some common superstitions. Why do you think some people are superstitious?
How big a role would you say luck plays in your life?

Lord of the Flies : Characters

Compare the following pairs of characters :

- a) Ralph and Jack
- b) Piggy and Simon
- c) Piggy and Roger

Talk about these character's personalities, their roles in the story and their relationships with others.

Say which character you sympathise with most and why.

Lord of the Flies : Themes

Talk about the following themes of Lord of the Flies :

- a) fear
- b) friendship
- c) regression from civilisation to savagery

For each theme, talk about how the theme is shown in the story.

Say which theme you think is most important and why.

Lord of the Flies : Symbols

Talk about these objects in Lord of the Flies which can be considered as symbols :

- a) conch
- b) Piggy's glasses
- c) the Lord of the Flies

For each symbol, talk about when and how it appears in the story.

Say what idea you think each symbol represents.