

SPEAKING 4

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UNIT 1: GENIUS

- 1. If a young child shows unusual talent in one particular area, how do you think parents should react? Should they push the child to develop that talent, or allow the child to develop it naturally?
- 2. Why do you believe some children show advanced abilities at an early age? Are they born with a special talent, or do they learn it somehow

- Context 1:

A neighbour's five-year-old child goes jogging in the morning with her father, who is runner. She really seems to enjoy it, even though she is small, and she is really fast. The family says that she is going to participate in a 5k race in the next few months.

What do you think about this? Do you think that it is fair or safe for the child's parents to encourage her to participate in this race? Do you think the parents are putting pressure on the child to succeed? Or do you think they should allow thgeir child to enter the race?

- Context 2:

Your brother's seven-year-old son has shown incredible promise as a violinist. The family wants to encourage him to improve his playing. However, in order to advance, the son would have to take lessons in another city. He's too young to go alone, so the whole family, including his ten-year-old sister would have to move.

What do you think about this? Do you think that the family should make this big change, putting financial pressure on everyone and making his sister move to a different school? Are there any other alternatives?

UNIT 3: EARLY TO BED, EARLY TO RISE

- 1. How many hours do you sleep every day?
- 2. Is it necessary to take a nap every day?
- 3. Do old people sleep a lot? Why?
- 4. How to have a good sleep?
- 5. Do you like to get up early in the morning?

- 6. Can you sleep well if you are in a noisy environment?
- 7. How many hours do you sleep at night?
- 8. What time do you go to bed?
- 9. Do you have a nap during the day?
- 10. Do you think sleep is important?
- 11. An old proverb says “early to bed, early to rise, makes you healthy, wealthy and wise”. What does this proverb mean? Do you agree with it?

UNIT 4: ANIMAL INTELLIGENCE

1. Do you think being cruel to an animal is the same as being cruel to a human?
2. Should people be allowed to hunt animals for their own entertainment?
3. If a shark kills a human in the sea, should it be hunted down?
4. There are no intelligent animals except humans? Do you agree?

- 5. Do you have a pet? How old is it? Where did you get it from? Who takes care of it? What does it look like (color, breed, etc.)?
- 6. What do you feed it? If you don't have a pet, why not?
- 7. What are the pros and cons of keeping a pet?
- 8. Can you name some endangered species?
- 9. How do you feel about the use of animals for medical research?
- 10. What can children learn by having a pet?
- 11. What can people learn from animals?
- 12. Do you think animals have souls?

UNIT 5: The Golden years

- 1/ What are some factors that may help a person live for a long time or have a longer life expectancy?
- 2/ The percentage of children in the world declines, the elderly population will continue to grow. What problems could this cause? Can you suggest solutions to any of those problems?
- 3/ What privileges do seniors have in your community? At what age should a person be considered a “senior”? What privileges do you think should be given to seniors? Why?

UNIT 6: GIVING TO OTHERS

- 1. Why do you think people volunteer?
- 2. Would you like to work as a volunteer?
- 3. Have you ever done any voluntary work?
- 4. Is volunteering worth the time it takes?
- 5. What could you do to help if you had no money?

- 6. What situations need voluntary workers?
- 7. Can you think of different types of voluntary work?
- 8. Would you volunteer to help people outside your community?
- 9. Have you read a book about voluntary work?
- 10. What types of voluntary work would be unpleasant for you?
- 11. What benefits other than personal satisfaction could you personally get by volunteering?

UNIT 7: HOMEWORK

- 1. Do you ever do homework in class?
- 2. What advice would you give to a student who says he/she hates homework?
- 3. Do you think your teacher spends enough time looking at your homework?
- 4. What was the last piece of homework you really loved doing?

UNIT 8: PROS AND CONS OF GAMING

- 1. Do you regularly play any video games? If so, how much time do you spend playing? If not, explain why they aren't interesting you?
- 2. What are some benefits and drawbacks of play video games?
- 3. What games are popular in your country? How do people learn to play games in your country?
- 4. Do you think it's important for people to play games?