

Describe a useful skill that to learned as a teenager (年少学艺)

You should say:

What the skill was

When and how you learned it

Who you learned it from

Why you learned it

And explain how you felt about learning it

知识点:

- **Get the/a hang of it:** 上手，学一个东西学得差不多了，感觉可以了
It took me a while, but I finally got the hang of playing the guitar.
- **Start from scratch:** 从头开始
I didn't know anything about baking, so I had to start from scratch."
- **Learn the ropes:** 熟悉环境，学习掌握一套体系
I spent the first few weeks learning the ropes at my new job.
- **Pick up a skill:** 学一个新技能（有一种相对的随意性）
I picked up a bit of Spanish when I was traveling in Mexico.
- **Learn/ develop a new skill:** 学习一个新技能（这个表达就相对比较严肃的感觉）
- **Master a skill or an art:** 成为某个技能的大师
She has mastered the art of public speaking.
- **Practice makes perfect:** 熟能生巧
I practice piano every day because practice makes perfect.
- **A steep learning curve:** 学习的曲线很陡，表示正处艰难掌握的过程中
Learning to code has a steep learning curve.
The whole team has been on a steep learning curve since the project began.
They're new to the job and will be on a steep learning curve.

- **On a learning curve:** 还在掌握一个技能的过程中（没有 steep 就显得没有那么艰难，但仍然在学习中）
I'm still on a learning curve with this new project.
- **A quick study/ a fast learner:** 形容一个人学东西很快
She's a quick study. She picked up the new software in no time.
- **Brush up on something:** 往往指的是之前已经学过某技能，现在需要重新捡起，重新打磨（用刷子刷掉尘土）
I need to brush up on my French before my trip to Paris.
- **Hands-on experience:** 实操的经验
The best way to learn cooking is through hands-on experience.

素材一（对话技能）：

So, a useful skill I picked up (学到的) as a teenager was, how to hold a good conversation (保持一场好的对话). It might sound very simple, but trust me, it wasn't easy for me when I was younger. And in my opinion, it's one of the most important social skills (社交技能) that one should know.

I learned this skill mostly from my best friend, Jie, who's a very open, genuine and sociable person. She can talk with ANYBODY about ANYTHING. Wherever she goes, she's always the life and soul (灵魂人物) of in that social setting (社交场合). (“能说会道的人” 主题下的表达)

I think I was around 17 when I really started paying attention to how Jie interacted with people. She was always so engaging (吸引人的). She had this knack for making everyone feel comfortable and heard (有这种让所有人都感到舒服并且被倾听到的天赋). It wasn't like she was doing anything super unique or complicated, she was just being genuinely interested in what others had to say.

So, I started observing Jie more closely (更密切地观察) when she was conversing with a person. One thing I noticed was that she always asked

open-ended questions (问开放式问题), which allowed people to open up (敞开心扉) and really share their experiences. That's one of the qualities to be a good conversationalist (好的对话者).

And you would imagine a person like her would be like a chatterbox (话匣子, 小话痨) and blabber nonstop (不停地说说说)? No, she was actually a really good listener (好的倾听者), listening attentively with a lot of empathy. She wouldn't just listen and nod along (随着话题跟着点头, 在这里表示有点敷衍), but really understood where the other person was coming from (别人的出发点). And She never made it about herself (不让对话的内容最后全聚焦到自己身上).

I started copying (开始模仿) her way of interacting with other. And a while later, I noticed a big change in how my conversations went. People became more open with me, and I felt more connected to them. These skills have helped me in so many ways, from making new friends to just having more meaningful conversations in my daily life.

So yeh, that's the skill I learned from my best friend, Thank you!

素材二（做饭）：

Today, I want to share with you know I learned cooking when I was younger.

I started learning when I was around 14 or 15. My parents were my main teachers. They're not professional chefs (职业大厨) by any means (无论如何都不是), but they are pretty good cooks (做饭好吃的人) and well-experienced in the kitchen (在厨房里很有经验). Everything began with small tasks, you know, like, peeling potatoes (给土豆削皮), chopping vegetables (切蔬菜), that sort of thing. Gradually, they let me handle more complicated things.

In terms of why I learned cooking, well, it was actually my idea. I guess, I just wanted to make sure that I wouldn't be all clumsy and clueless in the kitchen (在厨房里笨了吧唧, 毫无头绪) when I eventually moved out one day. It was about being self-sufficient (自给自足).

The way I see it, cooking isn't just about feeding yourself. It's about understanding what goes into your body, being able to take care of yourself and others. Food is sacred (食物是神圣的). It satisfies your stomach and also nurtures your soul (不光满足你的胃还滋养你的灵魂). Plus, I know that one day I will start a family (组建自己的家庭), therefore, being able to cook for my children is very essential for me.

And then, gradually, once I was able to cook a full dish on my own, I felt like on top of the world (世界之巅, 高兴极了). It was this sense of accomplishment that filled my heart with joy. My parents praised (夸奖) my food so much, making me thinking that I really have a knack for cooking (有做饭的天赋). I still think that I'm talented in cooking these days, haha!

Now, I cook all the time. And I enjoy finding and trying out new recipes. It's a skill but also a hobby of mine, a perfect pastime (完美的消遣) after work/ after school to while away my time (打发时光). I love cooking.

So, yeh, that's the skill I learned as a teenager. Thank you!

Part3:

1. Where do children learn skills in your country?

I would say kids mostly learn skills at school from their teachers, starting from kindergarten years all the way to (一路到) university years. They learn all the basic skills like, reading, writing, doing math, and then later much more complex things and theories. And also now, when I think about it, children learn a whole lot (一大堆东西) from their parents at home on a day-to-day basis (每天基础上). Parents are their children's first

teachers and role models (榜样) . Children learn all basic rules, social etiquette (社交礼节) , interpersonal skills (人际交往能力) and life lessons (人生课堂) from their parents. What else, oh yeh, nowadays, in the modern society where social media is trending (流行的) , I see many kids teaching themselves all sorts of things online, like, how to wear makeup, how to play a musical instrument, how to dance, things like that. (罗列)

2. What are the differences between learning skills on your own and from others?

I guess when you are learning things on your own, it might more take time to get the hang of it (上手) . You may spend a lot of time figuring out (琢磨弄清楚) what's the best way to learn. I guess what I want to say is that the learning curve might be steeper (学习曲线更陡, 更难的意思) . But at the same time, once you nail it (一旦搞定了) , the result can feel more rewarding. And on top of that, you can set your own pace (建立自己的节奏) which is more relaxing. Meanwhile, in terms of learning from others, for example finding yourself a teacher, or learning from a friend, you will get a lot of useful guidance and tips from their experience, which can help you avoid spending too time on “wandering around” (来回来去徘徊的时间) , meaning, you can find all the shortcuts (捷径) and make your learning process (学习的过程) more efficient. (对比区别讨论)

3. What important skills should a child learn?

I think for younger children, basic skills such as reading, writing and doing basic math, are very fundamental. Also, social skills are very important. And when they're older, understanding how science works is also crucial. Moreover, in a modern time like this, being tech-savvy (了解擅长科技的) and computer literate (懂电脑的) are also a must. (列举, 年龄分层)

4. What skills do you think teenagers should have?

在上题基础上修改

5. Who should teach teenagers skills?

I would say parents and teachers should always go hand in hand (手拉手齐头并进) and work together (一起合作). They both play big roles in this. Like I said teachers teach kids skills that they need to learn at school and parents teach them life lessons and social skills. And sometimes teenagers tend to trust their friends even more than their parents and teachers. Therefore, learning skills from their peers (同伴) is also a common way to learn. That's why making the right friends is so critical, the ones that can be the good influence (好的影响力) in their lives. (特殊分群体)

6. What are the differences between children learning skills and adults learning skills?

Children are definitely faster learners (学得更快). They soak up new skills (浸泡学起新技能) just like that, without any effort. For example, toddlers can pick up a new language in several months, whereas it usually takes adults years and years to learn a new language. And then, children are more flexible in the sense that (从……角度来说) they generally have a more open and adaptable mindset. They are usually more willing to accept new ideas, try different methods, and adapt to changes. This flexibility allows them to learn new concepts and skills more easily compared to adults, who might have more established ways of thinking (已经被建立起来的思维方式) and may be more resistant to change. Therefore, it might take adults a bit longer to get a hang of a new skill. But at the same time, adults are more focused and motivated. They're goal-oriented (以目标为驱动力的) so they might stick to their target (坚持自己的目标) longer and better. They don't give up easily. (对比区别讨论)