

IELTS Speaking Part 2: describe an object

Describe something that you would like to own.

You should say

what it is

where you have seen it

what you would use it for

and explain why you would like to own this object.

Here's my example description from the video lesson. It took me exactly 2 minutes, and I followed the points above.

Note: you'll see that in paragraph three I jumped to the last point by mistake, and then went back to the point about "how I would use it" in paragraph four. But this doesn't affect the quality of my answer.

I've highlighted the good language that I think an examiner would notice.

I'm going to talk about a watch that I would like to own. It's one of these new **smartwatches**, a new type of watch that has all the **functions and features** of a smart phone, of a mobile phone, but of course you **wear it on your wrist**, so it's even more portable.

And this is a new **fashion accessory** these days, a new gadget, that I've seen advertised everywhere: on **billboards** in the city centre, on TV adverts, and I've seen these watches **in person, in 'real life', in various department stores** that I've been to when out shopping. And I'm not sure which brand I would buy, but I've seen the **various brands**, and maybe the most famous one at the moment is the Apple Watch.

The reason I'd like one of these watches is because you can **synchronise** it with your computer and phone, and so you've got all your contacts, your photos and especially **calendar notifications right there on your wrist**, and you're carrying it round with you.

I think it would be **particularly convenient for me to be able to organise my life** using one of these watches, and **check my appointments and work commitments at a glance**, just looking at my wrist. I think it'd even be good maybe for health reasons, because **apparently you can track your exercise goals**, even things like the number of **steps you're taking** every day. So that might be quite interesting.

So the reason that I'd like one of these watches, as I said, would be the features and functions that I've just mentioned. I think these watches are really **practical**. It's just as good as a phone **in terms of the technology**, but it's even more portable; really **they're the ultimate in portable devices**. And I'm a **fan of gadgets**, and this one **looks really stunning too**. Those are the reasons why I think it would be nice to have one.

Here's the second question from the video lesson:

Describe something old that you own which is special to you.

You should say

**what this possession is
how long you have had it
where it came from**

and explain why this possession is special to you.

Here's my example description from the video lesson. Again, it took me exactly 2 minutes, and I followed the points above. I've highlighted the language that I think an examiner would like.

Notice that I gave a long example, or 'story' in this description (highlighted in green). This story helped me to keep talking for the full 2 minutes.

I'm going to describe an old **wristwatch that I inherited** from my grandfather. So it's **a family heirloom**, it's an **antique** watch, and it's really a simple, classic old watch with a **leather strap, a white face, and a gold edge** around it.

And I've had it for the last 10 years, I think it is, since my grandfather gave it to me. But **it's been in the family for several generations** before that.

In fact, I think **it came originally from** my great-grandfather, because his name **is engraved** on the back of the watch face. So perhaps it was a gift that he received from an employer, or a friend, or another family member. We're not really sure, but he had it originally, and then **passed it down** to my grandfather, and now it's obviously mine.

The reason it's special, then, is because of this **sentimental value** that this watch has. As I said, it's a family heirloom, it's probably the only antique, really old possession that I've got that **reminds me of my grandfather, and it brings back happy memories**.

For example, I remember when my grandfather was helping me to learn **to tell the time** when I was a child. Because his watch had such a **simple, clear clock face**, it was very easy for me to understand what he was talking about, when he showed me how the big hand was for the minutes, and the shorter, small hand on the watch was for the hours. So I remember him teaching me to tell the time, and testing me with different times to see if I understood.

I also like the watch's **stylish, elegant design**; it's very simple, it's just **a classic, timeless look**, and it's really **durable and resilient**; I think it's so well-made that I'll be able to **hand it down to the next generation** when I'm older.

Note:

The description above is **not true**. I invented it to demonstrate the use of our 'theme' ideas and our prepared example.

Finally, notice that I'm not worrying about 'linking' phrases at all. I'm focusing on vocabulary: good ideas, and lots of detail.