

Describe Your Favourite

In IELTS speaking part 2, you may be asked to describe your favourite of something. Here are a few examples:

Describe your favourite book (or film, website, song etc).

Describe your favourite season in your country.

Describe your favourite shop.

Look at these two examples and note the underlined vocabulary.

Describe a book you have recently read.

You should say:

what kind of book it is

what it is about

what sort of people would enjoy it

and explain why liked it.

My favourite book is *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. It is one of the most celebrated novels of the 20th century and I think it is a masterpiece. The novel tells the tragic story of Jay Gatsby, a self-made millionaire, and his pursuit of Daisy Buchanan, a wealthy young woman whom he loved in his youth.

I love this book because it is really compelling. The characters are quite mysterious and you never know what will happen next. It is a real page-turner. I think that anyone who enjoy novels would appreciate this book.

I found the story to be really thought-provoking. In my opinion, the main theme is that success can be illusory. Jay Gatsby is a very wealthy man who appears to have everything, but deep down he is unhappy and soon meets a tragic end.

Masterpiece: a work such as a film or book that is made with great skill.

Compelling: a work of art that has great power to hold your attention.

Page-turner: a book that is so exciting you want to read it quickly.

Thought-provoking: making you think a lot about a subject.

Theme: the main subject of a book, talk, film, etc.

Illusory: not real.

Describe your favourite season in your country.
You should say:
when that season is
what the weather is like at that time of year
how that season is different from other seasons
and why it is your favourite season.

My favourite season in England is summer. A typical English summer lasts around 4 months between May and August, but when I say that I like the summer, I'm really thinking about the hottest month or two each year. At this time, the temperature is between 20 and 28 degrees. It is warm without being uncomfortably hot.

Obviously the heat is what differentiates summer. Also the trees have leaves and the flowers are in full bloom. It feels that everything is full of life. The landscape looks beautiful when everything is illuminated by the sun. It is my favourite season because most of my favourite memories are of summer. For example, my best family memories are of holidays at the seaside, relaxing and eating ice cream.

Typical: showing all the characteristics that you would usually expect from a particular group of things.

Differentiate: to show or find the difference between things that are compared.

Bloom: when a flower blooms, it opens or is open, and when a plant or tree blooms it produces flowers.

Landscape: a large area of countryside, especially in relation to its appearance.

Seaside: the area near the sea, especially where people spend their holidays and enjoy themselves.

Practice Question

Describe your favourite shop.
You should say:
Where it is
How often you go there
What it sells
And explain why you think it is a good shop.