CHAPTER 1

Personal Experience

This task is about personal experiences. It requires you to speak about a person, place, object, or event that is familiar to you. Even though the topics will vary, you will always be asked to base to your response on a personal experience or familiar topic. On question structure, this task will require you to give some details and examples as well as reasons to rationalize your answer.

Sample iBT Question

Choose your favorite place in your country in your hometown and explain why this is your favourite place. Please include specific examples and details in your explanation.

Preparation Time: 15 seconds

Response Time: 45 seconds

Sample Answer

My favourite place in my hometown is the main park located downtown. First of all, I like it because it's a beautiful place to visit. It's full of life. For instance, there are many trees, plants, and flowers, and they make the park very colourful and add to its beauty. Also, the park always looks wonderful no matter what the season. Second of all, I like the park because it's a very quiet place, so I never get disturbed when I'm there. For example, I can go there to read, study, or simply relax. For these reasons, the main park is my favourite place to visit in my hometown.

Useful Expressions

1. Expressions that can be used in telling one's opinion.

1. **I believe that…**	2. **In my opinion,**
3. **I think that…**	4. **I consider…**
5. **It is my estimation that…**	6. **For me,**
7. **My favourite…**	8. **The best…**
9. **It is my opinion that…**	10. **I strongly feel that…**

2. Expressions that can be used in telling reasons

1. **Firstly,**	2. **To begin with,**
3. **First (Second) of all,**	4. **One reason is…**
5. **Secondly,**	6. **For one thing,**
7. **I feel this way because…**	8. **The main reason is…**
9. **In addition,**	10. **Another reason is…**

3. Expressions that can be used in telling details and supporting ideas.

1. **For example,**	2. **Therefore,**
3. **For instance,**	4. **Not only that, but… also…**
5. **Because of him (her),**	6. **An example of this is…**
7. **As a result,**	8. **This means that…**
9. **As an example,**	10. **Consequently,**