# B2 全场景覆盖表达 口语主题陈述——事件类

## **DESCRIBE AN EVENT.....**

Describe an important event in your life / a festival in your country / a party / a celebration / sports event that you watched / a concert or music event

### What / where / who / why?

Let's create a theme for these situations under the topic of an event and then expand it by vocabulary and ideas.

## **DESCRIBE AN EVENT.....**

For example: A **special** event (theme)

memorable / unforgettable / spectacular / fantastic / amazing / wonderful

A day to remember

It was a once-in-a lifetime experience

I had a great time

I enjoyed every minute

I was blown away

I couldn't have asked for more

It exceeded my expectations

# **DESCRIBE AN EVENT.....**

Another example: Where the event was (theme)

The venue

A perfect / prime location

Beautifully decorated

The decoration / lighting was .....

Spectacular / romantic

A lovely setting

A fantastic atmosphere

The atmosphere was electric

We were impressed by

Service / staff / attention to detail

## **VOCABULARY**

- Wedding: bride / groom /guests / ceremony / marriage vows / speech / wedding reception (party) / flowers / clothing (dress) / cake
- Festival: what it commemorates / religious significance / gifts / decorations / customs / special meal
   / public holiday
- **Sport event**: athletes / players / crowds / spectators / stadium / field / pitch / track / commentators / the contest / the score the winner
- Concert event: band / group / orchestra / lighting / sound / stage / crowd / audience / instruments
   / voice / song / piece of music

# 事件类常见问题

#### How do people celebrate public events?

• I would say a gathering with food, alcohol, friends, and family is the most common way to celebrate an event across the world. More specifically, for events such as New Years, people like to crowd a central area, such as the main square, usually for a concert or some sort of speaker or count down. Furthermore, people tend to like using fireworks, bells, flowers, or even just shouting when they feel excited about something.

#### Do you think it's different in other countries?

- Alcohol is usually a core part of most parties in my country for adults, just like candy for kids. This is also true for most other places in the world, but there are some regions where alcohol is banned. I suppose in these cases they'd find an alternative and would serve nonalcoholic beverages instead.
- I think there may be some other cultural differences too. Maybe in some cultures it's
  expected that guests bring something to the party, such as food or beer, but in other
  cultures it would be considered that the host would be expected to provide everything.

#### Do you think it is important to celebrate events?

• I have mixed feelings about this. On one hand, I think it's nice to celebrate events to have something to look forward to feel excited for throughout the year, but I dislike the pressure aspect of special events. For example, people tend to get so stressed about buying gifts and decorating their homes during the holiday season that they forget to simply enjoy their time with family and friends. However, when I think about it, I couldn't imagine life without celebrating special events.

#### Should the event be prepared in advance?

I would say so. When we procrastinate (wait to do something until the last minute), it tends to cause things to get pretty hectic (crazy) at the last minute. However, when we plan too far in advance, it may not go as planned, as things tend to change. For example, maybe an unexpected event arises which causes the plan to change. On the other hand, I don't think we should plan every detail in advance, as I've found that sometimes the spontaneous (unplanned) moments are the most enjoyable. So, all in all, it's about balance. I'd like to have a rough plan (an idea but not a strict plan) of the event in advance, but not overly detailed nor several months in advance.

• What are some special events celebrated around the world?

• There are several major celebrations that are welcomed by numerous cultures around the globe each year, and these include women's day, Valentine's Day, New Year, and Christmas, to name a few. Most of them are rooted in the cultural history of different countries. In fact, my family is preparing to make zongzi for Dragon Boat Festival in a couple weeks.

#### How can you prepare an activity?

• Well, firstly, I would like to know the approximate number of guests and their ages. Secondly, I would like to brainstorm (think of ideas) some different ideas of things that would be appealing to the audience. After this, I would find an appropriate place to hold the event, such as a home, a rented venue, outdoor area, etc. and start to think about the type of food and refreshments would be appealing (tasteful) for this event. After this, I would start to officially send out invitations via mail or email and see how many RSVP (respond to event). Upon obtaining the official numbers, I would either make the food and buy the drinks or hire a catering company to take care of the party. As the event approaches, I would double-check with the guests to see how many are coming. I'd say this plan would lead to a successful event.

#### What role do the camera and video recorder play in celebrating?

• I would say that these two tools, camera and video recorder, play an integral part in different types of celebrations. First of all, most people have moments of their childhood and memories from childhood are captured in cameras. To illustrate, some of the most important events such as birthday parties, weddings, graduations and so on are included in these jigs and in this way the moment is captured and saved for a long period of time. Furthermore, as some essential and happy events are recorded, they could be watched years later in order for some people to remember some significant events. A good illustration in my case is that on my 22nd birthday, my friends made me a really emotional video from all the years that we have been friends. Without the usage of the camera and video-recorder, this could never have happened.

#### How do young and old people celebrate their birthdays?

- I suppose it depends how young the birthday boy or girl is. If they're a young child, they're going to have a party with their parents and some of their school friends and neighbors. They'll probably play some games that only young kids play, like musical chairs. They'll eat cake too.
- Young adults, on the other hand, are more likely to go to a bar or a club and dance the night away. It's probable that they might get really drunk and would have a bad hangover the next day.
- I think the older someone gets the less likely they are to celebrate their birthday. I think for many middle aged and older people it's a reminder that they're aging and getting closer to death. They may have a small little ceremony, but it's likely they'll place less of an emphasis on their birthday and instead want to spend time with friends.

## Should businesses support local events?

I think that businesses should support local events. It not only helps to create a good image for the business but shows customers that the business is interested in their welfare.
 It can also provide good advertising opportunities for the business. Everyone likes to do business with a community-minded business.

### Do you think it's important to take part in local activities?

• I personally don't enjoy participating in local events, but for some reason many people actually do. I'd much rather watch the event from a distance. Maybe this is just because I'm lazy, but I just don't really feel the need to go out there and be another nameless person in a crowd that won't miss me at all.

Why do you think people like to gather in large groups to experience sports games?

• The reason that people gather in crowds to cheer on their favorite sports clubs is that they feel a sense of community and positive spirit when they are among others who share their passions. For this very reason, I get together every weekend during basketball season with my friends to cheer on our local team.

 Have there been any changes in the way people organize big celebrations compared to fifty years ago?

• Yes, there have been significant improvements in the way people managed their events compared to half a century ago. People over the past two decades have been using the internet and social media to organize both small and big events such as birthdays, weddings, and even major sporting functions.

#### What's the best way to gain experience in life?

• Well, in my opinion, the best way to gain experience is to do some experimentations and take some calculated risks and random decisions even when we know that we would probably "fail" in some real-life situations. And, as we make those little experimentations or make random decisions, we can reflect on the outcomes or experiences, whether we fail or succeed, so that when we face the same kinds of situation in the future, we exactly know from our previous experiences as to what kinds of adjustment are needed, if any at all, in order to get the best possible results. If we never try, we will never know what we are good at and without trying we can never gain any experience.

#### Do you agree that we learn best from our mistakes?

• People say that the mistakes we make are our best teachers because they can teach us many things. In fact, some of the most important life lessons, we would ever learn, will be from our mistakes or bad decisions. So, I do agree with the suggestion that we learn best from our mistakes, only if we choose to learn from them, by not committing the same mistakes in the future. However, whether we learn best from our mistakes or not depends a lot on how much damage is inflicted upon us. If we are made to "pay" very little or nothing for our mistakes, the chances are that we will never learn from our mistakes.

#### Can we gain life experience from books and movies? Why/ Why not?

No, we can't really gain life experiences from books and movies mainly because one actually has to live through real-life situations in order to gain experience. No doubt that books and movies can present some real stories and experiences of individuals in a very rational and realistic manner except, of course, the problem is each and every person in this world is different with different mindsets, skills, abilities and talents. Therefore, just because one individual experiences something in a certain situation, it doesn't necessarily mean that another person will experience the same thing in the same manner.

#### Which is more important, experience or potential? Why?

• I would say that "experience" is more important than "potential" at any time of the day. Having experience usually means that a person has the proven track records of getting things done. Having experience, more often than not, makes somebody confident about doing something very challenging in adverse condition. Besides, having experiences helps somebody to make wise decisions, especially when facing difficult choices. Finally, experience makes someone mature and respected, and as a result, others around him feel confident enough to follow his lead. On the contrary, "potential" of a person is often unexplored and untested unless a really good mentor or our confidence bring it to work.

### What experience do you wish you had gained? Why do you think so?

• Well, I am lucky that I really have some great experiences in my life, but more is always better. Isn't it? So, sometimes, I really wish that I had the experience of travelling at least two to three countries from each continent in order to experience what this beautiful world has in store for us. Besides, I also want to be able to write on my own travel experiences as well in my own website, which I am planning to launch in near future, in addition to the experiences of other travelers in my country. Besides, I wish I were able to write the way some good writers can tell their stories.

#### Why do some people fail to learn from their experience?

• Some people fail to learn from their experience probably because they are too arrogant to understand they can also learn something, well, from "anything" or "anybody". Then, there are some other people who fail to learn from their experiences because the experiences are probably too "embarrassing" for them sometimes, and as a result, they just don't like to remember any part of it. Finally, some people don't learn from their experiences because they like to "justify" them, no matter how "undesirable" the experiences really are, by essentially blaming the others for their own experiences and fate.

### What do you think is important for achieving happiness?

• I strongly believe that ordinary yet priceless things such as health, family solidarity and closeness, important people like friends who will always be there for you no matter what, and job satisfaction can definitely lead to happiness. I am opposed to the belief that money makes everyone happy and contented. Although money and wealth are essential elements for human life as they help people cover their expenses, do things they want and purchase materials people want, I don't think that they are the determinant factors. Furthermore, self-contentment could be another important ingredient for us to be happy. We can be happy with whatever little we have only if we have the self-satisfaction and self-contentment.

# 事件类口语主题陈述

Describe a positive experience when you were a teenager.

- where and when you experienced it
- what you did
- who you experienced it with
- and explain why this experience was positive for you.

- Let me tell you about my experience to learn how to swim in the sea when I was in my middle school. This experience really brought me positive energy because it inspired my enthusiasm to do many other things successfully.
- Actually when I was in my middle school which was near the sea, one of my classmates was very kind-hearted and he taught me how to swim in the sea. At first, I just swam like a brick, but he showed me patiently how to kick my legs and put my face in the water. Then he taught me how to control my breathing. Gradually I got the hang of it and felt comfortable with the water. Eventually I could control my breathing perfectly and do the swimming strokes pretty well.
- Now I can swim the breast-stroke and freestyle a bit. It has been one of my fitness workouts. Through this experience, I felt that though something might seem to be hard or even mission impossible for me before I got around to it, but when I tried my best to do it alone or with the help of others, I could overcome it and achieve my target, which would bring me great confidence.

Describe an exciting experience in your life

- What it was,
- when it was,
- why it happened,
- and explain why it was the best of experience.

- It was almost 6 years since I competed in an English-Speaking Contest, standing on a big stage in front of a hundred-strong crowd to deliver one of the best speeches I've ever given with the support of my friends. That was something you can never forget in your whole life and the most magnificent moment, bar none, of my high school highlights.
- Never did it cross my mind that one day I would be on stage talking about the thing I treasured most in my life my family and friends or just be qualified enough to represent the entire school compete at such competition. If it hadn't been for my English teacher's constant encouragement, I wouldn't have participated in the contest in the first place. Students were free to choose their topics and were asked to present it in front of a panel of judges and audience. It sounded intimidating for so many reasons, but I had managed to subdue my anxiety and learned to believe in myself. Preparation for D-day was tough for everyone, both emotionally and physically. We kept practicing nonstop for 4 hours straight, every single day; me trying to perfect my pronunciation and acquire that American accent, my friends singing their heart out Miley Cyrus's song "True Friend" since we wanted to kick our performance up the notch by featuring some musical element. Our hard work had finally paid off with us bringing home the Champion Cup as well as Best Performance Award. It brought me to tears as I realized at that moment it wouldn't have mattered if we hadn't won because we already won when we got over ourselves, stepped out of our comfort zone and kept going till the end. That was our true victory. Until now, the lesson I've learnt 6 years ago still has its own value and will always be there to remind me of those good old days.

Describe something you did with a group of people.

- what the thing was
- when and where you did it
- whom you did it with
- and explain why you did it with a group of people or what you learned from doing things with a group of people.

- Well, I guess my job really involves much group work because we always do projects for our clients in a team. Every time we form a team for a particular project, we play different roles, for example, someone works as a financial consultant, others manufacturing consultants, some technique specialists, and of course, the project manager. As for me, I am a logistic consultant responsible for purchasing items and the warehouses.
- We work in the clients' office, which will be easy for us to communicate with the key users. And our projects sometimes last very long, half a year or even longer. We always get along well with each other in a team because we need to cooperate well to brace for the tough clients.
- I believe my colleagues are very nice and helpful. They are always ready to help me when I encounter problems in my work. Besides, I suppose that sharing knowledge and experience with others can definitely boost the team spirit, as well as levelling up everyone's work ability. In addition, when we need to make a decision on a key problem, we hold a stormy discussion on it and sometimes we can gain insights into the problem, which will be beneficial for everyone.

Describe an occasion when you celebrated an achievement.

- What you achieved
- How you celebrated it
- Who you celebrated it with
- And how you felt about it.

- I've had quite a number of achievements in my life that have been worthy of celebrating, but the one that sticks out in my mind the most is when I graduated from high school. This was the first big achievement I'd experienced, and it felt like it had been years in the making.
- In the run up to my graduation I'd been seemingly working night and day to prepare for my final exams. I'd already gotten my coursework assignments out of the way, and they'd been submitted long before the deadline.
   I'd felt really quite stressed preparing for my exams and was worried that I wouldn't achieve good grades. This made me work even harder because I didn't want to have to retake any of the tests.
- These tests would in large part determine my future. They'd determine the universities that would be willing to accept me, and a good university would be a significant boost to my career and earning potential. The final day was the day we received our grades. It was the day we had finally finished and could move on to applying to universities. Surprisingly, the school wasn't interested in organizing a graduation ceremony for us. A lot of the students were up in arms about this, and many parents were quite upset that their children wouldn't be able to celebrate their achievements. The school didn't budge and claimed they didn't have it in their budget.
- A handful of friends and I took matters into our own hands. We raised enough money to rent a venue close by the school. Went spent ages organizing it and recruited the help of our parents too. On the big night we held our own mock graduation ceremony and had more fun than we would have had otherwise. A few of our teachers came too and we all spent the rest of the evening partying.

Describe an event that you organized which was very successful.

- what the event was
- where and when it was organised
- who helped you to organise it
- and explain why you think it was successful.

- I organized the last class party at my college here in Australia and it was the most successful event so far I had arranged. The participants at the event highly praised it and everyone was happy about the whole event. The function was held marking the last class in the college. Preparations for the event began about one week before the day.
- The event took place in the college classroom. Earlier, it was planned that we should go out and celebrate the party but later one of our teachers suggested to arrange it in our class. Following his instructions, we changed the plan and accordingly prepared for the event. It was really an enjoyable event for all of us.
- Preparations for the event was really hefty and I had to undergo lots of trouble during the entire week to make this happen. I made a team of four other members. Honestly, without their direct help, it was really impossible for me to complete the event. Inviting the principal was another big issue. He was a very busy person and ensuring his presence at the class party was the most challenging task so far. I was really grateful to my teammates as they helped me to have a blast in the party.
- This was a successful party considering some reasons. The most important issue was that the class took a festive look. Every one of my class attended the party, and even the boy who did not attend classes with various excuses was also present in this day. We all made fun, took lunch together and shared our memories with the college. The principal gave a short lecture and wished us luck in future. Based on the grounds, I think it was a successful event.

Describe a time when you gave advice to others.

- who you gave advice to
- what the advice was
- why you gave this advice
- and explain how you felt about the advice.

- I would like to talk about an experience I had when I was at university. When I was a student, I had a part-time job at a local florist's shop. The customers who came into the shop would often ask me for advice. At first, I was quite hesitant about making suggestions I'm not exactly sure why. Partly I guess because I was only 19, but also because I didn't feel very sure of myself I was certainly no expert.
- However, I quickly came to realise that most of my customers really didn't have a clue about flowers! Soon I was
  giving tips about everything from which types of flowers to choose at different times of year so daffodils and tulips in the spring or to how to put different colour schemes together. I was even making
  recommendations about which flowers or arrangements might be more suitable for different recipients or occasions.
- On top of that, I started explaining how to look after cut flowers once you've bought them. I was shocked to find that most people didn't know that they should cut the stems at an angle to make the flowers last longer for example
   or add a couple of teaspoons of sugar to the water. I thought everyone knew that!
- Once I got the hang of it, I loved giving advice to the customers. They were very appreciative, and they used to come back into the shop to tell me how much their mother or girlfriend or husband or boyfriend had liked the flowers, and to thank me for my help. I hadn't expected a job in a flower shop to be so rewarding!