

Keith Speaking Academy

Live Lesson Notes

Childhood

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Riddle

I can talk, but have no mouth, I communicate but have no body, you can hear me but not see me.

Answer: Echo

Some useful Links

Check vocabulary for popular **toys** here

<https://www.parents.com/fun/toys/kid-toys/all-time-favorite-childhood-toys/>

Ideas about how **childhood** was **different** 20 years ago

<https://www.insider.com/how-being-kid-is-different-now-than-it-was-20-years-ago#in-many-cases-children-are-spending-less-time-outdoors-and-more-time-playing-alone-4>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!

<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Collect my free materials here

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-free-live-lessons/>

Follow me on **social media**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeithIELTSMastermind/>

https://www.instagram.com/keith_speaking_academy/

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

Vocabulary

child (singular) - **children** (plural)

ADJECTIVES *collocations to use with CHILD*

well-behaved, obedient, gifted, talented, patient (*good things*)

difficult, naughty, wayward, stubborn, mischievous, hyperactive
(*negative things*)

Childhood (n.) -

Adjective collocations to use with CHILDHOOD

happy, cheerful, carefree, blissful (*good*)

lonely, deprived, gloomy, sorrowful (*bad*)

Childish (adj.)

= *immature*

Noun collocations to use with CHILDISH

behaviour, attitude

An only **child**

= *having no brothers or sisters*

MORE EXPRESSIONS:

A. *The following all have the same meaning*

I **grew_up** in Manchester

I **was brought up** in _____

I **was raised** in _____

I **was born and bred** in _____

If talking about the country, we can also say...

My **motherland** is _____

B. I grew up in my birth place

in a nuclear family.

abroad.

in a bustling city.

in a stunning country-side.

in a well-educated family.

in a lush green valley.

C. Phrases to talk about remembering

I **remember** _my childhood well_

I **remember when I was a child**, I used to....

I **recall** _____

I **have a clear/ vivid memory** of _____

I have **fond memories** of my childhood, especially _____

I **vividly** remember _____

Childhood activities

We usually played **made-up games** / **pretend games**

We often played **hide and seek**

If my memory serves me right, I used to play in the streets **back then!**

As far as I can remember, we played football **most days**.

We often played chess

I '**played house**' with my friends

We used *to while away the hours* playing games

To while away the hours

= *to pass the time idly / in a slow and relaxed way.*

Past habits

I **used to** go to the park with my friends

We **would often** sit there for hours, chatting away.

It **wasn't uncommon for us** to play football in the park and then hang out until tea time.

I often **played outdoor activities** with my friends

We **got up to all sorts of things**, like chasing mice, playing in the mud and things like that.

To get up to

= *to be involved in (often surprising things)*

Examples of childhood games and toys:

catcher catcher / Tig / Tag

blindfold game

see-saw

toy cars

mini-kitchen set

stacking toys

geometrical shapes

lego

action figures

jigsaws(puzzles)

mini-microscope

soft-toys

crayons

Play doh

board games

ludo

building blocks

Toys

When I was **bored** I played a **board** game
(both words pronounced the same)

I wouldn't let go of my favourite doll

I was obsessed with my train set

I loved my chess set

I was tethered to my iPad
=connected

I would go everywhere with my bike

My bike **was everything to me**

My sister loved her **Barbie doll** and my brother loved his **action figure**

I was addicted to my playstation / video games / my Rubik's cube

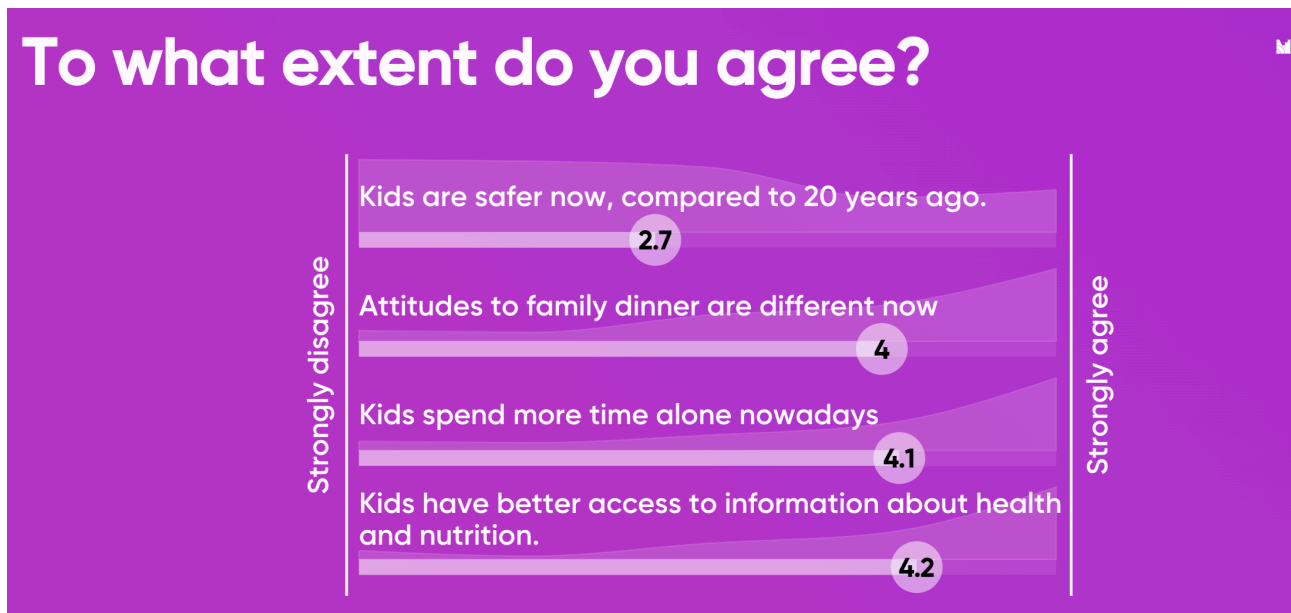
I was big fan of **playing cards**

What I loved more than anything else was to play with my crayons
and draw pictures

I could spend hours doing jigsaws

My favourite toy was a remote-controlled racing car

Life when you were a child



Kids are **not** safer nowadays due to...

...the increased **crime rate**

...more **kidnapping**

...an increase in **cyberbullying**

...excessive **traffic** leading to more kids getting **knocked over**

...high pressure which leads to **mental health problems**

Children are **less willing / reluctant / to have** dinner with their families

Children are **not so enthusiastic about having** dinner with their families

There is less communication within families because everyone is **tethered** to their mobile phone, leading to **fewer family meals**

Parents **have less time for** their children, and so children **have less time for** their parents!

Kids have fewer meals with their parents because there are fewer **set routines** nowadays, so it is hard to have **a fixed time** for dinner when the whole family can **sit down together**.

More women are in the **workforce**, so it is not uncommon for both parents of a **nuclear family** to be working, leaving many children alone and feeling more lonely than before.

Kids spend **so much time** on their computers and may not be aware **how little time** they are spending with their friends.

Children are more aware of nutrition but **are not necessarily** eating more healthily

Children **can get lots of information** about health, but they are still **attracted by** fast food because it is marketed so well to children