

IELTS Speaking

Part 2: “when” section
Introduction and examples

Paul Winterbottom

Part 2:

Excellent opportunity to improve your result

USE ADVANCED STRUCTURES

EVERY WORD CLEAR

Part 2: The Elements

Topic: subject of the story

When

(Where / What / Why)

The conversation

Reflection

Example

Describe an old friend you had lost touch with and got in contact with again

You should say:

- who he/she is
- how you knew each other
- why you lost contact
- how you got in contact again

and explain how you felt after getting in contact again

Example:

Describe an old friend you had lost touch with and got in contact with again

I'm going to tell you about Anne... she's Chinese but that's her English name...

actually, I've known her for quite a long time now... but I don't remember **exactly** when we met... *I think it must have been **about 10 years ago...** something like that... maybe a little bit more...* I am absolutely sure that I had not started High School at that time.

Example:

Describe a person who likes to read a lot

You should say:

- who this person is
- how you knew him/her
- what he/she likes to read

and explain why you think he/she likes to read a lot

Example:

Describe a person who likes to read a lot

I'm going to tell you about my friend John – he's Chinese but that's his English name...

actually, I've known him for quite a long time now... but I don't remember **exactly** when we met... *I think it must have been **about 5 years ago...** something like that... maybe a little bit **more...*** I am absolutely sure that I had not started High School at that time.

Example:

Describe your favourite singer or band

You should say:

1. Who the singer/band is
 2. What personality/characteristics the singer/band has
 3. What kind of music his/her music belongs to
- and explain why the singer/band is your favourite one

Example:

Describe your favourite singer or band

I'm going to tell you about Bob Dylan.... an American singer
actually, I've liked his music for a very long time... but I don't remember **exactly** when I first
heard it. *I think I must have been in my early teens.... about 20 years ago... maybe a little bit
more... something like that...* (I am absolutely sure that I had not started High School at that
time.)

Note: "in my early teens" / "in High School" etc are approximate times – so we do NOT need to
include "about"

Example:

Describe **an occasion** you got up extremely early

You should say:

1. When you did this
 2. What you did that day
 3. Why you got up early
- and explain how you felt about it

Example:

Describe **an occasion** you got up extremely early

I'm going to tell you about **the time (when)** I first travelled abroad.

Actually, I don't remember **exactly** when it was.... but it was quite a long time ago... *I think I must have been **about 10 years old**.... something like that*... I know I had not left Elementary School.

I think it must have been about 15 years ago... something like that... maybe a bit longer...

