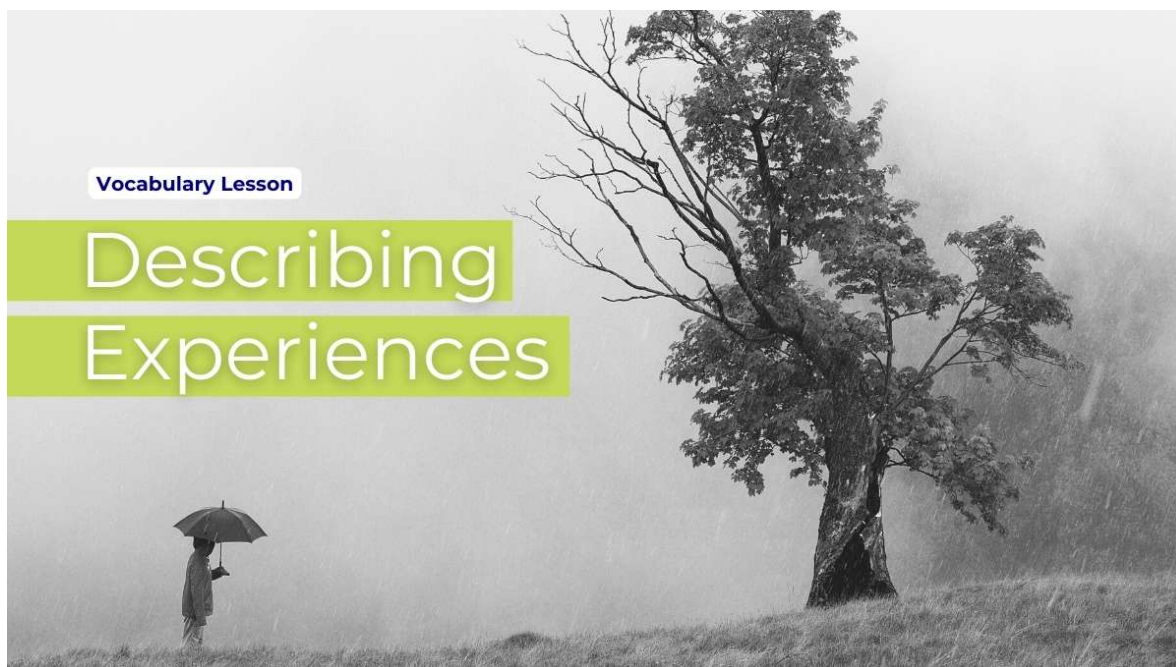


Describe Details of Your Experiences



In this English lesson, we're going to explore some vocabulary that we believe would be really helpful, especially for those of you who may be taking proficiency exams in English and aiming to enhance your vocabulary, particularly for the spoken and written tests.

We'll focus on English vocabulary for describing memories. Whether it's discussing your childhood, past job experiences, or sporting achievements.

We'll cover words associated with this topic, including verbs, nouns, and adjectives.

To Reflect

Meaning: to think deeply or carefully about something.

Examples:

She sat by the window and reflected on her childhood memories.

He reflected on the lessons he learned from his past experiences.

To Blot Out

Meaning: to remove or erase something from your memory or to try to forget or ignore it completely.

Examples:

I want to blot out that bad teacher from my memory.

I've blotted that out of my memory completely and don't want to think about it anymore.

To Evoke

Meaning: to bring back or remind us of something from the past. It's like a mental trigger that helps us remember and feel certain things again.

Examples:

The conversation evoked memories of that bad teacher and how he used to treat me badly.

The old photograph evokes memories of my childhood summers spent at the beach.

The mention of changing jobs evoked memories of how stressful that period was.

Scraping through exams evoked vivid memories of the intense struggles and late nights studying.

Vocabulary for Describing Memories

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English Vocabulary

Memories

● **to reflect**

to think deeply or carefully about something www.englishlessonviaskype.com
She sat by the window and reflected on her childhood memories.

● **vivid (adj)**

very clear and detailed
I have vivid memories of our family trip to the beach.

● **flashback (n)**

a sudden and vivid memory of a past event
Seeing her childhood home brought back a vivid flashback of her early years.

● **to relive**

to experience again in one's imagination or memory.
Through storytelling, she could relive the adventures of her youth.

● **bittersweet (adj)**

a mix of both happiness and sadness www.englishlessonviaskype.com
Graduation day was a bittersweet memory.



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● **to reminisce**

to talk or think about past experiences and memories
We sat around the campfire and reminisced about our school days.

● **to blot out**

to remove or erase something from your memory or to try to forget or ignore it completely
I've blotted that out of my memory completely and don't want to think about it anymore.



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To Recall

Meaning: to remember or bring back to mind.

Examples:

I recall meeting him many years ago.

I can recall the first time I met her as if it were yesterday.

I often recall memories of my childhood when I visit my hometown.

To Remind

Meaning: to cause someone to remember or bring something back to their attention.

Examples:

I set an alarm to remind me of the important meeting tomorrow.

Just wanted to remind you that your grandmother's birthday is next week.

Meeting my friends reminded me of the good old days in college.

The sight of the apple tree reminded me of taking apples from the orchard when we were kids.

To Reminisce

Meaning: to remember and talk about past experiences in a nostalgic and enjoyable way.

Examples:

The aroma of freshly baked cookies made me reminisce about my grandmother's holiday treats.

During our recent family gathering, we reminisced about last year's holiday.

It's good to sit back and reminisce about the old days.

To Suppress

Meaning: to intentionally block or hide memories from your thoughts; to hold back something.

Examples:

It's a bad idea to suppress your emotions, you should let them out.

She tried to suppress the painful memories of her past, seeking comfort in the present.

People have a tendency to suppress bad memories and mostly recall the good times.

To Come Back

Meaning: past memories return or reappear in your mind.

Examples:

Ah, it's coming back to me now. I remember meeting her on that sunny afternoon in the park.

As I looked through the old photo album, the images brought back a flood of emotions, and unforgettable memories came back to me.

Mind

Meaning: the part of us that keeps and recalls past experiences.

Examples:

I had something on my mind, but I forgot. I'll remember it later, and I'll talk to you about it then.

Our minds hold memories, keeping them safe for us to remember and treasure.

Nostalgia

Meaning: a deep and sentimental affection for the past.

Examples:

Old people like a bit of nostalgia as it allows them to relive cherished moments from their youth.

Listening to old songs filled him with nostalgia for his college days.

The smell of freshly baked cookies brought back a wave of nostalgia.

A Trip Down Memory Lane

Meaning: revisiting past memories or reminiscing about nostalgic moments from the past.

Examples:

Looking through old photo albums with my family always feels like a delightful trip down memory lane.

Visiting my childhood neighborhood after so many years felt like a trip down memory lane.

Recollections

Meaning: things that we remember.

Examples:

Some people have surprisingly clear recollections from when they were 3 or 4 years old.

He had good recollections of his childhood, remembering the joyful moments and adventures he experienced.

Vocabulary for Describing Memories

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 **ADVANCED VOCABULARY**  

to evoke

The mention of changing jobs evoked memories of how stressful that period was.

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to blot out

I've blotted that out of my memory completely and don't want to think about it anymore.

vivid (adj)

The vivid memories of my graduation day will always stay with me. I remember the excitement and pride.

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to reminisce

The aroma of freshly baked cookies made me reminisce about my grandmother's holiday treats.

to suppress

It's a bad idea to suppress your emotions, you should let them out.

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a trip down memory lane

Looking through old photo albums with my family always feels like a delightful trip down memory lane.

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Evocative

Meaning: something that brings out strong emotions or memories.

Examples:

The powerful and evocative speech stirred nostalgic memories of the past.

The old photograph was evocative, instantly transporting me back to my childhood.

Lasting

Meaning: memories that last for a long time.

Examples:

Our relationship holds a special place in my heart as a lasting memory.

The impact of his kind words created a lasting memory in her heart.

Vivid

Meaning: strong and clear memories or experiences.

Examples:

I have a vivid memory of playing with my friends in the park.

The vivid memories of my graduation day will always stay with me. I remember the excitement and pride.

Unforgettable

Meaning: something that is impossible to forget or that leaves a lasting impression in your memory.

Examples:

The hiking trip with my friends left us with unforgettable memories.

My camping holidays in the south of France, many years ago, created unforgettable memories.

Fond

Meaning: memories that are cherished, affectionate, or deeply enjoyed.

Example:

I cherish the fond memories of spending my summer with my grandparents in the countryside.

I have fond memories of our family vacations at the beach.

Bittersweet

Meaning: a mix of both happiness and sadness.

Examples:

Graduation day was a bittersweet memory. I was excited to move forward but also sad to say goodbye to my friends.

The bittersweet memories of my time living abroad remind me of the challenges I faced but also the amazing experiences.

Bring Back Memories

Meaning: to cause someone to remember or recall past experiences, often triggered by a certain event.

Example:

The sound of waves brought back nostalgic memories of family holidays by the beach.

The old song playing on the radio instantly brings back memories of dancing with friends at that summer music festival.

The conversation with my childhood friend brought back memories of our adventures and playful moments.

Reference:

English Lesson Via Skype (2023). Vocabulary for describing memories. Retrieved from:
<https://www.englishlessonviaskype.com/vocabulary-for-describing-memories/>