



14. Hobbies and pastimes

1. What hobbies do you have?
2. How do you define the word hobby?
3. What would you take up as a hobby if you could?
4. What are the most popular pastimes in Hungary?
5. What kinds of indoor and outdoor hobbies can you think of?
6. Is it important to have a hobby?
7. Do people's hobbies change when they grow older?
8. Do men and women have different kinds of hobbies?
9. Do you consider gardening a male or a female pursuit?
10. Do you read a lot?
11. Do you read novels and newspapers the same way?
12. Do you take photos?
13. What dances are you familiar with?
14. What boardgames do you like playing?
15. How can playing games develop one's personality?
16. What are the English famous for doing in their free time?
17. What do Americans like to spend their free time doing?
18. What do people collect in Hungary?
19. Have you ever collected anything?
20. Do you play cardgames with your family or friends?
21. Does your school or workplace organise any freetime activities?
22. Do you consider doing crossword puzzles an intellectual activity?
23. What kinds of creative ways of spending free time can you think of?
24. What do young children like doing?
25. What do you play if you are alone?

Hobbies and pastimes

1. I'm fond of making and editing videos. I'm often asked to take part in family celebrations and record the happenings. Last year I got a digital camera for my birthday, and since then I have been sending photos by e-mail to my friends. I often walk in the nearby forest to watch and record animals, such as deer, boars, and all kinds of birds. After rainy days I go mushrooming with my brother as my mother prepares very delicious mushroom dishes.
2. A hobby is an activity that you like doing and do quite often.
3. I'd love to try some extreme sports, for example, ballooning and whitewater rafting. I know a guy who often takes groups to Austria for rafting and he has told me many interesting stories about it.
4. Unfortunately many Hungarians spend their free time at home watching TV. But there are some who do some physical activities regularly, like swimming, aerobics or hiking. Nowadays many young people spend much of their time playing computer games either at home or in Internet cafes.
5. Collecting stamps, coins, autographs, phone cards, beer mats or napkins, model building, doing needlework or woodwork, pottery, basketry, playing an instrument and dancing are indoor hobbies, while hiking, mountaineering, caving, sailing, fishing, canoeing, and bird-watching are outdoor hobbies.
6. Yes, because hobbies are a form of recreation. If you have a hobby, it's easier to regain energy after a hard day's work. Depending on the type of the hobby, you can also make friends.
7. I think they do. For example, people usually grow out of collecting things. Young adults like doing more exciting or dangerous things like bungee jumping or gliding, but as they get older and have families, they start doing something in which the whole family can take part. Many families go hiking or skiing regularly even with small children.
8. Yes, for example very few women go fishing and they are not so interested in extreme sports, either. On the other hand, men generally aren't interested in needlework or pottery.
9. Both men and women do gardening but they tend to do different jobs in the garden. Women like dealing with flowers, they weed the flowerbeds, plant new varieties and they design the whole garden. Men usually prune the trees, trim the hedges and mow the lawn.
10. Besides compulsory literature, I often read science fiction and modern novels in Hungarian, but I also try to read crime stories and comics in English to practice the language. Sometimes I feel like reading poems, too.