



## Early Memories

### Task: Childhood Memories

#### Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 7.

You are going to hear a talk about **childhood memories**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

#### Audio Script

You **must** consider that not everybody has the same luxuries in life when growing up. However, that doesn't mean that somebody can't have a happy childhood in any circumstance. There are things that can make any child universally happy that they will remember long into their adulthood.

For just a small investment, parents can give their children worthwhile memories that last a lifetime. Looking at something that most children grow up to treasure is when their mother or father would take the time to read to them. Not only does it help create a bond between the parent and their child, but the parent also opens up a world of literature and education to their child. Another important aspect is that a parent **should** always share a meal with their children. Sometimes it seems like there is never time for anything and taking the time to cook is often a luxury. However, when parents take the time to eat with their children, even the simplest of meals, then they are taking the time to talk, rest, plan, work and clean up together. Family traditions are also something important to do with children. This helps them make something that the family does special. It isn't only sharing the same space and time, but it is also sharing the same memory and making something ordinary into something memorable. For example, always having pancakes on Sunday morning or having family movie night like many families **used to** do. Another thing that should happen is that children need to feel successful. Not all make the same accomplishments and some arrive at their goals faster or slower than others. Notwithstanding, if you were a parent that **wanted your child to have great memories about their youth, then you would find ways to celebrate the milestones that your child reaches**. For instance, the passing of a test that they studied hard for, being accepted on a sports team or doing something really inspirational, like showing kindness and compassion to others.

There are other things that parents **may** want to do that cost nothing at all. One thing is just to listen to them. It is important for a child to know that their parent will just drop everything, because what they have to say is more important than facebook, the T.V. or the computer. That way when it is really important, they know that their parents will listen to them for the little things and the big things alike. Something else that children remember is when their parents hugged them. Some **might** need more hugs, others less, but what is important is that the parent is there to give affection when needed. This leads into the next part, letting the child know that they are loved. When a child knows they **are loved** by their parents, they grow and flourish. This isn't something that should be assumed that they know. It needs to

be said and not just once, but often. A loved child is a happy child, and they are surely going to have great memories. Something else that is key to a child's happiness is playing. A parent can do this with a child through board games, camping, biking, watching a movie and so on. That way a child has fun with their parents, which helps create spending quality time together. Something else, is taking the time to talk and remember all these great memories that the child has developed. It helps the child realize that their parents were always there for them. Finally, it is important for the child to be accepted for who they are. Everybody has their own personality and a child should be allowed to express themselves naturally, with guidance from their parents to grow up to be good quality people with good personal values and happy memories from their childhood.

To sum up, parents can make all the difference in the happiness of their child, and you don't have to be rich to achieve it. You just ought to be present and show them unconditional love. I am sure any parents that have experienced this will tell you that it is worth every moment.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me about building memories with a small financial investment and without but investing time.

Now tell me about building memories with a small financial investment and without but investing time. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

**Answers:**

Building memories with small financial investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● reading: build a bond</li> <li>● share a meal: time to talk, rest, plan, work and clean up together</li> <li>● family tradition: same memory / pancakes on Sunday morning / family movie night</li> <li>● Celebrate accomplishments: a test, a sports team, kindness, compassion</li> </ul>
Building memories with no investment but time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● listen: drop everything / facebook, T.V., computer</li> <li>● hugs: when affection is needed</li> <li>● love: grow and flourish / needs to be said often</li> <li>● play: board games, camping, biking, watching a movie</li> <li>● remember: parents were always there for them</li> <li>● accepted for who they are: be allowed to express themselves</li> </ul>

Marks: +\_ / +10



[www.sunnyamanda.com](http://www.sunnyamanda.com)  
<https://www.youtube.com/sunnyamanda>  
[sunnyamandaonline@gmail.com](mailto:sunnyamandaonline@gmail.com)

**Grammar Used in the listening task:**

- **Simple Passive**
- **Relative Clauses**
- **Second Conditional**
- **Used to**
- **Modal Verbs**
  - **Must**
  - **Might / May**
  - **Should / Ought to**