

**Short Talk 2**

**Q26.**

- A. Personality
- B. Communication
- C. Defence
- D. Teamwork

Your answer:.....

**Q27.**

- A. Fire
- B. Bullet
- C. Predator
- D. Cataulacus Muticus

Your answer:.....

**Q28.**

- A. Read more about ants
- B. Observe ants
- C. List another type of ant
- D. Add to the discussion

Your answer:.....

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Answer is on the next page.

**Script:**

**Narrator:** Listen to part of a talk about ants.

**Woman:** Defence- Ants are known to defend themselves by biting, stinging, injecting, or spraying chemicals, depending on the type of ant. Many people know that Fire Ants are known to have painful bites, but the most painful sting of any insect is actually caused by the Bullet Ant, which is located in Central and South America. In addition to defending themselves against predators, ants also have to protect their colony. Their nests need to be protected from physical threats like overheating and flooding, and this can be done through elaborate nest architecture. A type of ant known as the Cataulacus Muticus lives in plant hollows. They actually deal with flooding by drinking water from inside the nest and then spitting it outside.

Alright, so besides defence, can anyone suggest another important characteristic of ants?

*Talk adapted from: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ant>*

**Key Vocabulary:**

Bite (verb): To cut, wound, or tear with the teeth

Sting (verb): To cause sharp pain

Inject (noun- singular): To force fluid into the body

Spray (verb): To release Liquid

Predators (noun-plural): Living things that eat other living things

Colony (noun-singular): Group of living things

Nests (noun-plural): Living things home

Threats (noun-plural): A possibility of harm

Overheating (verb): Very hot

Flooding (noun-singular): Overfilling with water

Elaborate (adjective): Worked out with great care

Architecture (noun-singular): The job of designing buildings

Spit (verb): To release liquid from your mouth

**Q26.** Narrator: What aspect of ants does the speaker discuss?

- A. Personality
- B. Communication
- C. Defence
- D. Teamwork

**Answer:** C. Defence

**Key Vocabulary:**

Aspect (noun- singular): Character

**Listening Point:**

The speaker started his talk with the word “defence” as a part of his lecture and continued with explaining how ants defend themselves for different reasons.

**TOEFL® Tip:**

If you can't find the main topic of the short talk from the first few lines, as mentioned earlier, try to find some repeated key words, as explained in the English tip below.

**English Tip:**

In English, it is often common to repeat the main topic when adding new information or a different aspect about that topic. For example, in the lecture, the speaker says “In addition to defending themselves against predators, ants also have to protect their colony.” Notice the main topic “defending” was repeated again.

**Fun English:**

Teacher: "Nick, what is the past participle of the verb to ring?"

Nick: "What do you think it is, Sir?"

Teacher: "I don't think, I KNOW!"

Nick: "I don't think I know either, Sir!"

**Q27.** Narrator: The speaker talked about all of the following types of ants except?

- A. Fire
- B. Bullet
- C. Predator
- D. Cataulacus Muticus

**Answer:** C. Predator

**Key Vocabulary:**

Predator (noun-singular): Living thing that eats other living things

**Listening Point:**

The speaker talks about three types of ants; fire ants, bullet ants, and cataulacus muticus ants. He mentioned predator as an ant's natural threat, but this is not a type of ant.

**TOEFL® Tip:**

Just as in Listening Part B: Extended Conversations, you should read as you listen, so that you can anticipate the questions and therefore the most important key words to focus on. Remember answers and questions come in the same order as they appear in the lecture.

**English Tip:**

Different common types of ants:

Odorous House, Ant Argentine, Ant Pavement, Ant Pharaoh, Ant Carpenter, Ant Fire Ant

**Fun English:**

A: Hey, man! Please call me a taxi.

B: Yes, sir. You are a taxi.

**Q28.** Narrator: What does the speaker ask the listeners to do at the end of the talk?

- A. Read more about ants
- B. Observe ants
- C. List another type of ant
- D. Add to the discussion

**Answer:** D. Add to the discussion

**Key Vocabulary:**

Observe (verb): To watch

**Listening Point:**

The speaker asked the audience at the end of the talk if anyone could mention another characteristic of ants, which means he was requesting the audience to contribute/add to the discussion.

**TOEFL® Tip:**

If the passage ends with a question, suggestion, recommendation, further readings, etc., you should expect a question about what was stated there at the end.

**English Tip:**

English lectures are usually concluded one of four ways. The speaker summarizes each main point in one phrase, summarizes their conclusion, summarizes the purpose of their lecture, or has a clear and obvious finish.

**Fun English:**

Teacher: Please write 55.

Student: How?

Teacher: Write 5 and beside it another 5!

The student wrote 5 and stopped.

Teacher: What are you waiting for?

Student: I don't know which side to write the other 5!

**Short Talk 2 Practice (Q26 A-Q28 A)**

**Q26 A.**

- A. Radiation
- B. Desertification
- C. Overexploitation
- D. None of the above

Your answer:.....

**Q27 A.**

- A. Climate change
- B. Planet's life cycle
- C. Natural phenomenon
- D. Global Warming

Your answer:.....

**Q28 A.**

- A. Human overexploitation
- B. Different type of desertification
- C. Other types of land degradation
- D. Soil death

Your answer:.....

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Answer is on the next page.



## Short Talk 2 Practice (Q26 A-Q28 A): Answer & script

### Q26 A.

Narrator: What type of land degradation does the speaker discuss?

- A. Radiation
- B. Desertification**
- C. Overexploitation
- D. None of the above

### Q27 A.

Narrator: The speaker mentioned the following terminologies EXCEPT...

- A. Climate change
- B. Planet's life cycle
- C. Natural phenomenon
- D. Global Warming**

### Q28 A.

Narrator: What will the speaker probably talk about in her next lecture?

- A. Human overexploitation
- B. Different type of desertification
- C. Other types of land degradation**
- D. Soil death

## Script

**Narrator:** Listen to part of a lecture about Desertification.

**Woman:** Desertification is a type of land degradation in which relatively dry area of land becomes increasingly arid, typically losing its bodies of water as well as vegetation and wildlife. It is caused by a variety of factors, such as through climate change and through the overexploitation of soil through humankind's undertaking. When deserts appear automatically over the natural course of a planet's life cycle, then it can be called a natural phenomenon; however, when deserts emerge due to the rampant and unchecked depletion of nutrients in soil that are essential for it to remain arable, then a virtual "soil death" can be spoken of, which traces its cause back to human overexploitation. Alright, that's enough for today. Next lecture, we will talk about other types of land degradation.

*Talk adapted from: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desertification>*



