

Cue card 1

Talk about the last gift you received

What it was

When you got it

Who gave it to you

And explain why it is special

The last gift I received **1.goes back** to a month ago almost ...and I remember back then **2.I had butterflies in my stomach** uhmmm... let's say the reason that I was so **3.apprehensive** about the whole situation was the fact that I had no idea if I had made enough friends to get me gifts ,and it was my very first time far far away from home ,miles and miles away that I was going to celebrate my birthday without friends and family , so not really a perfect timing I guess. For quite a while I was struggling with the thoughts wondering what would happen to me, but what I received on the birthday was something that I still **4.can't wrap my head around**; the love and support that I received from my people was **5.tremendously** huge, but I would like to talk about that one present that **6.stood out** at that very moment for me ,so when I got home back from work after an **7.excruciating** day, I saw let's say a package, and it was beautifully wrapped with **8.a heartwarming** personal note on the present , and I had no idea from whom that was. What I was impressed with was the whole colorful style of the wrapper, and the note was so touching that it got me in tears. I didn't see this coming at all, but when I opened it, it was this ice cream box of my favorite chocolate ice-cream that has got this **9.exquisite** taste and it was a gift from my flatmates . I guess that will be the memory that I will always have in my mind.

Collocations and useful phrases:

1. Go back

To have existed since a time in the past

E.g. Their relationship goes back to when they were at university together.

E.g. Our house goes back to (= has existed since) the 18th century.

2. To have butterflies (in your stomach) informal

To feel very nervous, usually about something you are going to do

E.g. I had terrible butterflies before I gave that talk in Venice.

3. Apprehensive

Feeling worried about something that you are going to do

E.g. I'm a bit apprehensive about tomorrow's meeting.

4. Can't get/wrap your head around

If you say that you can't get your head around something, you mean that you cannot understand it

E.g. I just can't get my head around these tax forms.

5. Tremendously

Tremendous (adjective)

very great in amount or level, or extremely good

E.g. They were making the most tremendous amount of noise last night.

E.g. She's been a tremendous (= very great) help to me over the last few months.

E.g. You won? That's tremendous!

Tremendously (adverb) We all enjoyed ourselves tremendously.

6. To stand out

To be very noticeable

E.g. The black lettering really stands out on that orange background.

7. Excruciating

Extremely boring or embarrassing

E.g. excruciating boredom

E.g. His confession, when it came, was excruciating.

8. Heartwarming

Adjective (especially of an event, action or story) seeming to be something positive and good and therefore causing feelings of pleasure and happiness

E.g. a heartwarming tale of triumph over adversity

9. Exquisite

describes feelings such as pleasure or pain that are extremely strong, or qualities that are extremely good;

E.g. Great exquisite joy

E.g. The pain was quite exquisite.

E.g. A vase of exquisite workmanship

E.g. A good comedian needs to have an exquisite sense of timing.