

# AFARINESH IELTS Radio – Podcast 59

**Describe a person you know who speaks a foreign language well.**

**You should say:**

- **who this person is**
- **what language(s) they know**
- **what he/she uses this language (or, these languages) for**
- **and explain why you think they (he/she) learned it well**

Well, I tend to **keep my circle tight** as I'm guy with my own **eccentricities** and it really does **mandate** such circumstances. You know, being involved in language learning and things, I'm always **rubbing elbows** with bilinguals, **polyglots** and stuff. So I'm no stranger to seeing individuals with a normal **knack for** speaking English. But you know how this works right, there is always someone who's **got the edge over** the others. I remember it was almost a year ago that I was **hit up on** one of my social media apps. At first, it was nothing more than a voice message but as soon as I tapped the play button, I was **flabbergasted**. Well this **gal** at first **struck me as** a native English speaker, and I was like tell me about your **whereabouts**, and she goes like, born and raised in Iran. **Goodness gracious** I was damn near **floored**. Anyhow, I decided to **suss her out** and see what her story was. I almost **grilled** her for an hour. You know, it was necessary for to me understand how she'd got that awesome. She told me that she knew how to speak English and French. When I asked her about her job, she said that she was basically a teacher and that's why she could speak English with that **exemplary finesse**. I got a habit of keeping people who are **worth their salt** close. You know, it's been a year that we've known each other and we have conversations in English all the time.

## **Language Focus**

### **keep my circle tight**

Having less friends due to some circumstances

Hey bro there many fake friends you better keep your circle tight.

### **Eccentricity**

the quality of being strange.

"the eccentricity of his views"

### **Mandate**

to give official permission for something to happen:

The UN rush to mandate war totally ruled out any alternatives.

### **Rub elbows with**

associate or come into contact with another person.

"he rubbed elbows with TV stars at the party"

### **Polyglots**

knowing or using several languages.

"a polyglot career woman"

### **Knack**

an acquired or natural skill at doing something.

"he had a knack for communicating"

### **Get the edge over someone**

To have an advantage over one.

I've been preparing for this debate for weeks so that I have the edge over my opponent.

### **Hit up on**

to discover someone or something.

### **Flabbergast**

surprise (someone) greatly; astonish.

"this news has left me totally flabbergasted"

**Gal**

a girl or young woman.

**strike (someone) as**

to cause (someone) to think about someone or something in a particular way

It strikes me as peculiar that she left without a word.

Her comment struck me as odd.

**Whereabouts**

the place where someone or something is.

"his whereabouts remain secret"

**Goodness gracious**

goodness gracious. ... Exclamation of surprise, dismay, or alarm, as in Goodness gracious!

You've forgotten your ticket

**floor**

to surprise or confuse someone so much that they are unable to think what to say or do next:

I didn't know what to say - I was completely floored.

**Suss somebody out**

(slang, transitive) To come to understand (a person). We've sussed him out — he only drinks on Fridays and only in that bar in town. (slang, transitive) To manage to work (something) out, to determine (something).

**Grill someone**

ask that person many questions, similar to a cross-examination in a courtroom. In the first example/illustration above, Harry was grilled by his date; he thought her questions were excessive.

**Exemplary**

serving as a desirable model; very good.

"exemplary behavior"

**Finesse**

impressive delicacy and skill.

"orchestral playing of great finesse"

**worth your salt**

good at your job:

Any accountant worth their salt should be aware of the latest changes in taxation.