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雅思口语素材
Part1

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其实外国人在生活中有一些常用的口头上的表达，看起来很奇怪但实际并没有错的，国内老师也不会懂这些。所以呀！如果你觉得素材有错，我们是非常欢迎您来询问我们滴！千万不要觉得不好意思哦！

下面举两个例子：

“Anna is two years my elder.” 安娜比我大两岁。“She is four months my younger” 她比我小四个月。

这是一种比较现代的说法，当然我们平时都会讲 “ Anna is two years older than me” 和 “ She is four months younger than me.” 但其实外国人都会用前者多一些的。

“The majority of the girls were content discussing about how handsome or how affluent their boyfriends were.” 女孩子们都在热烈地讨论他们的男朋友有多帅。

这是现代英语的另一个特征，就是现在外国人在口头上都常常会省略掉介词。这里就把 were content with discussing 的 with 去掉了。这在口语上是没问题的，但大家在写作中就尽量要避免哦。

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01: Work and Study

Work

Programmer

1. What do you like about your work?

My work is enjoyable because it allows me to be creative in my own way. I think programming is fun because my job basically involves set challenges that I must solve with code. This lets me come up with interesting and creative ways to solve problems.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

To improve my efficiency at work what I need the most is a nice working environment. I would like to work in a modern office with a comfy staff room and a decent coffee machine. A good environment like this would really boost my mood.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

Programming is a well-paid job but it does require me to work overtime frequently. I have to spend too much time working every week. I would say I spend around 10 to 12 hours working each day. It is tiring and exhausting to continue this job.

Bank Clerk

1. What do you like about your work?

The thing I like most about my work is it is very well paid. Being a bank clerk is not the most exciting job, and the hours are not very good, so the best thing about it is that it pays well.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

To do a better job at work I need more sleep and time off. Being a bank clerk is very tiring, and often I can feel my efficiency decrease because I am sleepy and overworked. Having more hours of rest would greatly improve my circumstances.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

I spend a lot of time working every week. As a bank clerk, my day starts at 7am and I do not finish until 6:30pm. So, I work 11 and a half hours a day for 5 days a week.

Housewife

1. What do you like about your work?

The best part of my work is that I get to spend a lot of time with my family. I am a stay-at-home mum and what that means is I spend each day raising my children and making sure the house is in order.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

The most useful thing for improving my work is the support of my family. It is hard managing a household, and it is almost an impossible thing to do alone. When my children help me with chores and my husband helps me with the housework, things are a lot better.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

It is hard to say how much time I spend working a week because there is no time off. From when I wake up to when I go to sleep there are things I need to do around the house and children to look after. So, I spend a lot of time working every week.

Study

Finance

1. What do you like about your studies?

The most enjoyable thing about studying finance are all the opportunities it opens up for my future. Finance is a very lucrative sector to work in and there are so many businesses and industries that need finance. I could work anywhere!

2. What do you need to study better?

The thing that has the biggest impact on my ability to study is whether I have people to study with or not. I am terrible at working alone, and I struggle to focus without other people to work with. So, I always need study partners.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

Finance takes a lot of work, so I spend a lot of time studying. But there are also a lot of projects and group work which also take up my time. I'd say I spend about 20 hours studying a week.

Art

1. What do you like about your studies?

In my degree I get to express myself and use my creativity to make beautiful things, this is my favourite thing about studying art. It feels meaningful to contribute to all the beautiful artwork and creativity in the world.

2. What do you need to study better?

The main thing I need to study better is access to materials and resources. Studying art is all about making things, whether they are paintings, drawings, sculptures, or any other type of artwork. It is impossible to make things without materials and resources, and they are very expensive.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

I don't spend that much time studying every week. There are classes on technique and art history, but it is much more important to practice my own art and to use the studio to create things. So, I probably study as

little as 10 hours a week.

Law

1. What do you like about your studies?

I enjoy studying law because I think the thing I am studying has the power to do a lot of good in the world. Law can be used to fight for environmental protection, to defend human rights, and to prosecute evil people. That is really exciting.

2. What do you need to study better?

To improve my ability to study I need quiet spaces such as libraries and study rooms. I find it impossible to study in loud places or when I am surrounded by distractions. So, I need places that are dedicated to study and quiet.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

I spend a lot of time studying every week. Studying law means that I must read lots and lots of books on different law and different cases. This is time consuming and requires me to study for at least 30 hours a week.

02: Hometown

live in the north of China

1.What's (the name of) your hometown?

The name of my hometown is Beijing, it is a huge, vibrant city and the capital of China. I have lived here from a very young age and feel very comfortable in my hometown. As one of the most **populous (人口众多)** cities in the world, Beijing has a large population. Therefore, there is a vast array of different people and cultures which keeps my hometown constantly interesting.

2.Is that a big city or a small place?

As it is the capital of China, Beijing is a very big city. So it is the industrial and economic heart of the country, and throughout history many people have **migrated (迁移)** here from other parts of the country seeking opportunity. Therefore, there are currently over 20 million people living in Beijing so it has to be very big to accommodate everyone.

3.How long have you lived there?

I have lived in Beijing almost all my life. I was actually born in Tianjin but my parents moved to Beijing when I was a very young child, only a couple of years old. So it feels like I have lived in Beijing my entire life, so almost two decades. I could not imagine living anywhere else.

live in the south of China

1. What's (the name of) your hometown?

I am from Guangzhou, capital city of Guangdong Province China. It is called "Flower City" where flowers are **blooming (盛放)** in all seasons of the year.

2. Is that a big city or a small place?

Well, Guangzhou of course is a big city. Actually, it is the fourth largest city in China. And it is the political, economic and educational center of southern China. It's an international city. It is busy and exciting and yet you can find quiet places to spend time too.

3. How long have you lived there?

Since I was born, I have been living in Guangzhou for about 20 years. This is the place where I live and study. I love this city and I think I will continue to live there for many years because I have got used to the climate and the lifestyle of the city.

03: The area you live in

Living in a city

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have lived in Shanghai for a little while now, but not too long. I moved here around five years ago when my father got a new job at one of the tech firms in the city. I am settled, but there are still a few places I don't know very well!

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

I think the best things about the area I live in now are the range of restaurants, shops, and events I have access to. Each week, my family and I try a new type of food, we go to see the latest films, and we shop at all the exciting stores in the mall.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

I would like to see some changes made to the city of Shanghai. It is a fun place to live, but it can be too busy! The city is often very noisy and there is a real problem with litter and pollution. I think something should be done about that!

Living in a community

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have lived in my community for my whole life. This is the city I was born in, and it is where my parents raised me. I know most of my neighbors here and enjoy living here.

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

My favourite things about the community I live in are its peaceful atmosphere and the friendliness of my neighbors. My community is so quiet, it does not have any of the noise and chaos of the big cities. Also, most of the residents in my community are polite and kind to each other.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

I love my community, there are not many changes I would like to see, but maybe it would be nice if there was a little more to do. I think it would be fun if there was a cinema or a sports centre near my community.

University Dorms

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have been living in my dormitory for three years. I live in a large building with many of my fellow classmates and students. Only when the summer and winter vacation come, I go back to my hometown.

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

The good qualities of the area I live in now are its location and the convenient services it offers. The dorms are right next to the library, so I do not have to travel far to do self-study. Also, there are sports facilities, canteens and cafes all within a five-minute walk from my dorm.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

There are many improvements I would make to the dorms that I live in. For one, they are quite messy, so I would like it if my fellow students were more cleanly. Also, the dorms are very simple. The beds and desks are quite small, which is inconvenient.

04: Work and Study (新题)

Work

Programmer

Where do you work?

I work as a programmer at a tech company in Beijing. It's a dynamic and fast-paced environment, which I find exciting. We're constantly working on innovative projects and contributing to the world of technology. Plus, the tech industry in China is booming, so there are plenty of opportunities for growth and learning.

How do you usually travel to work?

I typically commute to work by subway. Beijing's subway system is extensive and efficient, making it a convenient mode of transportation. It's a chance to catch up on emails, read, or just relax before a busy day at the office. Plus, it helps avoid the city's notorious traffic jams. Copyright by Anxiaoya.

How do you feel after you finish a day at work?

After a day at work, I often feel a mix of satisfaction and exhaustion. Programming can be mentally taxing, but completing tasks and solving challenges is rewarding. It's a feeling of accomplishment, and I look forward to unwinding, maybe with some coding side projects or just relaxing with friends and family.

Salesman

Where do you work?

I work for a sales and marketing firm in Shanghai. It's a bustling city, and my job involves reaching out to clients, building relationships, and promoting our products. Shanghai's business scene is vibrant, and there are plenty of opportunities to network and expand our client base.

How do you usually travel to work?

I usually drive to work. Having a car in Shanghai offers convenience and flexibility. It's a bit of a status symbol too, which can be beneficial in business. Of course, dealing with traffic can be frustrating, but having your own vehicle is often seen as a sign of success here.

How do you feel after you finish a day at work?

After a day at work, I usually feel a mix of accomplishment and fatigue. Sales can be demanding, but closing deals and meeting targets is satisfying. It's also a chance to unwind, maybe catch up with colleagues over dinner or relax with a cup of tea. Balancing work and life is essential.

Housewife

Where do you work?

I work from home as a freelance graphic designer. It's a fantastic way to balance my career with taking care of the family. I have a cozy little office space where I create designs for clients, and I can manage my time to meet household needs. It's a rewarding setup.

How do you usually travel to work?

I don't have a daily commute because I work from home. I'm fortunate to have this flexibility, especially as a housewife. It allows me to manage household chores and take care of my family while pursuing my career. It's the perfect balance between work and home life.

How do you feel after you finish a day at work?

After wrapping up work for the day, I usually feel a sense of accomplishment. Being able to contribute to the family income while caring for my loved ones gives me a sense of fulfillment. It's a busy but rewarding life, and I cherish the moments spent with family in the evening.

Study

Hometown

Where do you study?

I study at my local university right here in my hometown. It's convenient and cost-effective, which is a practical choice for many students. While studying abroad can be exciting, staying close to family and friends, and saving on living expenses, are some of the advantages of studying locally.

How do you usually travel to the place where you study?

I typically commute to my college by bicycle or public transportation. Biking is a common mode of transportation in my hometown, and it's eco-friendly and keeps me active. When the weather isn't great or I have early classes, I opt for the bus or subway. It's a straightforward and economical way to get around.

How do you feel after you finish a day of study?

After a day of study, I usually feel a mix of exhaustion and accomplishment. College life can be intense, but making progress in my education is satisfying. It's also a chance to unwind with friends, maybe enjoy some local food, and recharge for the next day. It's all part of the college experience.

City far away

Where do you study?

I study at a university in Beijing, far away from my hometown. It's been an exciting journey, experiencing life in a big city and meeting people from diverse backgrounds. While I miss my hometown's simplicity, this adventure offers unique opportunities for personal growth and academic excellence.

How do you usually travel to the place where you study?

I mainly rely on public transportation to reach my college. The subway system and buses in Beijing are incredibly convenient, although sometimes they can be incredibly crowded! Occasionally, I use ride-sharing apps, but navigating the city's extensive public transport network is part of the adventure of studying in a big, bustling city like Beijing.

How do you feel after you finish a day of study?

Completing a day of study here in the bustling city leaves me with a mix of exhaustion and exhilaration. The academic challenges are intense, but the opportunities for personal growth and exploration are endless. It's a rollercoaster of emotions, but I'm grateful for the chance to broaden my horizons far from home.

05: Hometown (新题)

Big city

Do you come from a city, town or village?

I come from a big city in China, Shanghai. Life here is fast-paced and dynamic. There's always something happening, from cultural events to technological advancements. It's a vibrant place, but sometimes I do miss the tranquility of a smaller town or village.

What do you like about your home city/town/village?

Copyright by Anxiaoya. Shanghai is a mesmerizing blend of tradition and modernity. I love the towering skyscrapers that light up the skyline at night, the bustling street markets where you can find anything, and the delicious street food. It's a city that never sleeps, and there's always something new to explore.

Is your home city/town/village a good place for young people?

Shanghai is indeed a great place for young people. It offers a multitude of educational and career opportunities, a vibrant social scene, and a mix of traditional and modern culture. However, the fast-paced lifestyle and high cost of living can be challenging, but the city's energy is invigorating for youth.

Small city

Do you come from a city, town or village?

I come from a small city in China. Life here has a comforting simplicity compared to the hustle and bustle of big cities. People are friendly, and there's a sense of community. While we may not have the glitz of metropolises, there's a unique charm in the quieter, slower-paced life of a small city.

What do you like about your home city/town/village?

I love the tranquility of my small city. It's a place where everyone knows each other, and there's a strong sense of belonging. The pace of life is relaxed, and we have beautiful natural surroundings. While we might not have the excitement of big cities, our peaceful, close-knit community is what makes it special.

Is your home city/town/village a good place for young people?

My small city is a mixed bag for young people. On one hand, it offers a safe and cozy environment for growing up, and there's less stress compared to big cities. However, opportunities for education and career advancement are limited, so many young folks eventually move to larger cities for better prospects and excitement.

Town

Do you come from a city, town or village?

I come from a bustling town. It's a nice balance between the calm of a village and the chaos of a city. In our town, you get to know most of your neighbors, but there's still enough happening to keep life interesting. It's a comfortable place to call home.

What do you like about your home city/town/village?

I quite like my hometown. It's got a cozy vibe, and there's a real sense of community here. The best part is the food – we've got some amazing local dishes that you won't find anywhere else. It's not as fast-paced as the big cities, which suits me just fine.

Is your home city/town/village a good place for young people?

Well, my hometown is alright, I guess. It's a decent place to grow up, but once you hit a certain age, it can feel a bit too slow and limited. Young people often dream of heading to the big cities for a different pace and style of life. It's good to start here, but most of us aim to move on eventually.

06: Fixing things

1. Do you generally try to fix things when they stop working?

- 1) I always try my hand at fixing things when they break or stop working properly. Most of the items we possess have quite simple mechanisms and are not too tricky to fix yourself! In my opinion, it is an important life skill.
- 2) No, when things break, I cannot be bothered to try and fix them, I just throw them away. I do not think it is worth the hassle to learn how to fix things when it is so easy to replace broken items with new ones.

2. Do you think everyone should learn how to fix things in the home?

- 1) Without a doubt I believe it is so important that people learn how to do general repair in the household. Nothing lasts forever, and it is common for things to break or malfunction in your house. Learning to fix these things yourself will save you so much time and money.
- 2) Why should everyone learn how to fix things in the home when there are professionals who can do it for you? When people try to fix things themselves, they often make a problem worse. People should leave it to those who are trained to fix things.

3. Did anyone teach you how to fix things when you were young?

- 1) Yes, I was lucky that my father was quite a handyman and would always show me how he would fix objects around the house. That way, I slowly learned how to repair loads of different household objects. I think these were very valuable lessons.
- 2) Nobody taught me how to fix things when I was young, my parents thought it was more important that I focused on my schoolwork and traditional education. Learning to fix things is a waste of time for someone in school who has exams to prepare for.

4. What do you do with broken things?

- 1) With broken things, my first response is to see if I can fix it. A lot of things I already know how to fix, and if not, I will just watch a video online teaching me how to fix it. If I can't fix it, I will donate it to someone who can.
- 2) I tend to throw away broken things and buy new ones. When something breaks there is no point fixing it because it is likely to just break again and again. So, I always replace broken things with new things.

07: Ice cream

1. How often do you eat ice cream?

- 1) I'd guess that I have ice cream at least two or three times a week. Ice cream is one of my favourite desserts, I eat it quite a lot! Whenever ice cream is on a dessert menu or if I pass an ice cream store on a sunny day I will get myself some!
- 2) I do not have a sweet tooth and so I don't really eat ice cream that frequently. I like an ice cream on a very hot day, but otherwise there are different desserts that I prefer, such as cakes and chocolates.

2. Would you like to try making ice cream?

- 1) I have always been curious about making my own ice cream. It seems like a complicated process but I don't mind the challenge! That way I could experiment with loads of different flavours and try new things! That is very exciting to me.
- 2) I have never had any interest in trying to make ice cream myself. It seems like a very complicated process and I would probably end up making slop in the end instead of ice cream. I think I will leave ice cream making to the professionals.

3. Is there a good place to buy ice cream where you live?

- 1) There are some amazing ice cream stores in my local area. There is one just down the street from me which is huge and has over a dozen different flavours of ice cream! There are also smaller places with really good ice cream and nice staff.
- 2) No, there aren't really any specific places to buy ice cream where I live. If I wanted ice cream I would have to go to the supermarket and get it from the freezers there. I do not live in the warmest part of China so ice cream is not very popular here.

4. Did you eat a lot of ice cream as a kid?

- 1) My parents bought my siblings and I a lot of ice cream when we were growing up. Whenever it was a sunny day and we were walking through a park my father would always buy us an ice cream each if we had been very well behaved that day.
- 2) I rarely ate ice cream when I was a kid. My parents were very healthy and they thought it was better if children didn't eat a lot of sugar. So, we only had ice cream on very special occasions.

08: Concentration

1. Did you always pay attention in class when you were a kid?

- 1) I was very attentive in the classroom when I was a child. My parents raised me with a lot of discipline and taught me to always respect my elders. Therefore, I focused hard and listened to every word my teacher said when I was in school.
- 2) No, to be honest, I always struggled to focus when I was in class as a kid. I am very easily distracted and especially when I was a child, I would get bored of things easily. This meant that I did not pay a lot of attention in class.

2. Do you find it easy to concentrate in noisy places?

- 1) I do not struggle to focus when I am in loud and distracting places. I have always been good at concentrating no matter what the circumstances are. If the noise is really loud, I simply put on my headphones and listen to music, then I can focus again.
- 2) I find it incredibly difficult to focus when I am in loud and distracting places. I struggle to concentrate. So, when there are conversations and noises happening all around me I am constantly distracted by them. It takes me ages to complete tasks.

3. Do you want a job that requires concentration?

- 1) The only sort of job I want is one that requires me to focus. I cannot stand idle work or tasks that I do not find challenging. When I work, I want jobs that require a lot of focus and attention to detail, otherwise I will die of boredom.
- 2) Having a job that requires concentration is my worst nightmare. I am continually distracted by things and find it really difficult to stay on task longer than 15 minutes. I would rather have a job that requires less focus from me.

4. What can you do to help you concentrate better?

- 1) There are some techniques I practice that help me concentrate better. One of them is writing lists of the things I need to complete. This way, I get to tick off something every time I finish a task. This keeps me focused and driven to complete my goals.
- 2) The thing I need to do to make sure I can focus is to remove all distractions from my environment. When it is really important that I concentrate, I turn my phone off and find a quiet space by myself far away from my friends and other distractions.

09: Dream

1. When you were a child, what job did you dream of doing?

- 1) When I was growing up, I desperately wanted to become a scientist! Back then, I thought being a scientist was a really beneficial and great profession for society. But as I grew up, I realized I might not be smart enough for being a scientist, so I've given up on that idea now.
- 2) My dad is a doctor, and when I was growing up I wanted to be just like him and become a doctor. Unfortunately, as I got older I realized that biology and medicine were not my favourite subjects. So, I no longer want to be a doctor.

2. Do you think you are an ambitious person?

- 1) I have always had a real drive to succeed and improve myself. I think I am a very ambitious person. Ever since I was a child, I have wanted to become famous and successful. I think one day I am going to make it.
- 2) I would not consider myself an ambitious person. I want to do well in life and succeed in some of my goals, but I think too much ambition can be a bad thing. It is important to find a balance in life.

3. What kind of job do you want to do in the future?

- 1) I'm majoring in finance, and I also want to work in this industry in the future, like as a bank employee or an investment banker. I hope to land a decent, high-paying job so that I can attain a better social status and have more disposable income.
- 2) To be honest, I haven't figured out which industry I want to work in the future, but I hope to secure a stable job without overtime requirements. It could be a regular corporate job or even a government position. Since I don't have big ambitions and I love traveling, having enough free time and holidays is essential to me.

4. Do you have any dreams or hopes for your life?

- 1) In the future, I dream of being a successful entrepreneur. I don't see myself working a regular job forever. Once I gather enough work experience, I'll start my own business, aiming for bigger breakthroughs and achievements.
- 2) My dreams and hopes in life are simple. I want to get a good and stable job that brings me security. I want to find someone I love and start a family with them. I want to live a happy life, that is all.

10: Language

1. Did you like learning languages at school?

- 1) Languages class was always one of my favourite lessons at school. I had very inspiring and charismatic languages teachers who would take the time to make their lessons both fun and educational. Luckily, I was also quite good at learning languages.
- 2) I hated languages class when I was at school. I have always found languages really difficult to learn and the classes were very stressful. They made me feel like I was stupid and bad at learning.

2. Which languages did you learn at school?

- 1) The main language we learned at school was English but there were also some other options. For students who were good at languages we also had the option to learn Russian and Japanese, since my school was in the north east and those languages are useful there.
- 2) When I was at school, I tried to learn English but I didn't really manage to. The only language my school taught was English and I had English classes for many years, but I never learned the language very well.

3. Is it a good idea to learn other languages?

- 1) I think other languages are one of the most important and useful things to learn. Speaking multiple languages not only increases your employability but it also opens up a whole new world of cultures and experiences to you!
- 2) I don't think learning other languages is as important as people make it out to be. Nowadays translation technology has become very good, and anyone can look up how to say something in a different language from their phone. It takes seconds to find out online, so why learn?

4. Which language do you want to learn in the future?

- 1) I have always wanted to learn Korean. I think Seoul is a fascinating city and Korea has a very unique and interesting culture that I would like to explore. Also, a lot of my favourite music is sung in Korean!
- 2) There isn't really any language I want to learn in the future. I find learning languages really stressful and so far I have done just fine in my life without speaking any foreign language. So, I have no desire to learn a new one.

11: Bags

1. When you were young, did you have a school bag?

- 1) Yes, when I was growing up, I had a school bag. In fact, my parents would get me a new school bag every two years or so because they would get old and worn quite quickly. I always loved the bags I would pick out for school.
- 2) No, I did not have a specific school bag when I was a child. At my school we had lockers so we would keep all our books, pencils, and other things in the lockers. Sometimes I would use a bag to bring things in, but this was just a random bag.

2. What kind of bag do you use when you go on holiday?

- 1) When I go on holiday, I have a very specific bag that I use. Planes have detailed size requirements for the bags that you can take as carry on. So, I bought a bag that matches the size dimensions perfectly. It is very useful.
- 2) I use all sorts of different bags when I go on holiday. For short get aways I just fill a backpack with the things that I need. For medium length trips I use a travel bag that fits in the overhead locker on the plane. And for long visits I use a large suitcase.

3. Would you be happy if someone gave you a bag as a gift?

- 1) I think bags are very useful and some are fun and interesting, so they make great gifts! I would be overjoyed if somebody gave me a cool bag for my birthday one year. It makes both a practical and an exciting gift.
- 2) I think I would be quite upset if someone gave me a bag as a present. A bag is a practical item which someone should buy for themselves when they need one. I think bags make a quite unsuitable gift as they are not special and are not very interesting.

4. Do you often take your bag with you when you go out now?

- 1) I do not leave my house without a bag! It is so useful to have a bag to carry all your things such as your phone, your keys, a water bottle, and other necessary items. It is also useful to have a bag incase you buy things and need to carry them home.
- 2) I rarely take a bag with me when I leave the house. I find bags quite cumbersome, and they are annoying to carry. I prefer to keep all my important things in my pockets when I go out. I rarely feel as if I need a bag when I am out.

12: Teachers

1. Is it easy to remember your teachers in elementary school?

- 1) Oh, I could never forget the teachers I had in elementary school. Elementary school is such a formative stage of a person's life and the teachers you had you would see every day. My teachers were probably some of the most influential people in my childhood.
- 2) I do not really remember most of the teachers I had in elementary school, it feels like such a long time ago. When you are a young child there is so much to learn about life and it is hard to remember details like all the different teachers in your school.

2. Did you want to be a teacher when you were young?

- 1) When I was growing up being a teacher was one of my dream jobs. I really admired and looked up to my teachers. I thought that when I got older, I would like to be like them. It seemed like a meaningful job to help shape the next generation.
- 2) Oh no, I never even dreamed of being a teacher when I was growing up. I did not really like school and I did not like my teachers either. They always seemed grumpy and stressed, so it was not a job that I thought looked fun or exciting.

3. Do you think teachers are different now than when your parents were at school?

- 1) Yes, I think there have been a lot of changes to the job of a teacher since my parent's time at school. On the one hand, everything we teach changes as we make new discoveries and different subjects become more important. Also, teaching style changes with the differences of the time.
- 2) I do not think there have been that many changes to teachers now compared to when my parents were at school. The role is much the same. Teachers are just meant to transfer knowledge to their students and keep the class in order.

4. Did you have a favorite teacher at school?

- 1) My favourite teacher at school was my math teacher I had in lower school. Math was not the easiest subject for me, and I struggled with it a lot. But I had the nicest teacher who took the time to teach me and help me understand. They were my favourite.
- 2) I did not have a favourite teacher while I was at school. I did not like most of my teachers and I would often get in trouble with them. There aren't any that I particularly remember or that I think I liked more than the rest.

13: Wild animals

1. Are there many wild animals in your country?

- 1) There is an abundance of wildlife in China! We have animals like the giant panda which are iconic of China. But there are also many other wild animals such as elephants, tigers, leopards and monkeys.
- 2) Yes, China has a rich biodiversity with a wide variety of wild animals, like the giant panda and golden monkey. But they are not very common in the areas that humans live. The only place we can see wild animals are the zoos in the city.

2. Have you ever been to a zoo or safari park?

- 1) Yes, I have been to many zoos and was even lucky enough to once visit a safari park with my parents. There is a zoo in my home city, and growing up I would visit often. Once, my parents took me to the Guangzhou Chimelong Safari Park as a reward for doing well in my exams.
- 2) I have never visited a zoo or safari park because I don't really like them. I find it sad to see animals kept in cages, and fenced into small areas. I know it isn't all bad, but I would rather see animals in the wild than kept in a zoo.

3. Have you seen any shows about wild animals recently?

- 1) I am always on the look out for new wildlife documentaries and I watched one recently. A short while ago, I discovered David Attenborough's collection of shows on wild animals. I watched one called 'Frozen Planet' which was about penguins and polar bears.
- 2) I don't really watch TV shows about wild animals, I think they are boring. Most nature documentaries are the same, they show predators and prey in their natural environments. It feels too much like a school lesson to me!

4. What kind of animal would you like to see in the wild?

- 1) My favourite animal is the giraffe and it is my dream to see one in the wild! I think giraffes are such fascinating and unusual creatures. It would be an amazing experience to watch some in the wild and see how they act in their natural environment.
- 2) I have always wanted to see wild dolphins. I saw a video on TikTok a couple years ago of dolphins leaping out of the water near some people on a boat. It looked incredible! I would like to see that for myself one day.

14: Rain

1. How often does it rain where you live?

- 1) I live in a very wet part of the country, and it rains all the time! Some parts of the world have wet seasons and dry seasons but where I live it seems to always be a wet season. I would go as far as to say it rains most days!
- 2) I live in an area of China that does not get a lot of rain. Most of the year it is dry and there are only a couple of months or so when it rains infrequently. Rain is a very rare thing in my parts.

2. Would you like to live somewhere very wet or very dry?

- 1) If I had things my way I would live in a very dry place. Living in a wet place is so annoying and you always have to remember to carry an umbrella or wear a raincoat. I would like to live in a place that was dry.
- 2) I think it would be wonderful to live somewhere lush and wet. Where I currently live is a quite dry and arid climate. Because of this there is not a lot of plant life and foliage. I would love to live somewhere thriving and green.

3. Have you ever changed your plans because it rained?

- 1) Yes, I frequently have to cancel my plans because it has started raining. Whenever I plan outdoor activities such as taking a nice walk or playing sports outside, it is always such a shame to cancel them because of the rain. There are some activities you just can't enjoy in the rain.
- 2) It rarely rains where I am and when it does, I do not let it spoil my plans. A little bit of rain never bothers me, so no matter what I have planned for the day, I will just put a coat on and go ahead with it.

4. Do you enjoy going out in the rain?

- 1) It is not fun to be wet and cold, so I do not like going out in the rain. When it is raining, I like to stay inside and wrap up warm. It is too much hassle to go out in the rain, I just wait for it to stop.
- 2) I think going out in the rain is a wonderful and exciting experience. Everywhere looks so pretty in the rain and I think it is fun to see people walking around with their umbrellas in their hands and their raincoats on.

15: Favourite day

1. What's your favorite day of the week?

- 1) I think Saturday is the best day of the week, I look forward to it all throughout the working week. It is the first day of the weekend, so everyone is excited and energetic. The most fun things always happen on a Saturday.
- 2) It is hard to say which day of the week I like the most, but it is probably Sunday. Sunday is always a day of relaxation. Nobody makes a lot of plans because we have to go back to work the next day. So, I can just lounge about and relax.

2. What's your busiest day of the week?

- 1) The first day back to work, Monday, is by far the most hectic day of my week. I am always so busy catching up with all the things that happened over the weekend. I am exhausted by the end of a Monday.
- 2) My busiest day of the week is always Saturday. I am a very social person, so when the weekend comes around, I always have dozens of plans and people to see on a Saturday. I am always running around the city, going from place to place.

3. If you could change what you do each week, what would it be?

- 1) The thing I would like to change the most about my weekly routine is when I start work. My workday begins at 8:30am every day, Monday to Friday. This means I have to wake up really early to be ready in time and I am always so tired by the end of the day.
- 2) If I were to make a change to what I do each week I would give myself an extra day off in the middle of the week on Wednesday. I find it so hard to get through the working week and I feel like I do not have enough time to relax and socialize.

4. Would you do the same thing on the same day every week?

- 1) I would be quite happy to do the same thing on the same day every week. I like routines and I am what people call 'a creature of habit'. I find it easier to follow set schedules and to know what to expect. So, I like having the same things to do on the same days.
- 2) I would never be able to do the same thing on the same day every week, that would drive me crazy! I hate routines and I think that doing the same thing gets boring really quickly. I always need my days to be different and full of new things.

16: Friends

1. Is it easy for you to find time to see your friends?

- 1) I do not struggle to find time to spend with my friends. I think it is important to have a social life and to have fun with your friends. So, I make sure that I find time at the evenings and weekends to hang out with people.
- 2) I struggle to make time in my life for hanging out with my friends. I work a job and study which means most of my free time is spent looking after myself. After all the cooking and cleaning is done, there isn't a lot of time to socialize.

2. What do you like to do when you are with your friends?

- 1) I do all sorts of different things with my friends, depending on who I am hanging out with. Sometimes we go to the cinema, sometimes we go to the arcade, sometimes we go out to eat food at restaurants and street markets. There are so many fun things I do with my friends.
- 2) Because I am so busy and often really stressed, when I hang out with my friends, I like to do relaxing and simple activities. Sometimes we will play board games or watch a movie at someone's house. I really like cooking with my friends.

3. Have you known some of your friends for a long time?

- 1) I have some friends that I have known for practically all my life. I still live in the same city I was born in, so most of my friends are people I went to school with and grew up with.
- 2) To be honest, most of my friends I have only known for a little while. I moved to a new city for university and did not have a lot of friends growing up. So, most of my friends I have only know for a year or two.

4. How important are your friends to you?

- 1) I think my friends are the most important thing in my life. Aside from my family, I cannot think of anything more important than the bonds and memories I have formed with my friends.
- 2) I think it is good to have friends, but it is not the most important thing in the world to me. I am more interested in my own development and success as a citizen. It is nice to have people to hang out with, but that is not my focus in life.

17: Day off

1. When was the last time you had a day off from work or study?

- 1) My last day off was just a few days ago at the weekend. I think it is very important to separate your work life from your personal life. So, on the weekends I never do any work or any study. So, I get two days off from work or study every week.
- 2) It has been ages since I last had a day off, it has probably been a month or two. I work a full time job and study at the same time, so I do not have a lot of time off. I only get to take a break during public holidays. During the week I work, and at the weekends I study.

2. What do you usually like to do on your break?

- 1) During my break I like to do relaxing and fun activities. I try to do things that are low effort such as watching comedy videos, listening to podcasts, or having light conversations with my friends and colleagues. It is important to relax and switch off during your breaks.
- 2) During my breaks I eat a light meal to re-energize myself and sometimes I will also have a cup of tea or a coffee. I only take a short break each day and the most important thing to me is that I am well fed and no longer hungry. Then I get back to work.

3. What would you do if you had a day off tomorrow?

- 1) I would do so much if I had the day off tomorrow! I would plan fun activities with my friends such as bowling or going to the movies. If the weather was nice I would go on a long walk through the local park. And I would eat lots of good food!
- 2) If I had the day off tomorrow I would catch up with all the chores I normally do at the weekend. I would do my laundry and tidy my house. If I had extra time I might even cook a few meals in advance to eat during the week.

4. Do you prefer to spend a day off with friends or family?

- 1) I like to spend my free time with my friends more so than with my family. I love seeing my family often, and during holidays, but I have a lot more fun with my friends. My friends are all my age and interested in the same things as me, so it is more fun to hang out with them.
- 2) When I have a day off I like to spend it with my family. I do not get a lot of time off and I miss spending time with my family very much. So any chance I get, I visit my family and spend the whole day with them.

18: Health

1. What's your favourite kind of exercise?

- 1) Basketball, of course! I absolutely love it! It's not just a workout; it's an interesting and exciting game that includes fast-paced action, teamwork, and the joy of sinking a perfect shot. Plus, it's a fantastic way to stay fit and improve my coordination.
- 2) My preferred way of staying in shape are gentle exercises such as jogging or fun things like playing Ping-pong with my friends. I think exercise can be part of a normal lifestyle and your day to day activities.

2. What do you usually do to keep healthy?

- 1) I like to play basketball to stay healthy. Instead of being a chore for me, it is a fun game! Playing basketball not only strengthens my physique, but also allows me to meet many interesting classmates along the way!
- 2) To keep healthy I make sure I eat a balanced diet and I try to play a lot of sports with my friends. I avoid fatty foods and sugary drinks. I play basketball with my friends twice a week. I find this is enough to stay healthy.

3. Did you learn about keeping fit at school?

- 1) Yes, my school taught us about the importance of staying healthy and keeping fit. We had a lot of sports classes and also classes that taught us how to eat well and look after ourselves. School was about keeping our bodies strong as well as improving our minds.
- 2) I didn't really learn about keeping fit at school, rather my mother just raised me with healthy habits. At school we learned lessons like science, maths, and English. My mother taught me to eat well and encouraged me to stay active.

4. How easy is it for people in your country to keep healthy?

- 1) I would not say it is easy for people in my country to keep healthy, it takes a lot of discipline. There are so many fatty foods and treats that are full of sugar. Also, most people work sat at a computer all day. So, it takes a lot of effort and willpower to stay fit.
- 2) I think it is pretty easy for people in my country to keep healthy. There are so many sports centres, parks, and nice places to jog. It is easy to exercise in my country. Also, we have access to very good and nutritious food.

19: Geography (新题)

1. Did you like to study geography at school?

- 1) Well, to be honest, I didn't really enjoy studying geography at school. It felt like a lot of memorization and not much practical application. I preferred subjects that were more engaging and hands-on.
- 2) Yeah, I actually enjoyed studying geography at school. It's like taking a trip around the world without leaving your desk. Learning about different countries, cultures, and landscapes was pretty fascinating. Plus, it helps you understand how our planet works, and that's important stuff to know.

2. Is what you learned in geography very useful to you now?

- 1) Most of what I learned in geography hasn't been very useful in my daily life. It's important to know about the world, but I find that I rely more on technology and the internet for information about places and geography.
- 2) Well, I'd say some of what I learned in geography has been useful. Knowing about different countries and their cultures has come in handy when traveling or even in conversations with people from around the world. Geography also helps me understand global issues like climate change, which affects us all. So, yeah, it's been pretty useful.

3. Would you like to be a geography teacher?

- 1) I don't think so. Being a geography teacher sounds a bit boring to me. I'd prefer something more dynamic and interactive. Teaching geography might be great for some, but it's not my cup of tea.
- 2) Sure, being a geography teacher would be great! Geography is fascinating, and I'd love to inspire students to explore the world. It's a chance to share my passion and help them understand the planet better. Plus, the summers off sound pretty good too!

4. Are you interested in finding out more about the geography of other countries?

- 1) Absolutely! I'm quite curious about the geography of other countries. It's fascinating to learn about different landscapes, cultures, and environments. Traveling virtually through maps and documentaries helps satisfy my curiosity about the world beyond China.
- 2) Not really, I'm more focused on what's happening here in my own country. Other countries' geography doesn't hold much appeal for me. I've got enough to deal with locally, and I don't see how knowing about far-off places would benefit me.

20: Fishing (新题)

1. Is fishing popular in your country?

- 1) Absolutely, fishing is quite popular in China. It's not only a recreational activity but also an important tradition. Many people enjoy spending leisure time by the rivers, lakes, or oceans, fishing with friends and family. It's a peaceful way to connect with nature and savor the catch of the day.
- 2) Not really, fishing isn't a big deal in our country. People are more into other hobbies and sports. We have such a rich culture and history, and while fishing has its charm, it's not something that most folks actively pursue. There are certainly more popular pastimes around here.

2. How do you feel about eating fish?

- 1) I love eating fish! It's a staple in Chinese cuisine and comes in so many delicious varieties. Whether it's steamed, fried, or in a spicy Sichuan dish, fish is flavorful and nutritious. Plus, it's a symbol of prosperity and abundance in our culture, so it's always a joy to enjoy it.
- 2) Honestly, I'm not a fan of fish. The taste and smell just don't sit right with me. I prefer other meats and dishes that we have in our cuisine. But hey, to each their own, right? Some folks love fish, and that's perfectly fine.

3. Have you ever visited a place where you saw lots of fish?

- 1) Oh, definitely! I've visited many places in China where you can see lots of fish, especially in beautiful lakes and rivers. Places like West Lake in Hangzhou or the Li River in Guilin are famous for their crystal-clear waters and abundant fish. It's a serene and picturesque experience.
- 2) No, I haven't. I'm not particularly interested in fish, so I haven't sought out places where I'd see a lot of them. I'd rather spend my time exploring other aspects of nature or enjoying different kinds of attractions when I travel. Fish just don't excite me that much.

4. Would you ever watch a TV programme or film about fish?

- 1) Sure, I would watch a TV program or film about fish, especially if it's about underwater exploration or marine life. Learning about different species and their habitats can be fascinating. Plus, documentaries about the ocean's beauty and mysteries are both educational and visually captivating.
- 2) I can't say I'd be eager to watch something like that. Fish documentaries or films about underwater life aren't really my cup of tea. I'd prefer something more engaging or entertaining. Fish might be fascinating to some, but I'd rather choose a different genre when watching TV.

21: Helping others (新题)

1. What kind of help do you give to other people?

- 1) I try to offer help in various ways. It could be lending a hand with tasks, providing advice, or just being there to listen when someone needs to talk. Helping others is a way to strengthen bonds and create a supportive community.
- 2) To be honest, I'm not the volunteering type. I prefer to keep to myself and handle my own business. Helping others can be quite time-consuming, and I've got my hands full with my own stuff. Maybe it sounds selfish, but that's just how I roll.

2. Did your family encourage you to be helpful when you were a child?

- 1) Yes, absolutely. In my family, being helpful and considerate towards others is a core value. My parents always encouraged me to lend a hand to those in need, whether it was assisting with household chores or helping neighbors. It's an important part of our upbringing and reflects Chinese values of kindness and community.
- 2) No, my family never really pushed me to be all charitable and helpful. They were more focused on me doing well in school and getting ahead in life. The idea of helping others was nice, but it wasn't a top priority in my upbringing.

3. Do you like to help people?

- 1) Definitely, I enjoy helping people. It's not only a way to make others' lives easier but also brings a sense of satisfaction and connection. I believe helping one another is a valuable act, and it's a rewarding way to contribute to our communities and build meaningful relationships.
- 2) Not really. I mean, it's not like I go out of my way to avoid helping, but it's not something I actively seek out. I've got my own stuff to deal with, you know? Helping people can be a hassle sometimes, and I'd rather just focus on myself.

4. When was the last time someone helped you?

- 1) I can't recall the exact date, but it happens quite often. Friends and family members have helped me with various things recently, from giving advice on a problem to assisting with tasks. In my community, mutual assistance is common, and we're always ready to lend a hand when needed.
- 2) It's been ages since someone actually helped me out. People these days are so wrapped up in their own lives, they hardly have time for others. I can't even remember the last time someone lent a hand when I needed it. You've got to rely on yourself in this world.

22: Gifts (新题)

1. Have you ever received a really good present?

- 1) Oh yes, I've received some wonderful presents over the years. The best ones are usually thoughtful and meaningful, rather than expensive. It's not about the price tag, but the sentiment behind the gift that makes it truly special. Those are the ones I remember and cherish the most. Copyright by Anxiaoya.
- 2) I've had my fair share of presents, but I can't say I've ever received what I'd call a "really good" one. It's the thought that counts, of course, but sometimes gifts just miss the mark. Personally, I value the gesture more than the material value of the present.

2. Are you good at choosing presents for others?

- 1) I'd say I'm decent at picking presents for others. It can be a bit tricky sometimes, you know, trying to find something that matches their taste and personality. But I do my best to choose thoughtful gifts that show I care and put some effort into it.
- 2) Oh, absolutely! I take pride in my gift-giving skills. It's important to choose thoughtful and meaningful presents for our loved ones. Whether it's for birthdays, holidays, or special occasions, I make sure my gifts show how much I care. It's all about bringing joy to the ones I cherish.

3. What kind of present would you buy for your friends?

- 1) For my friends, it really depends on their interests. I try to pick something that reflects their hobbies or preferences. It could be a book, a nice piece of clothing, or even a small gadget. Personalized gifts tend to be the most appreciated because they show I know them well.
- 2) Well, typically, I like to keep things consistent when it comes to presents for my friends. It's usually something practical and thoughtful, like a nice tea set or a stylish tote bag. The key is to ensure it's something they can use and appreciate in their daily lives. It shows my sincerity and consideration.

4. Have you ever given someone a present that you made yourself?

- 1) Yes, I have. Handmade gifts can be very special because they show the effort and thought put into them. I've crafted personalized cards, knitted scarves, and even baked homemade treats. It's a lovely way to make someone feel unique and appreciated on special occasions.
- 2) No, I haven't really tried making presents myself. It sounds like a nice idea, but between work and daily life, there's often not much time for crafting something special. I usually opt for store-bought gifts since they're convenient, and there are so many options available nowadays.

23: Tea or coffee (新题)

1. Do people like to drink tea and coffee in your country?

- 1) Oh, absolutely! Tea is a big deal here in China. It's not just a drink; it's a part of our culture. Coffee has been gaining popularity too, especially among the younger generation and in urban areas. So yes, people in China definitely enjoy both tea and coffee.
- 2) It would be a lie to say people don't like to drink tea in China but coffee's still trying to find its place. Traditional tea culture runs deep in our veins, and it's what most folks prefer. Coffee? Well, some are warming up to it, but it's got a long way to go before it catches up with tea's popularity.

2. Do you ever go out to drink tea or coffee?

- 1) Sure, I do! Meeting friends at tea houses or coffee shops is a common way to socialize in China. We chat, study, or just relax with a cup of tea or coffee. It's a nice break from our busy lives and a chance to catch up with friends.
- 2) It's not really my thing. I cherish tea sessions at home or with friends. But going out for coffee or tea? It's more of a trend among the younger crowd, trying to be modern. But honestly, a warm cup of tea at home feels much cozier than those fancy coffee shops.

3. Would you offer a visitor to your home tea or coffee?

- 1) Absolutely, it's a common courtesy in Chinese culture. Whether it's tea or coffee, offering a warm beverage is a way to make guests feel welcome and comfortable. It's a small gesture of hospitality that shows respect for our guests, and we take pride in doing so.
- 2) Tea, of course! Coffee, not so much. We take our tea traditions seriously. It's a warm and welcoming gesture to offer a visitor some freshly brewed tea. Coffee, on the other hand, might seem a bit too strong, and not everyone likes it. So, tea it is!

4. When was the last time you drank tea or coffee?

- 1) I had a cup of tea just yesterday. It's part of my daily routine, especially in the afternoon. I find it calming and a good way to take a break. Coffee, on the other hand, I had a few days ago when I needed that extra kick of energy to start the day.
- 2) I can't even remember the last time I had either tea or coffee. It's just not a regular part of my routine. In China, drinking tea is a common activity for most people, probably a day to day one. But for me, I prefer cold drinks.

24: Running (新题)

1. Did you do much running when you were a child?

- 1) Yes, I used to run all the time as a kid. It was an enjoyable and active part of my daily routine which I have very fond childhood memories of. I believe that being an avid runner as a child helped me stay fit and energetic whilst fostering a love of exercise which continues to this day.
- 2) No, I never did much running as a child. I was more of a bookish sort, and much preferred intellectual pursuits such as reading and study to physical activity. As an adult, I very much regret this fact, as I imagine my cardio would be much better today if I had been a childhood runner.

2. What do you think of running as a form of exercise?

- 1) Copyright by Anxiaoya. Running is an excellent form of exercise with numerous benefits. It enhances cardiovascular health, boosts endurance, and burns calories effectively. On top of that, running requires minimal equipment, making it accessible to almost anyone. Practically anybody can throw on a pair of old trainers and go for a jog in their local park.
- 2) I think that running is a form of exercise better suited to some people than others. For some, exercise is a means for them to noticeably build their bodies. Though running is undoubtably necessary to improve one's cardio and health, it won't develop muscle in one's upper body the way many people want from their chosen form of exercise.

3. When was the last time you ran?

- 1) I am the type of person who highly values keeping in shape. Because of this, the last time I ran was very recently, as I try to go for a 20-minute jog at least once per day. Not even a strong cup of coffee can wake me up in the morning the same way that a brisk, 6am run can.
- 2) It's honestly embarrassing to admit, but I can't even remember the last time I ran. Over the past few years, I have really been neglecting my physical health. I'd like to turn this around, but nowadays I find that I easily get out of breath, and it is thus hard for me to get back into running.

4. Are there any good places for running near where you live?

- 1) There is a river which flows right next to my student dorms. I often see joggers go for runs along the riverbank which I think is an excellent idea. The river provides a serene atmosphere and a scenic route for anyone running in the area. I think I'll go there for a run myself on the weekend when I have some free time.
- 2) My local park is an excellent venue for joggers and runners. As well as being a free place to exercise, the park offers a retreat from the city where one can enjoy running in a natural environment. The park also doubles as a great place to meet other joggers and fitness enthusiasts.

25: Robots (新题)

1. How interested are you in robots?

- 1) I have a deep interest in Robots. I think that robots represent the peak of society's technological advancements and innovations. It is awe-inspiring to me how robots can perform tasks far beyond human capabilities, like space exploration or surgery. They raise questions about ethics, artificial intelligence, and the future of automation, which I think is fascinating.
- 2) I don't really get the appeal of robots. I find robots to be cold and inhuman, which makes it hard for me to develop any sort of personal connection with them, or to ascribe emotional depth to them. Whilst I understand that robots can be seen as amazing feats of engineering, this just simply does not align with my own interests. Copy right by An xiao ya.

2. When you were a child, did you enjoy robot films?

- 1) When I was a child, my favourite action movies to watch were the ones which featured robots. I had many robot toys when I was growing up, so to see them projected up on the big screen was always a treat for me. In particular, I would love to watch the spectacle of fight scenes between two giant robots clashing.
- 2) I never particularly enjoyed films about robots as a child. The heroes that I looked up to in those days were more human, like superheroes. As a child, I found it a lot easier and more exciting to project my own fantasies onto more relatable human characters, as opposed to unfeeling machines.

3. Would you like to have a robot to help you at home?

- 1) Personally, I would love to own a robot who could help me out with daily chores around the house. Most days I find that I am extremely busy with my studies, so being able to have something like a robot vacuum cleaner which could ease some of the burden of having to clean would be incredibly helpful.
- 2) I can't imagine a world in which I would ever use a robot at home. Firstly, the cost of robot home technology is simply too much for someone of my income bracket to afford. Secondly, I don't think I could ever trust a machine to accomplish tasks at home to the same quality that I can.

4. Would you feel happy travelling in car with automatic driving?

- 1) I am not a particularly confident driver, so personally, I would relish the opportunity to sit behind the wheel of a self-driving car. I would feel so much more at ease commuting by car if I was relieved of the responsibility of steering myself, which always gives me anxiety. I also feel like it would be a fun and novel experience to see a car drive automatically.
- 2) I would never trust a car with an automatic driving feature. I simply don't believe that the technology is currently advanced enough to ensure that self-driving cars are completely safe. I would always feel unsafe travelling in a self-driving car and so would prefer to avoid them wherever possible.

26: Music (新题)

1. Do you know how to play any musical instruments?

- 1) I grew up in a musical family, so I was taught to play a variety of instruments during my childhood. Though I've allowed my skills to grow rusty with some instruments, I still play piano very well to this day. There's nothing I enjoy more than impressing people at a party with my musical talent.
- 2) I don't have a musical bone in my body and so don't know how to play any instruments. In fact, I'm so tone deaf that I can't even sing along to my favourite songs in key. It's quite embarrassing, and I plan on picking up some sort of instrument soon in order to rectify this.

2. Have you learned about music at school?

- 1) When I was in primary school, music was a mandatory subject. My classmates and I were all taught how to read music to a rudimentary degree and to perform simple melodies. Later on, once we had entered high school, we were taught about the history of music and various influential composers.
- 2) At my school, we were never taught about music. My education was more focused on scientific subjects such as mathematics, chemistry, and physics. The humanities, music included, were by and large absent from my school's curriculum. I do think it would be fun to look more deeply into music in the future, as it would be a totally new field of study for me.

3. Do you think all children should have music lessons at school?

- 1) I think it could be of benefit to all children to receive a musical education at school. Because music is such a ubiquitous form of human expression, music lessons at school could help children grow into adults more willing and able to participate in wider world culture. All schools should provide access to quality music education for those who wish to pursue it.
- 2) I disagree that all children should have music lessons at school. Though it can be culturally enriching, it shouldn't be mandatory for all students. Schools should offer diverse extracurricular activities allowing students to choose based on their interests and talents. Mandatory music lessons could limit individual educational choices and hinder personal growth in other areas.

4. Do you think it is easy to learn to play a musical instrument?

- 1) Some people possess an inherent talent for music. For these lucky few, it is very easy to pick up an instrument and learn how to play it competently. Some others may be educated in regards to music theory or already know how to play an instrument. Because of this, they may find it much easier to learn a new musical instrument than others with no prior musical knowledge.
- 2) Learning to play a musical instrument is a difficult and complicated journey. It can take decades of practice to master even a single instrument. In fact, many virtuoso musicians believe that they will never fully understand each and every nuance of their chosen instrument. For someone like me, who has no innate musical ability, learning an instrument is very hard indeed.

27: Clothes (新题)

1. Do you spend a lot of time deciding what to wear every day?

- 1) I take a lot of pride in my physical appearance and sense of personal style. Because of this, it can take me upwards of an hour every morning to decide on what to wear for the day. Coordinating the colour of each particular item of my outfit is extremely time consuming.
- 2) I have an extremely busy schedule, and so I tend to just throw on whatever clothes are scattered around my room in the morning to wear. Sometimes, I even wear my clothes from the night before. This in mind, it barely takes me any time at all to decide on what to wear each day.

2. Do you prefer comfortable clothes or smart clothes?

- 1) I find that most of the time, I prefer to dress for comfort rather than style. Most of my days are spent studying either at home or at the library on campus. Because I don't find myself in many formal contexts, it's far more convenient for me to put on a pair of joggers and a t-shirt than to dress smartly just to hit the books.
- 2) Whatever the situation, I think it's in a person's best interest to dress as smartly as possible. Dressing smartly conveys professionalism, confidence, and respect for those around. This is generally helpful for anyone, as it enhances first impressions, encourages self-confidence, and can positively impact how one is perceived by others.

3. Were you allowed to choose your own clothes when you were a child?

- 1) As a child, my parents would pick out my clothes for me. At that early stage of my life, I hadn't yet fully developed a personality, and so didn't really have a personal preference for how I would be dressed. Of course, at such a young age, I didn't have any money of my own, so couldn't exactly go clothes shopping for myself either.
- 2) My parents were very encouraging of my personal choices as a child. As such, they would allow me to choose clothes I liked whenever we went shopping, which they would then buy for me. I feel that the way in which I was raised has contributed a lot to my personal style nowadays as an adult.

4. What do you do with your clothes when you no longer use them?

- 1) When I no longer use my clothes, I typically donate them to charities or homeless shelters to help those in need. This way, I don't feel any guilt for wasting what others could use or for consuming irresponsibly. Recycling or upcycling old garments is an eco-friendly option to extend their lifespan.
- 2) I'm a student, so often find myself in need of some extra cash. To remedy this, whenever I find myself with clothes that I no longer wear, I sell them, not only to earn some extra money, but also to reduce waste. I usually accomplish this online through e-commerce apps, or sometimes in person at a thrift store.

28: Films (新题)

1. What's your favourite kind of film?

- 1) My favourite genre of films to watch is action movies. There's nothing more exhilarating to me than watching the latest action blockbuster in the cinema. I love the energy of the audience as huge and exciting action sequences unfold on the big screen. It's always a fantastic way to spend an evening.
- 2) I consider myself to be a cultured person. As such, I most enjoy watching arthouse and drama movies produced by countries all around the globe. These sorts of cerebral movies are rarely screened at mainstream cinemas, so I usually have to seek out small, independent cinemas to get my fix of culture.

2. Did you often go to the cinema when you were young?

- 1) My parents would often take me to the cinema when I was a child. It was a great family bonding experience which would excite my imagination and exposed me to fantastical narratives and new ways of storytelling. However, they would always make sure that movies we went to see were appropriate for my young age.
- 2) It was very seldom that my parents would take me to the movies when I was young. They used to worry whether the content of mainstream movies was entirely appropriate for a small child. On top of that, they thought that going to the movies would be a distraction from my studies at primary school, so we never really went all that much.

3. Would you like to make a film yourself one day?

- 1) I am extremely interested in films and the filmmaking process, so I would absolutely relish the opportunity to make a film myself someday. I believe that cinema is the most accessible artform and can most effectively convey the message and emotions of an artist. As such, it would be a privilege to be able to join the ranks of filmmakers myself.
- 2) I don't think I would be particularly interested in making a film myself. Filmmaking is a very complicated, expensive, and time-consuming process. Personally, I don't have the resources available to me to properly develop a movie. And besides, I'm not that interested in films to begin with.

4. Do you think watching films is a good way to spend time with friends?

- 1) I absolutely love watching films with friends in my dorm. Such gatherings, as well as providing entertainment, also spark discussions and create memorable experiences. Talking about the movie together after a screening is also a great way to deepen friendships amongst my dormmates, whilst also offering a break from academic pressures.
- 2) I don't particularly enjoy watching movies with a group of friends. When I'm hanging out with my friends, I much prefer to have conversations with them and enjoy their company. I feel that having to sit in silence for an hour or two whilst we pay attention to a movie detracts from this.

29: Maps (新题)

1. Do you often use a map on your phone? How often?

- 1) I use the map on my phone almost every day. The fact that a map on a smartphone can provide your location in real-time makes it vastly superior to traditional, paper maps. I can also use these sorts of apps to check the opening and closing times of stores and establishments around me, which I often use whenever I need to do some late-night shopping.
- 2) I have lived in my city for years at this point. Because of this, I know the geography of the place pretty well, and seldom have any need to look up where I am or where I'm going on my phone. I'd say it's only about once a month that I have cause to use a map on my phone, and usually only when I'm heading out of town. Copy right by An xiao ya.

2. Have you ever used a paper map?

- 1) When I was a child, I remember my father teaching me how to read a paper map. He had assumed at the time that this would be a useful life skill for me to carry forward into my adulthood. Little could he have known how obsolete paper maps would become in the near future. Nevertheless, I remember it fondly as a bonding experience between father and son.
- 2) As a young person, I grew up with new technologies such as smartphones being a constant part of my life. As a result, I've never used a paper map in my life, preferring to use the map app on my phone. Because of the multitude of features digital maps have over traditional, print maps, I consider them to be much more convenient, and just the smarter option overall.

3. Would you ever put a map on the wall in your home when you were a child?

- 1) I remember that there was always a framed map of the world adorning the living room wall of my childhood home. My parents used to use this map on the wall to teach me about global geography. To this day, I still keep a world map on my dorm room wall so that I can always remember where all the countries of the world are.
- 2) No, I never had a map on the wall when I was a child. The walls of my childhood bedroom were decorated with posters of bands and movies I liked, as opposed to maps or other educational materials. At that age, the only maps I would see affixed to walls were in the geography classroom of my school.

4. Do you find it easy to read maps?

- 1) Yes, I think that reading maps can be easy with some practice and experience. Basic maps typically use symbols, colours, and labels to represent geographic features and locations. Once a person has memorised these simple features, they can navigate and interpret maps with ease, making it a valuable skill for purposes like travel, hiking, and geography studies.
- 2) I have used the digital map on my phone all my life, so reading traditional maps can be very challenging for me. As I lack experience and have some difficulty with spatial reasoning, complex maps, like topographical or navigational charts, are nigh impossible for me to decipher. However, with study and practice, I hope to improve my map-reading skills over time.

30: Noise (新题)

1. What loud noise can you hear where you live?

- 1) I live in a busy university town, so I often hear a variety of noises associated with urban environments such as traffic, car horns, sirens from emergency vehicles, construction work, or sometimes music from nearby clubs and bars on weekends. These urban sounds are common in densely populated areas, and I think that they pleasantly contribute to the city's bustling atmosphere.
- 2) I live in a suburb somewhat far away from the city centre, so the noises I tend to hear are more on the quiet side. Often in the morning, I awake to the sound of birdsong, and can hear the breeze rustling in the trees. I very much enjoy this calmer atmosphere and I am never woken up in the night by loud noises.

2. Would you like to live in a less noisy place?

- 1) Yes, I would love to live in a quieter place. I am the type of person who really needs his sleep in order to be functional during the day. I currently live in student dorms, which can be very noisy, and often find myself woken up during the night by the sounds of parties and gatherings. I'm currently trying to move to a quieter environment so that I can be better rested and focus more effectively on my studies.
- 2) I am typically a very deep sleeper, so noisy environments don't bother me that much. The building in which I currently live can be quite loud, especially during weekends, but I'm used to it. Besides, living on my own in a studio apartment would be much more expensive.

3. Do you think it's okay for people to make noise in public places?

- 1) Yes, I feel that it is generally acceptable for people to make a reasonable level of noise in public places. Social interactions, events, and everyday activities often involve some level of noise, and public spaces accommodate this. However, it's essential to be considerate of others and follow noise regulations to maintain a respectful environment, as public places are spaces which we all have to use. Copy right by An xiao ya.
- 2) I think that people should be aware of how much noise they make in public. Excessive and disruptive noise can disturb others, disrupt the peace, and hinder people's ability to work or enjoy the public spaces which we all share together. It's important for individuals to be mindful of their noise levels and follow local regulations to maintain a peaceful coexistence in public areas.

4. Do you enjoy listening to loud music?

- 1) I am a huge fan of loud and aggressive music, especially in live settings. Nothing hypes me up more than being part of an energetic crowd all rocking out to a loud live show together. Of course, I always take precautions such as wearing earplugs during live gigs so as to not damage my hearing.
- 2) I don't personally enjoy listening to loud music. I find that such genres of music are too intense and often cause me slight anxiety. I much prefer chill, lo-fi music as I find this helps me to study and work. I also tend to avoid live concerts, as they are just too chaotic for me to handle.

31: Chatting (新题)

1. Do you often chat with your friends?

- 1) I try to chat with my friends as much as possible, either in person or over messaging. As a full-time student, speaking with my fellow student friends provides emotional support, alleviates stress, and fosters a sense of belonging, as we are all going through the same thing and understand each other's struggles. I think that frequently chatting with friends is an essential practice for one's wellbeing.
- 2) Unfortunately, I don't often have the opportunity to chat with my friends. The vast majority of my friends are from my hometown. We've all since moved away to different parts of country either for work or university, and thus we seldom find the opportunity to meet up together. Unfortunately, due to our busy schedules, we also struggle to keep in consistent contact online.

2. Do you like chatting with your friends face-to-face or on social media?

- 1) I much prefer talking to my friends face-to-face as opposed to online. That way, I find it a lot easier to feel the warmth of our social interactions and friendship. It's often the case that I am a much better listener and conversationalist in person, when I can see their facial expressions and hear their tone of voice.
- 2) Nowadays, I live far away from most of my closest friends. Although I have friends I talk to in person, my most valued interactions occur over social media with my best friends. These sorts of online platforms also facilitate sharing photos and life updates, which helps me feel more involved in my friends' lives from a distance.

3. Do you like chatting with a group of friends or chatting with just one friend?

- 1) I am quite an introverted person, and so I struggle to carry conversation with more than one person at a time. Sometimes I can feel socially overwhelmed by chatting with so many people and can't think of what to say. I find that, when talking with just one person, I am more able to consider carefully what is being said to me and can then respond with more thoughtful replies.
- 2) There's nothing I love more than meeting up with a large group of my friends to hang out and chat. I often find that social interactions with a large group of my friends give me more energy and help to foster a livelier atmosphere. When I am chatting with just one of my friends, sometimes there are awkward silences in our conversation which I don't know how to fill.

4. Do you ever have disagreements with your friend when you are chatting?

- 1) My friends and I are so alike in character and beliefs that we almost never encounter disagreements during our conversations. Because we are so similar in this regard, we feel as if we share a much closer bond with each other than most friend groups. This way, we can ensure that each of us has a good time whenever we talk to one another.
- 2) I think that it is the mark of true friendship when friends can enter into disagreements with each other, yet still remain friends afterwards. True friends should seek to help each other grow and develop into better people, and challenging each other's ideas and beliefs through disagreements is a marvellous way to accomplish this. Just as much as our more amiable interactions, I also cherish the disagreements I have with my friends.