

安小雅 雅思口语素材 Part1

关于答疑和其他讯息

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如果我觉得素材有错怎么办？

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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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1: Work / Study

Work

这个话题写了 4 套答案，分别是商科、程序员、数据员、家庭主妇。考官不会在意你是做什么的，也不会因此追问。所以其实瞎掰就可以了。

(1) Finance, Programmer, Data Analyst

1. What's your job?

(Finance)

I am currently working in an international commercial institute. My job is to deal with all kinds of financial bills between other companies and us. It is a well-paid job and I like it.

(Programmer)

I am currently working in the business of software development as a programmer, more specifically, I design apps and websites for large companies such as banks, chain-restaurants, and big brands. In general, I work on designing user-friendly interfaces and intuitive app design.

(Automation)

To be honest, I think my job is really cool, I work for a company as an automation engineer. What this means is that I work on both the hardware and software to develop technologies that automate jobs and tasks that previously were performed by human labour.

(Data Analyst)

I am employed by a very large company as a Data Analyst. It is my responsibility to organize and study the various data sets collected by the company. In doing this, I am able to provide advice and insights as to business decisions and strategies the company should employ moving forward.

2. Do you sometimes feel that you have to work too hard?

- 1) There are often times when I feel like I have to work too hard. I have a very difficult job in the city and I am under a lot of pressure from my boss to overwork and meet very high work quotas. This leaves me feeling exhausted and stressed out every day. So, I feel I have to work far too hard.
- 2) For the most part, I feel like my job is quite easy and I rarely feel overworked. I am lucky that I work for a company with a lot of staff so there are many of us working together. This means that we are never understaffed and if I ever need help with a project or an aspect of my job there is someone nearby who can help me.
- 3) Corporate culture is very demanding of its employees, and it is not uncommon for me to find myself having to work overtime every day of the week. This can also include coming into the office on weekends to work full days. I frequently feel that I am overworked, but tell myself that I am laying a strong foundation for a successful future career.

3. What do you like to do just after you finish work every day?

- 1) When I finish work, I like to go out and enjoy the city in the evenings. I will often meet up with my friends and go out for a meal together. Sometimes we may go for a drink afterwards or even go to the cinema and catch the latest release. I like to be social and hang out with my friends when I finish work.
- 2) I like to head home and relax after I finish work every day. I have a very stressful job and by the end of the workday I am exhausted. When I finish work, I like to go home, have a nice dinner and then watch TV or read a book in the evening. I then go to bed early to get ready for the next day.
- 3) After a long day at the office, I like nothing more than to return home and read for a couple of hours. I generally favour self-help or business advice books; books which I think will help me perform more effectively in a professional setting.

(2) Housewife

1. What's your job?

I currently don't have a job so I can stay at home and support my family. I am a stay-at-home mum or what some people call a housewife. I am lucky enough that my husband has a job that can support both of us and our family, so we decided it would be better if I stayed at home to look after the kids.

2. Do you sometimes feel that you have to work too hard?

There are days where I feel like I have to work too hard. I am a stay-at-home mum which means that every day I have a large list of household chores I must complete. I must clean the house, wash clothes, do the grocery shop, cook the meals, and look after the children. I have to do this every single day and it can be very exhausting!

3. What do you like to do just after you finish work every day?

I like to spend time with my children in the evenings. I spend most of my day alone doing housework, so I look forward to the evenings when my children and husband come home from school and work. We eat our dinner together and then will spend time with each other in the evenings playing board games or watching TV.

Study

这个话题写了 5 个专业的，分别是商科、法学、工程、编程、法律和英语专业。其中商科的描述比较笼统，可以套用于任何专业。

考官不会具体问你专业的事情，所以其实瞎掰就可以了。

1. What do you study?

(Finance)

I am a finance studies student, focusing on finance and economic industry. I study a very pragmatic degree that aims to build up social financial systems and the management of financial risk.

(Automation)

I am currently enrolled in the school of automation at my university. I am studying it as a broad subject, which means I explore everything from circuit design to mechanical principles. However, I would like to focus on automation design in my final year.

(Programmer)

I am enrolled in a computer science degree at my university. In short, this means that I learn a variety of different coding languages, from C++ to Python. On top of this, we also learn how to implement these codes towards profitable projects and how to utilize our skills in the business world.

(Drawing)

At university, I major in fine art which means that I study artistic skills and techniques in a practical sense. This is different from art history which looks more at the history of art and the cultural impact of famous artists. I am studying to become a famous artist myself one day.

(Law)

I currently attend a very prestigious law school where I am studying to become a public defender. This entails studying a whole host of different criminal law so that I am in a position to defend all sorts of people who are put on trial.

(English student)

I am currently attending university as an English Language student. I believe that, in this day and age, learning English is an extremely useful tool for anybody who is aiming for a successful international career. It is my hope that by earning a degree in English, I will be able to pursue professional opportunities abroad that I wouldn't have access to otherwise at home.

2. Do you sometimes feel that you have to study too hard?

- 1) I sometimes feel like I have to study too hard. I study a very difficult degree and I have a lot of assignments and deadlines I must meet. This means I spend most of my day reading, researching, and writing. I barely have time to eat a proper lunch or socialise with my friends. I would like it if I didn't have to study so hard.

- 2) I do not feel like I have to study too hard. I have very good time management skills and I study a degree that I do not struggle with. I wake up early in the mornings and I get most of my work done by the early afternoon which means I have plenty of time to relax and hang out with my friends.
 - 3) It is far too often I think to myself that I study too hard. Friends of mine will invite me to hang out or even join them on nights out, but I usually have to turn down these opportunities to study. Sometimes I wonder if I am missing out on valuable experiences that I will reminisce about later, and if it is worth it to study so hard.
3. What do you like to do just after you finish class every day?
- 1) After I finish class each day I like to meet up with my classmates and spend some time doing activities in the city. While at class I find studying very isolating, so I like to do social things once I am done with my classes. Most days we will either go out to a restaurant together or get a coffee in a local café. Sometimes we do more exciting activities such as go bowling or to the arcade.
 - 2) When I finish class each day I like to go back home and relax. I find that my studies are very stressful and they leave me exhausted by the end of the day. As soon as I am done with class there is nothing I want to do more than go home and make myself a relaxing cup of tea. I will normally spend my evenings listening to music or watching my favourite TV programmes.
 - 3) I am an extremely motivated student, so first thing after class, I typically return to my dorm to look over the texts that were discussed and to reread the notes that I took. This ensures that I am less likely to forget any of the points that were raised, and will be in a better position when the time comes to revise for exams.

2: Where you live

这个话题我们写了三套答案，分别是住在市中心，郊区和宿舍

(1) Living in Downtown

1. Where are you living at the moment?

I live in a small apartment downtown in the centre of the city. My apartment is located on top of a small grocery store on a busy high street, so I am right in the centre of all the action. It is always busy outside of my window and I can hear the voices of people passing by at all hours of the day! I find it all quite exciting.

2. What do you like about the area you're living in?

The thing I love most about the area I am living in is that there are things to do at all hours of the day and night. I am what people call a 'night-owl' so I am often awake late into the night. Where I live is perfect for me because if I cannot get to sleep, I can go out and find a late-night café or a shop and spend some time. This is much better than if I had to lay awake alone in a quiet apartment.

3. Do you know many other people who live nearby?

I know a few people who live nearby but not many. My apartment is above a grocery store and not part of a housing complex, so I do not have a lot of direct neighbours. However, there are many people I know from the local restaurants and cafes who do not live too far from me! So, I know a few people who live nearby.

(2) Living in Suburbs

1. Where are you living at the moment?

I live in a nice apartment in a suburb slightly outside of the city centre. My apartment is in a high-rise building that overlooks the city, and my place is on the 7th floor, so I have a decent view of the city. Living slightly out of the centre of town is nice because it means that my apartment is slightly bigger than those you find downtown.

2. What do you like about the area you're living in?

My favourite thing about the area I am living in is that there are loads of interesting things to do but it is also quiet at night-time. The part of the city I live in has loads of interesting shops, restaurants, and bars. I think this is really exciting and I never run out of things to do. But also, I do not have to deal with the constant late-night noise you get living down town.

3. Do you know many other people who live nearby?

I know a lot of people who live nearby! I am lucky that my apartment is part of a large high-rise building so there are dozens of flats in the single building. Because of this I have a lot of neighbours and we are always passing each other when coming in and out of the building or checking our mailboxes. I have dinner or drinks with my neighbours on a regular basis.

(3) Living in Dormitory

1. Where are you living at the moment?

Right now, I am attending university as an undergraduate. This affords me the right to stay in a type of accommodation called 'student halls'. These buildings are occupied exclusively by students and are very crowded, usually with as many as four of us sharing a single room together!

2. What do you like about the area you're living in?

I am fairly happy with the area I live in. It is a central location surrounded by all the shops and services I could ever need. There is also a selection of entertainment facilities in the area, meaning I am never out of options if I want to blow off some steam with my fellow classmates in the evening.

3. Do you know many other people who live nearby?

Living in student accommodation, it is only natural that I know the majority of people who live on the same floor of my building. We will frequently see each other in communal areas and stop for a brief chat. Sometimes we'll even organise dinner parties on the weekend.

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3: Work / Study (新题)

Work

大公司版本

1. Where do you work?

I work in an office for a large company in the inner city. It is a tech company that specializes in security and antivirus software. I work with hundreds of other people and we supply our service across the country.

2. Is it a good place to work?

I think it is a very good place to work. I have a decent pay and there is a large team I work with so it never feels too stressful. There are always co-workers who can help me with difficult tasks and we bear the load together.

3. Would you like place where you work to make any changes?

I am mostly happy where I work but there are definitely some improvements that could be made. My office does not have a good staff room or a communal area for us to take our lunches. I think these are major changes that would greatly improve working conditions.

打零工版本

1. Where do you work?

I work in a small café in a suburb on the outskirts of the city. My job is mainly waiting tables, making coffee, and delivering food. I have worked there for a year or so now while I finish my studies.

2. Is it a good place to work?

It is not the best place to work as the pay is not very high and I do not find the work very stimulating or rewarding. My coworkers are nice, as are the customers, and the place is very pretty, but I would prefer a more exciting and rewarding job sometime in the future.

3. Would you like place where you work to make any changes?

There are no changes I would want made to the place I work. The staff are nice and the managers are respectful. They care about me, the cliental are sweet and kind, and the place has a wonderful energy to be in. For what the job is, it's great!

家庭主妇版本

待补充

Study

通用版本

1. Where do you study?

I study at USST which is the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology. I am studying engineering with a minor in software development. I moved away from my small hometown to study here so it is a very big change to the lifestyle I am used to.

2. Is it a good place to study?

I think USST is a brilliant place to study if you are interested in my area of study. Things like engineering, software development, and the study of science and technology are brilliant subjects to study at USST. Obviously, it is not the best place to study art or music.

3. Would you like the place where you study to make any changes?

If I could I would like to make some changes to the place I study. USST is a very intense University. They set a lot of work and there are constantly more exams and essays. There is too much work and it would be nice if there was more time for relaxation.

艺术版本

1. Where do you study?

I study at one of the art colleges in the city I live in. There are a few art colleges but the one I study in specializes in modern art and performance art which is the field I want to create my artworks in.

2. Is it a good place to study?

I do not know if my college is the best place to study! It is full of wonderful people and I am making great connections but the teaching is very casual and relaxed. They kind of let us just do our own thing, which is great for creative freedom but not too good if you want to study.

3. Would you like the place where you study to make any changes?

The biggest changes I would want to make to the place I study would be the introduction of more teaching hours and a focus on teaching new technique and art history. There is a little too much freedom in the place I study and it would be better if there was a stronger sense of structure.

4: Where you live (新题)

住家的

1. How long have you lived in your area?

I have lived in my area only a few years. I came here from my small hometown. I now live in a very large city so this is a new experience for me and sometimes it can be overwhelming!

2. Do people of all ages live in your area?

Yes, people of all ages live in my area. This is a large metropolitan city so there are people from all walks of life, young and old. My specific neighbourhood is where a lot of the university students live, so there are many 20 year olds.

3. Is the area where you live a friendly place?

I think where I live is a friendly place but with all cities there are some parts that are more dangerous and less friendly than others. Most people are nice but there are parts of town where people go to drink and these are not always the friendliest places.

住宿舍的

1. How long have you lived in your area?

I have lived in this area for about three years now. I first moved here when I came to study at the university. I have been living in the dormitory of the university with the other students ever since I arrived.

2. Do people of all ages live in your area?

No, there is quite a specific age range to the people who live in my area. As I live in the dormitory of a university pretty much everyone who lives here is between the ages of 18 and 22. We are all studying our degrees and will move away once we have graduated.

3. Is the area where you live a friendly place?

Where I live is a very friendly place! We are all students so there is a great sense of camaraderie between us. We are all doing the same thing and all have to study hard, so we respect each other and get on well. We like to play games and watch TV to relax together.

5: Birthdays

1. What do you normally do on your birthday?
 - 1) Each year on my birthday, what I enjoy most is to throw a birthday party for myself in celebration. I will typically invite all my closest friends and family over to enjoy a meal, have a few drinks, and just generally have a merry time together.
 - 2) I am very private person. Because of this, I don't like too much attention to be given to my birthday. Normally I will enjoy a quiet evening to myself, perhaps ordering some take-out from my favourite restaurant to treat myself.
2. What did you like to do on your birthday when you were a child?
 - 1) When I was a child, my favourite part of my birthdays was always the special presents and sweets I would be given as part of the celebration. I would like nothing more than to spend my birthday parties playing with the new toys given to me by my friends and family, and eating some delicious birthday cake.
 - 2) The fondest memories I have of my childhood birthday parties would be the outings and trips my parents would take me on. They would often take me to theme parks and amusement centres to celebrate my special day.
3. How important are birthdays to you now?
 - 1) As I have grown older, my birthday has become less an important part of my life. Now that I am an adult, I have little time to set aside for birthday parties and get-togethers. What's more, as a person grows up, each new age becomes less of an important milestone in their life, and so a birthday becomes just like any other day.
 - 2) Even as an adult, birthdays are still quite dear to me. Whether it is my own birthday or that of someone close to me, birthdays allow people to gather with friends and to enjoy a well-deserved break from life's responsibilities.
4. Which birthdays are most important in your country?
 - 1) For most people, they remember their 18th birthday as the most important. This is because a person is generally considered to have become an adult when they turn 18. A person will then have access to many things that they didn't before. They can buy alcohol, get married, and can move out on their own to be independent.
 - 2) A lot of families will consider a child's 1st birthday to be their most important. As their first ever birthday, it will become a valuable memory for any parent, and promises a happy future of watching their child develop and grow. Any family photo album is likely to contain many pictures of a child's 1st birthday.

6: Technology

1. What types of technology do you use most?

- 1) I think nowadays the piece of technology which sees the most use in a person's life is their phone. It is certainly true for me anyhow. I am constantly checking my phone throughout the day for important work-related emails, or simply entertaining messages from friends.
- 2) With the recent rise of remote working, I find myself using my laptop more than any other piece of technology that I own. Though it is an essential tool for my work and helps me earn a living, it also provides me with entertainment through social media and online videos.

2. Do you like using technology?

- 1) I very much enjoy making use of technology. Modern technology has enhanced my life in so many ways, that it is impossible to imagine my life the same way without it. Software developers have become so proficient in their jobs nowadays that I often find using technology to be quite pleasing and satisfying.
- 2) I am bad at using technology, so I rarely enjoy the times where I have to make use of new devices. I find the whole thing to be quite confusing, so for me, using technology is a frustrating and often time-consuming endeavour. I much prefer methods which I am used to, such as pen and paper.

3. Is there a piece of technology that you would like to buy?

- 1) I am interested in owning a 3D printer. I enjoy carrying out various projects and making repairs to things that have become damaged throughout the house. It would also enable me to embark on creative pursuits, such as printing my own toys and figurines.
- 2) I feel that using technology too much can be harmful for people. Because of this, there are not many new technologies that I want to buy. I am happy with what I already own, and can live my life without purchasing anything new.

4. What made you choose the last piece of technology you bought?

- 1) The last piece of technology I bought was an eReader device. I am an avid reader, and like nothing more than to spend my evenings sitting with a good book. However, the number of books I was purchasing was beginning to take up too much space. With my new eReader however, I am able to keep all my books together without making a mess.
- 2) I recently bought a Fitbit. This is a wearable piece of smart technology designed to promote fitness and physical wellbeing. Over the past year, I have gained a little weight and am struggling to lose it again by myself. I hope that the Fitbit will keep me focused on my weight loss goals, and I can eventually be in good shape once again.

7: Writing

1. What kinds of things do you write during a typical day?
 - 1) Throughout the day I tend to use writing as a tool to keep myself organised. I will write a schedule of the most important things I have to do on any particular day on a piece of paper, and mark them off the list as I accomplish them.
 - 2) I think it is important to write down ideas which may come to me during the day in case I forget them later. These can range anywhere from business plans and entrepreneurial ideas, or more creative visions such as short story outlines.
2. Do you prefer typing or writing things by hand?
 - 1) If I had to choose between writing via a keyboard or a pen, I would definitely choose the former. I am a fairly skilled typist, so the speed at which I can write with a keyboard is much faster than writing by hand. Therefore, with typing I am far more productive and efficient than I could hope to be writing by hand.
 - 2) I take a lot of pride in my handwriting, so always prefer writing things down by hand as opposed to typing. I practice handwriting as a hobby and have spent many hours towards ensuring my handwriting is as beautiful as possible. Choosing to use a keyboard instead not only stops me from practicing but is also much less visually pleasing to me.
3. Did you like writing when you were a child?
 - 1) Back in primary school, myself and my classmates were required to take handwriting classes to ensure that we learnt the necessary skills to read and write in proper handwriting. I always struggled in these classes, and because of this, I had an intense dislike for writing during my childhood.
 - 2) When I was a child, I would love to write in my free time. I was always taking the opportunity to write down little stories and poems I would think up. My parents have kept a lot of my childhood writings, and I always look back on them with fondness.
4. Do you think the kinds of things you write will change in the future?
 - 1) I very much doubt the sorts of things I write will change over the coming years. My daily routine does not change much and I cannot see why I would have to write more than a shopping list or the occasional reminder.
 - 2) Life can change very quickly without warning. So, it is likely that the types of things I will have to write in the future will change. For example, I might change jobs which would require me to write notes on my new duties.

8: Geography

(things like countries and maps)

1. Did/do you study geography at school?

- 1) Geography was a mandatory subject of my school curriculum. In general, all schoolchildren are better off with an education of the world around them. This not only serves to make them more knowledgeable in general, but also gives them a greater understanding of how the world is, which will be useful in later life.
- 2) I remember studying geography throughout primary and middle school. However, I never really paid much attention during my geography classes. I always thought it was more useful to learn things which would prepare me to live and work within my home country, and so was less interested in learning about the geography of foreign nations.

2. Do you enjoy learning about the geography of other countries?

- 1) My favourite thing in the world is to travel, and because of this, I simply adore learning the geographies of other countries. It is not only useful for my hobby, but also extremely interesting and helps me to be more openminded and understanding of people I meet from all over the world.
- 2) I do not consider the geography of other countries to be all that valuable knowledge. This might be because I do not have any future plans to leave my own country, and therefore would consider such knowledge to be unnecessary. Learning foreign geographies would simply be a waste of time for me.

3. Is there a country you'd like to visit because of its geography?

- 1) In the future, I'd very much like to explore the geography of China. I am fascinated by the breath-taking scale of its bodies of water such as the Yangtze River and the Qinghai Lake. Being such a large country, there is also a wide range of terrain like mountains, deserts, and steppes.
- 2) A country's geography I have always been very interested in is that of Iceland. Someday, if I ever have enough money, I would like to visit in order to see the black-sand beaches of its southern coast.

4. How good are you at reading maps?

- 1) Having studied geography at school, I am able to read maps very well as an adult. I can not only use maps to understand which directions I should take, but also to learn about the landscape around me.
- 2) I am pretty useless at reading maps. I find them far too confusing and have never really been able to figure out where I am by looking at a map. Besides, nowadays we all have access to electronic maps which can pinpoint exactly where we are and tell us where to go in clearer detail.

9: Weather

1. How often do you check the weather forecast?
 - 1) I often find myself out of the house throughout the day. Because of this, knowing the weather in advance is very important to me, otherwise I could be caught in a rainstorm. I will generally check the weather forecast at the beginning of each day to plan around it and, will continue to check it as the day progresses to ensure that nothing changes unexpectedly.
 - 2) I am a fulltime student so spend the majority of my time indoors studying. Subsequently, I have little reason to browse the weather forecast as it only very rarely affects me. Whether it is pouring rain outside or blistering heat, I will always remain comfortable indoors.
2. Do you generally prefer hot weather or cold weather?
 - 1) I look forward to every summer as I simply love the heat. It is not only that I prefer the feel of the heat to the cold, but that during hot weather, there are also far more activities one can participate in outside. When it's hot, I can tan on the beach, go for hikes, and socialise with my friends in the park.
 - 2) I find that I am much more able to adapt to cold weather than I am to hot weather. If I'm ever feeling too cold, I am able to simply put on more layers of warm clothing in order to make myself comfortable. In the heat, I am forced to sweat uncomfortably without being able to do much in response.
3. Has the weather changed much in recent years in your country?
 - 1) It seems that with each passing year, the summer arrives earlier and is somewhat hotter than the one before. Many have pointed to global warming to explain these changing weather patterns. Though some people seemingly enjoy these hotter summers, many others find the shifting weather concerning.
 - 2) Though I often hear reports about the changing weather, in my own country I have not noticed any real changes. I live in a region where the weather is similar all year round, so I would likely struggle to notice changes in the weather even if they did happen.
4. Would you like to live in a place that has a very different climate from your country?
 - 1) I live in the south of China where it is very hot. Though I have always been slightly uncomfortable with the weather, I don't think I would ever go so far as to move abroad for a new climate. Luckily, China is a country with many varieties of weather, and so I plan someday to move across country to a region in which I will be more comfortable.
 - 2) I find that overall, I am very comfortable living in the climate of my home country. Moreover, the climate of China is so diverse, that if I ever wanted to move someplace with different weather, I could simply move from the north to the south, where it is more temperate.

10: Mornings times

1. Do you like getting up early in the morning?

- 1) I am definitely a morning person. I try to keep to a routine of waking early each morning in order to pack as many activities into my day as possible. Getting up early also ensures I have more time to prepare myself for the rest of the day, and can tackle my tasks as efficiently as possible.
- 2) I am something of a night owl and enjoy staying up late in the evenings. This has the effect that getting up early in the mornings can be hard for me. I will be tired and annoyed throughout the day which makes me a less productive person.

2. Do you eat breakfast at home every morning?

- 1) I believe that no morning routine is complete without a decent breakfast. Eating something in the morning gives people the energy to begin their day and also helps them to think clearer. As a frugal person myself, I tend to make my own breakfast at home, rather than spending money at a café or bakery.
- 2) My mornings are usually extremely hectic. Because of this, spending the extra time to make breakfast at home each morning is impossible for me. Though I often try to grab something whilst commuting from a food stall or café, sometimes it happens that I skip breakfast entirely.

3. Do you have the same morning routine every day of the week?

- 1) My morning routine varies very little from day to day. This allows me to get through my mornings as quickly and as efficiently as possible without giving it too much thought. I would recommend that everyone adhere to such a routine.
- 2) Not every day of the week is the same for me, so it follows that my morning routine can change depending on what I am doing that day. Though I typically spend the mornings of my weekdays preparing for classes, my weekends can be completely different. Sometimes I even like to sleep in and won't do anything in the mornings at all!

4. Are your mornings very different now from when you were younger?

- 1) My mornings as an adult are not too different from when I was a child. As a child attending school, everyday I would follow a routine of: waking up early, dressing and grooming myself, eating breakfast, and commuting to school to avoid being late. The difference now is that I no longer require the help of my parents to accomplish this!
- 2) My life as an adult is very different from when I was a child, and so are my mornings. Whereas as a child, I would spend many mornings in front of the television watching cartoons, nowadays I often use my mornings to study before my class begins, or to practice my English language vocabulary.

11: Housework and cooking

(for example cleaning, tidying or cooking)

1. Did you do anything to help at home when you were younger?

- 1) When I was young, my parents would assign me little tasks to contribute to the household. Even though these would be small chores, such as washing the dishes or taking out the rubbish, I enjoyed the sense of responsibility I received from them. They really helped me feel like a valued member of the house.
- 2) I was an extremely lazy and rebellious child. I wouldn't do so much as lift a finger to help my parents around the house. Though they would assign me chores and housework to do in the evenings when I returned from school, I would usually ignore these to play with my toys in my room.

2. Do you do a lot of cooking at home now?

- 1) Cooking is a favourite hobby of mine. I find preparing a meal to be calming, and so cooking helps to relax me whenever I am stressed. It is also a sensible and economic alternative to eating out or ordering take-out, which I try to avoid as much as possible.
- 2) I am a little embarrassed to admit that I never learnt to cook. Now, as an adult, I find it confusing and will usually make a mess of whatever it is I try to cook on the seldom occasions that I attempt it. I much prefer eating out instead as any professional chef can surely make a much better dish than I can.

3. Do you like everything to be very tidy at home?

- 1) I like to keep my home tidy. I find that an untidy house directly affects my mood so that I am more nervous than usual until I clean up. Because of this, I do my best to clean up any small messes I notice around the house before they become unmanageable.
- 2) As a fairly easy-going person, I don't really mind at all if my home is a little cluttered here and there. As long as I know where everything is, I don't see much importance in organising every single thing in my house. It is time and effort I would much prefer to spend elsewhere.

4. Is there a job at home that you really don't enjoy doing?

- 1) Doing the dishes is one household task that I particularly dislike. Having to deal with the leftover food that washes off in the sink disgusts me. If I ever have the money, I would buy a washing machine to avoid doing this chore.
- 2) As a cleanly person, cleaning the toilet is a very unpleasant job at home. On the one hand, it has to be cleaned in order for me to feel comfortable about the cleanliness of my bathroom. On the other, I find it disgusting and wish I didn't have to do it.

12: Public transport

1. Do you often travel on public transport?

As a fulltime student, I live in student dorms located on my university campus. Because of this, I have no need for public transport as I can easily travel to all of my classes by foot or by bike. To pay for public transport would be an unnecessary cost which I would never use.

I basically never use public transport if I can avoid it. I find that conditions of the metro or the bus are far too crowded for me to be comfortable, and I will sweat uncomfortably throughout the trip. I use a bicycle instead to travel about the city.

2. Did you use public transport when you were a child?

- 1) I was very independent as a child, which my parents encouraged. They taught me how to purchase a child fare ticket at the bus station, and I would use it to catch the bus to school every morning. I would also use public transport alongside my parents whenever we would go on family outings as we did not own a car.
- 2) When I was a child, my parents did not feel comfortable allowing me on public transportation. They were worried for my safety around such dangerous machines, or perhaps even feared that I could have been kidnapped by a stranger. Instead, we would all travel together in the family car to wherever we needed to be.

3. Do many people use public transport in your country?

- 1) Where I live, public transportation is by far the most popular means of getting from A to B. I live in a densely populated area, so it is often too crowded on the roads for a car to be a viable means of transport. Because of this, most people rely on the underground metro system in navigating the city.
- 2) In my country, it is not too common for people to make use of public transportation. The infrastructure for public transport here is old and obsolete, and the government does not allot enough funding to see to its upkeep or restoration. Most people therefore prefer to drive or cycle than to use public transport.

4. Will you use public transport more in the future?

- 1) I think that we should all aim to make greater use of public transport in the future. City spaces are already too crowded with cars and mopeds which can be reduced by travelling via public transport more often.
- 2) I have plans in the future to buy my own personal car. Because of this, I don't expect to be making the same use of public transportation that I do now in a few years. I imagine that I will feel a greater sense of freedom being able to travel anywhere I want to, and not just along bus routes and train lines.

13: Puzzles

1. Did you enjoy doing puzzles when you were a child?
 - 1) Whereas other children my age preferred playing with toy race cars and action figures, I was always fascinated by puzzles. Whether it be sudoku, crosswords, or a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle, I always chose to exercise my brain rather than my imagination.
 - 2) I never liked doing puzzles as a child. I would often become frustrated or upset with myself whenever a puzzle proved too challenging for me to complete, so I preferred to avoid them entirely. Besides, I was an active child and preferred sports and athletics to puzzles and brainteasers.
2. Which do you find easier to do: word puzzles or number puzzles?
 - 1) I generally find that it is easier for me to understand word puzzles than number puzzles. I think this is because I use language every day and come into contact with it more often. Number puzzles, however, require a more specialist form of analytical thinking.
 - 2) I think number puzzles are simpler than word puzzles. With word puzzles, the problem could easily be a word that the solver simply doesn't know. Maths, on the other hand, is unchanging, so everyone has the same chance of solving it.
3. Would you ever do a puzzle when you're travelling?
 - 1) I think that puzzles are a great way to pass the time during one's downtime. Because of this, they are perfectly suited to travelling and road trips. A train journey of several hours can feel much shorter if I have a couple of puzzles to do on the way.
 - 2) Personally, I would not be interested in attempting puzzles as I am travelling. Whenever I travel, I usually amuse myself with my phone, or select a book to take along with me. I consider these options to be far more enjoyable than puzzles.
4. Do you think doing puzzles is a good way for older people to spend their free time?
 - 1) Puzzles are an excellent way for older people to spend their free time. Seniors often struggle with feelings of loneliness, and puzzles can be a valuable distraction from such emotions. They also help to keep a person's mind sharp and alert, which is a valuable quality for older people.
 - 2) I think older people should have better things to do with their free time than attempting to solve puzzles. To me, puzzles are games for children to keep them occupied and entertained. Old people should find other pastimes more befitting of an adult.

14: Names

1. Does anyone in your family have the same name as you?
 - 1) When I was born, my parents decided that they wanted to give me a unique name. Because of this, no one in the family shares my name. In fact, it is very seldom that I encounter anyone in my country with the same name as me.
 - 2) Yes, the second character of my name is the same as my cousins'. It's considered a tradition in my hometown that people of the same generation share a word as part of their name. I think this is a totally boring tradition.
2. Does your name have any meaning?
 - 1) Yes, my Chinese name comes from an idiom, which means that my parents want me to live a happy life. I've met a lot of people with the same name, but I still very much appreciate it.
 - 2) I once asked my parents why they gave me my name. They told me it was a very memorable name which sounded nice. Actually, I hold the same opinion.
3. What name would you choose to give a child?
 - 1) Well, I haven't thought much about this question. Maybe I will choose a unique name for my kid so that there aren't many people holding the same name as he or she!
 - 2) I think I will choose a memorable name for my child. I find that nowadays parents use idioms or common words to name their children. In my opinion, a baby's name just needs to sound good.
4. Are some names more popular than others in your country?
 - 1) Yes. I find that people of individual generations share a lot of the same names. For example, people in the '80s had very common names, like JianGuo, but those names were largely absent from children born in the '90s.
 - 2) Yes. I find that people from the same place have a lot of the same names. For example, in my hometown, Xiao Tong is a very common name, but I don't see it in other places. This is because China is very big, and the names that families give their children in the south and the north can be very different.

15: Singing

1. Did you learn to sing when you were at school?

- 1) I was first taught to sing during my adolescence at school. The school I attended as a child had a school choir formed of us students. This means that every student was required to take singing lessons and to attend choir practice.
- 2) I never learnt how to sing back when I was at school. In my school, music classes were entirely optional, and I chose not to take them. Even then, many of the students who took these classes did not sing, and learnt a different instrument instead.

2. Would you ever sing with other people now?

- 1) I sing with other people all the time. I have a deep love of music, and to me, no instrument is more accessible than the human voice as everybody has one! In my experience, nothing can bring people together quite like singing a familiar song in harmony.
- 2) I suffer from intense performance anxiety and stage fright, so I can't ever imagine singing with another person. The potential embarrassment of singing poorly in front of someone else is just too scary for me to ever try it. It is unfortunate, because I really do enjoy singing.

3. Do you like listening to other people sing?

- 1) As a music lover, I deeply appreciate the sound of the human voice. Though technically anybody can sing, there are comparatively few people who can actually do it well. So, whenever I hear the sound of impressive singing, I am beyond delighted.
- 2) Personally, I cannot stand the sound of people singing. Whenever I listen to music, I take care to make sure that the tracks are exclusively instrumental. I find vocals to be annoying, and having to focus on the lyrics distracts me from the music itself.

4. Do you think singing can make people feel happy?

- 1) It has been proven that singing can cause the brain to release endorphins, a chemical that helps to lighten a person's mood. This can explain why some people will sing to themselves during times of stress, or why parents will sing lullabies to their children to calm them down.
- 2) I don't really see how it could be possible that singing can make people happy. I see it as practicing a skill like any other. I understand how perhaps becoming good at it could engender a sense of accomplishment. But happiness? Not so much.

16: Social media

1. How often do you use social media?

- 1) I don't think it's possible to navigate the modern world without using social media at least once per day. I don't only use it to check what my friends and family are up to, but also for more practical tasks such as finding events and communicating with people.
- 2) I refrain from using social media as much as possible. In fact, last week I even deleted my Facebook account and have felt much better ever since. I don't believe it is healthy for people to be constantly checking in on their socials all the time.

2. Did you use social media more in the past?

- 1) I used to use social media a lot more in the past as a teenager than I do today as an adult. At that age, social drama is a large part of one's life, so people are glued to their phones to keep up to date on the latest gossip. Nowadays, these things are unimportant to me, and my use of social media has decreased significantly.
- 2) In the past, I was newer to social media, and so didn't know how it worked. Subsequently, I didn't use it all that much because I couldn't figure out how to do anything useful with it. Now, years later, I have had a lot of time to acclimatise to how these apps work, and use them as part of my everyday life.

3. Do you think your friends use social media too much?

- 1) I am always telling my friends to cut down on the amount they use social media. Whenever we are hanging out together, I can't have more than a five-minute conversation before somebody inevitably takes out their phone and starts scrolling. It drives me mad!
- 2) I don't believe that my friends use social media too much at all. We all live fairly close to each other, so can catch up regularly in person without having to rely on social media. This means that we generally only use it to find cool events and gigs happening in our town.

4. Would you like to work in social media in the future?

- 1) I imagine that working in social media could be an interesting experience. I have a deep fascination with data analytics, and being on the inside of that process would be a truly rewarding experience for me. I hope someday to be employed in that field.
- 2) I couldn't ever see myself working for a social media company in the future. I believe that both the apps and the companies themselves have a detrimental influence on the world. I just wouldn't be able to live with myself if I ended up contributing to their success.

17: Snacks

1. When you were a child, did you have a favourite snack?

- 1) By far my favourite childhood snack was chocolate spread on a slice of bread. I didn't have much experience preparing food as a child, but this snack was simple enough for me to be able to make on my own. To this day I will still occasionally eat it if I'm ever feeling nostalgic for my childhood.
- 2) I really loved sweets when I was a child. Because of this, I didn't exactly have any one particular favourite snack, but would devour anything sweet that I could get my hands on. My parents even had to limit the amount of sugar I was allowed each day.

2. When do you eat snacks now?

- 1) Nowadays, I mostly eat snacks if I have neglected to give myself a proper meal. For example, I am often too busy in the afternoons to prepare lunch for myself. So, instead of going hungry, I will simply snack on crisps or fruit until dinnertime in the evening.
- 2) I try my best to keep in shape and healthy, so I almost never snack. I keep to a meal plan and do not eat anything outside of those specific time periods. Snacking has no place in my daily schedule lest I lose progress on my fitness goals.

3. Would you choose a snack that is healthy, or a snack that tastes good?

- 1) For me, the entire point of snacking is for the taste of it. Therefore, I always choose the snacks which I enjoy the taste of the most. I never even pay attention to how many calories a snack might contain; as long as it's delicious, I'll eat it.
- 2) Recently, I have been trying more and more to go for the healthy snacks. I am in the habit of overeating, and am currently trying to lose weight. However, it has proven difficult to cut out the habit of snacking altogether. So, I have started replacing the snacks themselves with healthier equivalents.

4. Do people in your country often eat snacks between meals?

- 1) In my country, people are constantly snacking in between meals. It has even become a public health concern, as our obesity rates are now higher than they've ever been in my country's history. Although I think everyone can enjoy a snack here and there, people should be more sensible about how much they consume and how often.
- 2) It is not too common for people in my country to eat snacks between meals. Most people are usually too busy throughout the day to think about snacking. We are also extremely proud of our national cuisine, and wouldn't want to ruin our appetites for lunch and dinner by snacking.

18: Libraries (新题)

1. How often do you visit a library?

- 1) I visit the library very frequently. I am in the middle of my studies at university and I am constantly writing essays, studying for exams, and learning new materials. Therefore, I am in the library almost every day doing something related to my studies. My friends tell me I practically live there!
- 2) I do not visit the library very often at all. To be quite honest, I am not that much of a bookworm. I find reading tedious and boring. Therefore, spending time in the library is my idea of hell! I would go as far as to say I actively avoid the library at all costs.

2. Do you like to work in a library?

- 1) I could see myself working for a library sometime in the future. On the one hand, I am a studious person and I like reading books, so a library is my idea of heaven! On the other hand, libraries are very relaxing places and the job is not stressful. That sounds like a good deal to me.
- 2) Working in a library is one of my least favourite things to do. I find the atmosphere in a library very oppressive. It is always so silent and the energy in the air is quite tense. This makes me uncomfortable and I find I work quite poorly in most libraries.

3. Did you use a library more when you were younger?

- 1) I did not use a library more when I was younger. To be honest, when I was growing up I spent most of my time watching TV or playing video games with my friends. I did not read a lot as a kid, so I did not spend a lot of time in libraries. Now that I am a student, I spend far more time in libraries.
- 2) I would say that I used libraries a lot more frequently when I was younger. When I was a kid, the library was a fun place where I could discover a new picture book or children's book and relax with it. So, I went to the library a lot. Nowadays, the only thing I do in the library is study, so I do not want to go there as often.

4. How common is it for children to visit libraries in your country?

- 1) I think it is very **usual** for children to visit libraries in my country. In China we have a strong culture of hard work and self-improvement, this is first taught to us when we are children. So, many parents will often take their children to libraries to foster good reading habits and encourage them to study.
- 2) It is not all that common for children to visit libraries in my country. Nowadays, most kids spend their time playing mobile games on their phone or watching TV. Children do not want to spend time reading and certainly do not want to spend time in libraries anymore.

19: Staying up late (新题)

1. Do you often go to bed very late?

- 1) I must admit, I have a bad habit of staying up very late into the evenings. Sometimes I stay up late because I have a big exam and I need to study. Sometimes I am just mindlessly scrolling on TikTok. Whatever the case, I wake up tired and grumpy every time!
- 2) I have a very healthy sleep schedule and so I seldom go to bed very late. I am what they call an early riser, so I am normally awake each day by 7:30am at the latest. This means that I get very tired in the early evenings and I am normally asleep in bed by 9pm or 10pm!

2. Did you stay up late when you were a child?

- 1) Yes, I used to stay up late when I was a child. I was quite rebellious and I always hated going to bed! But even when my parents sent me to my bedroom, I would stay up late into the night reading and playing games. I would always feel so restless and excited when the sun started going down. So, I could never go to sleep early.
- 2) No, I never used to stay up late when I was a child. I had very strict parents when I was growing up and my bedtime was one of the things that was non-negotiable. As soon as it was 8pm I was supposed to be asleep, in bed, with the lights out. Anna, So, Yasi, I would normally go up to bed a little earlier than that to keep my parents happy.

3. How do you feel the next morning after a late night?

- 1) To be honest, after a late night I do not feel the worst. I know some people who are miserable after a late night, or who cannot concentrate and become easily irritated all day. For me, I am just a little sleepy and maybe a bit grumpy until I get a mug of tea or a cup of coffee!
- 2) I feel horrendous the next morning when I have not had a proper night's sleep. If I have a late night, I am miserable and I cannot focus on anything all day. I lose all productivity and become frustrated at the slightest inconveniences.

4. What do you like to do when you stay up late?

- 1) When I stay up late my favourite thing to do is to watch my favourite TV programs or play on apps like TikTok or Honor of Kings. I have some friends who also stay up late and sometimes we play games together or chat to each other late into the night. I work and study very hard during the day so in the evening I like to relax and entertain myself.
- 2) When I do stay up late, I like to do something relaxing such as listening to music or reading. Even if I am not going to sleep, I still get very tired in the late evenings and so I cannot do anything strenuous or too engaging. That is why reading or listening to music are perfect late-night activities for me.

20: Chocolate (新题)

1. How often do you eat chocolate?

- 1) I must admit a vice of mine, I have a very sweet tooth. I think I probably eat chocolate at least every day, sometimes I eat it multiple times a day. There are so many different types of chocolate and almost all of them taste delicious to me! I know it is a bad habit but I just can't control myself.
- 2) AnnaYasi, Compared to most people, I eat chocolate very infrequently. I have never particularly had a taste for desserts and sweet foods. I much prefer savoury and umami flavours. So, I only eat chocolate every once in a while when the opportunity arises.

2. Have you ever given someone chocolate as a present

- 1) I have often used chocolate as a gift to give to people on special occasions and times of celebration. I think chocolate makes an excellent gift because everybody loves chocolate! It is far less complicated than presents such as nice watches, new clothes, books, or gadgets, of which it is very easy to accidentally buy someone a gift they do not like!
- 2) No, I have never used chocolate as a gift before. Personally, I think a box of chocolates is a pretty bad gift. Giving somebody chocolates is so impersonal and lazy. Anyone can give somebody a box of chocolates. If I am going to give someone a present, I would put more thought in and gift something personal to them.

3. Did you like chocolate when you were younger?

- 1) Yes, when I was a child I adored chocolate! I could never get enough of it! My parents would use chocolate as a reward for me completing my homework or helping them with chores. I was always trying to find more housework in the hopes of receiving chocolate as a reward.
- 2) No, I never much cared for chocolate when I was a child. Most children love chocolate and cannot get enough of it, but I was different. I would much rather have some fresh fruit for dessert than a chocolate cake or pudding. I always found the chocolate far too rich!

4. Why is chocolate so popular in many parts of the world?

- 1) I think chocolate is so popular in many parts of the world because it is versatile and has such a unique flavour. On the one hand, there are all different sorts of chocolate and ways of preparing it. From simple bars of chocolate to truffles and moose. On the other hand, chocolate is such a unique blend of bitter and sweet that there is nothing that compares to it!
- 2) Personally, I think chocolate is so popular all over the world mainly because it is overrated. Chocolate is not actually that good. The only reason we eat it everywhere is because it was a product of colonialism. When Europe colonized the Americas, they exported huge amounts of chocolate and sold it as a luxury item. That is why it is so popular everywhere.

21: Music (新题)

1. What kind of music do you enjoy?

- 1) My favourite type of music is classical music. I think classical music is the perfect form of music. It is so precise, well-crafted, and elegant. I frequently listen to classical composers such as Bach, Chopin, and Mozart. But I also like modern classical musicians such as Tan Dun and Chen Yi.
- 2) My favourite type of music is K-pop and J-pop. I got into this type of music when I was younger and first downloaded TikTok. So many TikTok's would be made using the music of groups like BTS and I thought the vocals and the beats were incredible!

2. Is there any kind of music that you don't enjoy very much?

- 1) Yes, there are a few genres of music that I really don't enjoy very much at all. All of my friends have started listening to K-Pop and J-Pop. I find this type of music boring and irritating and it frustrates me how much I have to hear it. It is in commercials, TV shows, and my friends play it all the time.
- 2) To be honest, I like most genres of music. I think there is something to be enjoyed in all genres of music. Sometimes certain genres just have to be listened to in the right mood. For example, classical music when you are sad or relaxed and rap music when you are angry. Though, to be honest, I don't really like jazz music.

3. Are there any musicians you would like to see in a live concert?

- 1) Ever since I was a small child it has been my absolute dream to go see the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra. Not too long ago Xiaogang Ye performed 'Songs of the Earth' and apparently it was a brilliant and unforgettable performance. One night at the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra would bring me a lifetime of joy.
- 2) I have always wanted to see BTS perform a live concert. The thing about a BTS performance is that so much money goes into the production and the performance. They always have the best lighting, the best visual effects, and the best choreography money can buy! But tickets are so expensive I don't know if I will ever be able to go.

4. Have you always listened to the same kind of music as your friends?

- 1) No, I have never really listened to the same kind of music as my friends. Throughout school and in my adult life I have always stood out as having a strange and uncommon music taste. Most of my friends listen to more modern and popular music.
- 2) Yes, for the most part I have always listened to the same kind of music as my friends. It isn't really surprising, my friends and I watch the same TV shows, use the same social media, and go to the same places so we are all exposed to the same types of music.

22: Art (新题)

1. Which one do you like, modern art or traditional art?

- 1) I prefer traditional art to modern art. Personally, I think that modern art is very confusing and a lot of the time I cannot tell the difference between the work of a famous modern artist and the drawings of a five year old child. I believe that traditional artists have far more skill, discipline, and craft.
- 2) I have always really liked modern art. I think modern art is daring and exciting. You never know what to expect with modern art! In contrast, traditional art can be pretty boring and repetitive, it does not excite me at all. I just wish there were more modern art galleries in Anna, China IELTS.

2. Did you do much art when you were a child?

- 1) I did not do a lot of art when I was a child. I did not grow up in a very creative household and my parents encouraged me to study more rather than engage in painting, crafts, or drawing. So, I hardly did much art at all while I was growing up.
- 2) I was always doing art when I was a child! I did all sorts of different art. I used to love drawing and painting. Then when I got older, I started getting into more complicated forms of art such as pottery and collage making. Most weeks I would end up making some kind of amateur artwork.

3. Do you want to be an artist?

- 1) No, I don't think I would like to be an artist. I do not think I have the personality or sense of creative inspiration that is needed to become a talented artist. It seems like a lot of pressure to me. Moreover, I believe that most people who attempt to become artists are not very successful and end up very poor.
- 2) I would love to be an artist; I think they are the coolest people! Artists are cool, creative, and thoughtful people and I would love to be somebody like that. I believe it would be a lot of fun to spend my days in a studio coming up with new artworks and practicing different artistic techniques.

4. Would you go to an art gallery if you had time?

- 1) To be quite honest, I would not go to an art gallery if I had some free time. I know this opinion may seem uncultured, but I find most art galleries to be boring. I would much rather spend my free time at the cinema or at a good restaurant with my friends.
- 2) Whenever I have the time, I try to visit art galleries. I think passing an afternoon in an art gallery is a great use of time. Not only do you learn about different artists and art history, but you can also become inspired by the beautiful artworks you see around you. You never know what sort of experience you will have in an art gallery.

23: Being happy (新题)

1. What things made you happy when you were a child?

- 1) When I was a child I was always happiest when playing with my friends or with my pets. I loved animals as a child and I had a pet dog who was the most playful dog I have ever known. My friends and I would take him to the park and run around and play fetch. They were my happiest moments.
- 2) When I was a child, the thing that made me the happiest was honestly just playing video games. It may seem like a silly answer but I found video games so exciting. I would play them with my little sister and we would have so much fun fighting dragons, solving puzzles, and completing challenges.

2. Do you feel happy when you buy something new?

- 1) I do not always feel happy when I buy something new. To be honest, I am not the kind of person who is into retail therapy. I buy things when I need them and I try to be sensible in my purchases. Therefore, buying something new doesn't make me feel particularly happy.
- 2) I must admit, I am quite the shopaholic, and I always feel ecstatic when I purchase a new item. I love going to the mall or surfing the web looking the best deal or the hottest new items. It makes me so happy to receive the new item and to use it for the first time!

3. What makes you feel happiest in your studies now?

- 1) What makes me feel happiest in my studies is when I overcome a particularly tricky problem. Sometimes I will be set a task by my boss/professor that I have to complete by a tight deadline. At first this is stressful but I rise to the challenge and I am so happy when I overcome it!
- 2) I would say that the thing that makes me happiest in my studies now are the friends I have made and the people I have met. During my studies I have been exposed to some brilliant researchers and professionals. Meeting these impressive people is always exciting and fills me with joy. I also cherish all the friends I have made along the way.

4. What do you think will bring you happiness in the future?

- 1) I think my future successes will bring me happiness in the future. I am a very ambitious person, and I am driven to succeed and prove myself in all aspects of my life. I look forward to excelling in my job, in my relationships and in my personal growth. I think this will bring me a lot of happiness.
- 2) I think a good social life and a good family life will bring me happiness in the future. I strongly believe that the most important thing in life is the people who around you. I look forward to having a close group of friends and a strong family unit to support me through all the ups and downs life has to bring.

24: Jewelry (新题)

1. Do you often wear jewelry?

- 1) I wear jewelry probably most days of the week, I definitely wear it every weekend. I love to accessorize and I consider myself to have a good fashion sense. I am normally wearing a couple of rings or a necklace as part of my outfit. At the weekends I like to put on a lot of jewelry when I go out.
- 2) I seldom wear jewelry as I believe it is flashy and ostentatious. I don't like drawing attention to myself and prefer to go unnoticed in a crowd so I do not like wearing bright and eye-grabbing items of jewelry. I will only wear jewelry on very special occasions such as attending a wedding.

2. What kind of jewelry do you like to buy?

- 1) I like to buy good high quality jewelry but I do not need items that cost thousands of dollars. I know some people like very expensive jewelry but for me as long as it is well made, and I think it is pretty, then it is good enough for me.
- 2) As I rarely buy or wear jewelry I think it is appropriate that when I do buy jewelry it is expensive, fine-quality jewelry. I will only wear my jewelry a handful of times a year and to very significant events so it is important to me that I am wearing the best jewelry that money can buy.

3. Have you ever bought jewelry for other people?

- 1) Yes, I have bought jewelry for someone else, I do it quite often. I think jewelry makes a wonderful gift and I believe myself to have a very good taste in jewelry. So I have bought jewelry as a gift for my friends and family, especially for my mother. My gifts are always well received.
- 2) No, I do not ever buy jewelry for other people. I believe that jewelry is something very important and very special. Therefore, I think it is only appropriate to buy jewelry for people you love the most in the world, such as a husband or wife. So, I only buy jewelry for myself at the moment.

4. Why do you think some people keep a piece of jewelry for a long time?

- 1) I think some people keep a piece of jewelry for a long time because it is very easy to attach sentimental value to jewelry. I think most people become attached to jewelry and will associate it with an important moment, a special place, or with a person they love. This is why they will keep it for a long time.
- 2) People keep a piece of jewelry for a long time because jewelry is expensive. In some ways, a lot of jewelry is like an investment. A very expensive piece of jewelry can be kept and passed down through the generations, to be sold if anyone ever desperately needs money.

25: Sports (新题)

1. Did you often do sports when you were at school?

- 1) When I was at school I did a lot of sport. I was always a very competitive person at school and on top of that I had quite an athletic build. Because of this I was always the favourite for sport's teams. I played soccer, basketball, tennis, and did long distance running.
- 2) I very rarely did sports when I was at school. I must admit that when at school I did not have the most athletic build. I was slightly overweight and not very strong. So, I was not good at sports at all and I did not have fun playing them. Therefore, I avoided sport in general.

2. What was your favourite sport when you were at school?

- 1) When I was at school my favourite sport was soccer. At my school, soccer was the most popular sport. Everybody wanted to be on the team and those of us who were on the team all became very close friends. There is so much teamwork and sportsmanship involved in football.
- 2) To be honest, I did not have a favourite sport because I hated almost every sport I played. But, if I had to pick one I would say my favourite was running. The only reason for this is that at least running was not a team sport so there were no teammates I could disappoint.

3. Is it important for children to do sport at school?

- 1) I think it is very important for children to do sport at school. Across the world, childhood obesity is becoming a rampant problem. I think one of the reasons for this is that children don't exercise properly. This is why it is so important for children to do sports at school.
- 2) I think people often overvalue the importance of children doing sport at school. Sure, it is important for children to exercise but that isn't necessarily something they should have to do at school. School should be about study and learning. Sport just creates unhealthy competition between students.

4. Were any of your school friends very good at sport?

- 1) Loads of my school friends were very good at sports. I was on a lot of the school sports teams so most of my friends were people from these teams. Because of this, most of my friends are athletic, sporty types.
- 2) No, the majority of my friends were not very athletic or sporty people. I was more interested in music and art at school so most of my friends were talented musicians and artists but I must say very few of them were proficient at sport.

26: Weekends (新题)

1. Is the weekend your favourite part of the week?

- 1) The weekend is by far my favourite part of the week. I am not the sort of person who loves to work or study. I like to have fun and hang out with my friends, which is what the weekends were made for!
- 2) Honestly, the weekend is not my favourite part of the week. I really enjoy my week days! I have a job I love and I study a degree that interests me. And most weekdays I spend the evenings out to dinner with my friends before I go home. My weekends I use to do grocery shopping and laundry, they are kind of boring!

2. What did you do last weekend?

- 1) Last weekend I tried out a new restaurant in Beijing with my friends. We went to Choy's Seafood Restaurant, which is a highly recommended restaurant with great reviews! We had an incredible meal and we will definitely go back another weekend. AnnaYasi.
- 2) Honestly, last weekend was the same as most of my weekends and wasn't very interesting. On the Saturday I went out to the local supermarket and bought my weekly groceries, I then went home and prepared my lunches for the following week. On Sunday I did my laundry and cleaned my house.

3. Do you like to plan how to spend your weekends?

- 1) I like to plan how I spend my weekends. There is always so much I want to do, so many people to see, and so many places to go to. If I do not make a plan I will become overwhelmed and end up missing out on things that I want to do!
- 2) I do not really need to plan how I spend my weekends as I normally spend them in a pretty similar way. I know that in general I am going to do my shopping and do my cleaning but I do not feel the need to plan it out meticulously. I try to be quite relaxed at the weekends so I don't follow plans.

4. Do you ever work or study at the weekends?

- 1) I do not ever work or study at the weekends. I think it is very important to have a clear division between work time and personal time. I will only work or study on weekdays and even on weekdays I do not work or study in the evening.
- 2) I frequently study and work at the weekends. I use my weekends to complete my reproductive labour and ensure that I have food and clothes for the following week. This often leaves me with quite a bit of free time during the weekends which sometimes I use to work or study.

27: T-shirts (新题)

1. How often do you wear T-shirts?

- 1) I wear T-shirts very often as I think they are a convenient and comfortable item of clothing. I own a lot of T-shirts, some plain, some multicoloured, and some with designs. I find you can wear T-shirts for many different occasions.
- 2) I seldom wear T-shirts as I am more frequently dressed in slightly more formal wear. I have nothing against T-shirts in general but during my work and studies I think it is appropriate to wear a proper buttoned shirt. Then, during the weekends I normally wear things slightly more high-fashion than T-shirts.

2. Do you like T-shirts which have pictures on them?

- 1) I like T-shirts with pictures on them. I think T-shirts with pictures are a good way for people to express their interests and identity. Some T-shirts have musical designs, some are merchandise from films and TV, and some just have silly designs and drawings.
- 2) I abhor T-shirts with pictures on them, I think they are silly and childish. Fashion is very important to me and I think the way that a person presents themselves through fashion says a lot. T-shirts with pictures on them are very unserious and immature.

3. How fashionable are T-shirts for older generations in your country?

- 1) T-shirts are even fashionable with older people in my country. For one, T-shirts have been fashionable for many decades now so it is not surprising that older people like to wear them. Moreover, T-shirts are comfortable, easy to wear, and convenient, which is suitable for the elderly.
- 2) T-shirts are considered very unfashionable for the older generations in my country. This doesn't surprise me at all. Older people grew up in a time where everyone was dressed a little more seriously and sensibly. People would wear proper shirts every day. So, T-shirts are very unpopular with the elderly here.

4. Have you ever bought a T-shirt as a souvenir from a vacation?

- 1) Yes, I have bought a T-shirt as a souvenir from a holiday, I have done it multiple times in fact. I think tourist locations often have funny and interesting T-shirts which make good souvenirs. One of my favourite T-shirts is one that I bought at Anna, Disneyland, Yasi, when I went to Paris with my family.
- 2) No, I have never wasted money on a T-shirt as a memento from a vacation. I think there are far finer and classier souvenirs than a T-shirt. You can buy wonderful postcards, magnets, notebooks, even tea towels with wonderful designs and pictures. I will always buy these over a T-shirt.

28: Keys (新题)

1. Do you often carry lots of keys with you?

- 1) Yes, I usually carry a lot of keys with me. There are so many keys I need on a daily basis. I have my room key, the key to my building, my locker key at school and my locker key at the gym. And these are on a chain with all my other random keys.
- 2) I try my best not to carry a lot of keys with me. I find that keys are cumbersome and can be annoying to carry in your pocket. They are uncomfortable and can make a lot of noise when they jangle. Therefore, I try to only take out the keys I need like my housekey.

2. Do you often forget to take keys with you?

- 1) I rarely forget to take my keys with me when I go. There are so many important keys I have that I need to use on a daily basis. Therefore, it would be detrimental if I ever left my keys at home.
- 2) I quite frequently forget to take my keys with me when I leave the house. There are so many things I have to remember to take that it is easy to forget one! Luckily, I live with a group of flat mates so there is always someone to let me in when I have forgotten my keys.

3. Have you ever lost any keys?

- 1) I have only ever lost my keys once and that was when I was quite young, in fact it was my first set of keys. When I was 12 years old my parents entrusted me with a set of keys for the house. I left them in a park and was severely punished.
- 2) Oh I have lost many sets of keys! I am quite a forgetful and careless person. So, I will leave my keys in cafes, on the bus, at the university, all over the place. Sometimes, I lose my keys and I have no idea where I have even lost them!

4. Do you think it's a good idea to leave a home key with a neighbor?

- 1) Personally, I think it is not a good idea to leave a key to your home with a neighbour. I think it is more important to be responsible with your keys and self-reliant. People should not start bothering their neighbours when they are locked out!
- 2) I think it is an excellent idea to leave a home key with a neighbour. You never know when you might forget your key at home or lose your key somewhere in the city. It costs hundreds of yuan to get a locksmith out to unlock your door for you. It is much better and cheaper to leave a key with your neighbour.

29: Small businesses (新题)

1. Are there many small businesses where you live?
 - 1) Where I live there are many small businesses. I live in a part of the city where business is local and people like to support the community. Therefore, small businesses thrive here.
 - 2) There are not too many small businesses where I live. I live in a very central part of the city where the streets are dominated by international brands and large businesses. It is simply too expensive around here for small businesses to afford the rent.
2. Have you ever worked for a small business?
 - 1) Yes, I have worked for a small business before, in fact, my first job was with a small business. I think it is nice to work for small companies as the team all know each other very well and there is a good working relationship.
 - 2) No, I have never worked for a small business. Because small businesses are small they do not hire a lot of people. Small businesses are made up of a small handful of people and sometimes people who all know each other already like a family business.
3. Would you like to start your own small business in the future?
 - 1) It is a dream of mine to start my own small business one day. I want to own a business that brings jobs and money to my community. I think that is a very prestigious and respectable role to have in society.
 - 2) I don't think I would like to start my own small business one day. That seems like a lot of stress and uncertainty. It is hard to make a business work and to make it profitable. I would rather just earn a good salary from a large company.
4. Do you prefer to buy things from a large company or small business?
 - 1) I prefer to buy things from small businesses. I think it is much nicer to give your money to people in your community and to people who will also spend money in the community. The people who own large companies are rich enough.
 - 2) Personally AnnaIELTS, I prefer buying things from large companies rather than small businesses. Large companies are always able to offer you the most competitive prices. Also, these companies normally have decades of experience in what they do so their products are good quality.

30: The space and the stars (新题)

1. Have you ever learnt anything about space and the stars when you were at school?
 - 1) Yes. I have learned a lot about space and the stars while I was at school. We were taught about the solar system in primary school and after that I had a huge interest in physics and astronomy.
 - 2) No, to be honest I do not think I ever really learned much about space and the stars when I was at school. I was never too interested in physics and didn't pay a lot of attention during the lessons. Besides, most of the learning was to do with forces and maths rather than stars and space.
2. Would you like to know out more about space and the stars?
 - 1) I am always interested in finding out more about space and the stars. The universe is so unknown and there is always more to learn so I am excited by any new findings published by astronomers. I subscribe to many physics journals and magazines about space.
 - 2) I have no desire to learn more about space and the stars. In my opinion, there is no point to learning about it. We live on planet earth and for millions of light years around us there is no other life in the universe, so what is the point of learning about a bunch of lifeless rocks?
3. Do you like science-fiction movies set in space?
 - 1) I am a big fan of watching science fiction films set in space. I have watched every movie and TV show in the Star Wars franchise and I am always looking for new content. I am currently very excited by the recent Dune films.
 - 2) I detest sci-fi movies and really dislike the ones set in space. I prefer realism and historical movies. I like watching things I can relate to and I find films set in outer space far too alienating for me to enjoy them properly.
4. Do you want to go into outer space in the future?
 - 1) Outer space is very scary but it would be a mind-blowing experience to visit outer space. To see the earth from outer space has been described by so many astronauts as a life changing experience. I would like to have that experience myself one day.
 - 2) Why would I ever want to go into outer space? Outer space is one of the most inhospitable places we know in the universe. It is cold, dark, and a total vacuum with no oxygen. I would be terrified the entire time I was in outer space and I would not enjoy it at all.