

2022 年 5-8 月雅思口语 Part2 考题参考资料 (第三套故事<共五套>)

感谢小伙伴使用雅思过过过淘宝店铺口语素材!

在您使用过程中，有以下几点注意事项，请您在复习中留意：

1. 提供素材的目的，旨在帮助大家高效积累可用的地道口语表达，以及帮助各位同学扩展回答思路。我们在编写素材时，原则是接地气、符合大众生活情境。但是，任何素材无法全部完美适合所有人，因此建议练习中结合自身实际情况做素材调整，达到更高效复习的状态。调整内容时，如有疑问欢迎联系 Penny 解答。
2. 截至目前跟踪考生反馈情况，2022 年 5-8 月 Part2 考题共 50 个。
3. 每一套 Part2 的故事角度不同，请大家根据个人喜好选择参考；第三版为非串题版，可通过第二页表格查询每个考题的故事简介。
4. 文中黄色高亮的内容，是高分地道表达；加粗内容则是建议重读的地方；
5. 所有口语题目均为多次核实确定的考题，接下来我们仍将继续跟进核实，如有需补充题目或有需要更新的资料，会及时补充添加至“补充更新文件夹”。您在复习中有对题目的疑问，也欢迎随时联系 Penny 解答；
6. Part2 题目四小问有参考考生回忆和雅思哥来写。但请注意，Part2 题卡四小问是在考场上引导考生现场组织答案用的，不是必须回答的。你如果在准备 Part2 过程中，有自己想说的内容，不必在意是否和四小问内容完全一致，只要和主 Topic 相关即可；
7. 复习时，请您根据自己喜好来灵活运用故事及加分表达，切勿逐字逐句死记硬背；
8. 口语练习方法很重要，复习过程中对练习方法、素材语法词汇等有疑问，欢迎随时联系 Penny。
9. 您现在打开的口语素材全部为雅思过过过淘宝店铺原创，已作国家知识产权登记保护，禁止盗版转卖，如有侵权将走法律程序。

2022 年 5-8 月雅思口语 Part2 考题故事列表 (第 3 套故事)

类别	题目 Topic	故事简介
事件类	1. 忙碌的经历	兼顾兼职工作和学校考试的一段时间
	2. 庆祝过的活动	庆祝姐姐博士毕业
	3. 让你惊讶的事情	搬离现居地前朋友的惊喜告别聚会
	4. 困难但有好结果的决定	为身体健康而戒糖
	5. 别人向你寻求意见	朋友想成为职业歌手向我寻求意见
	6. 积极改变	为身体健康戒掉吃快餐
	7. 想参加的比赛	写作比赛
	8. 外出花费甚少的一天	与老友叙旧只是闲逛没怎么花钱
	9. 丢失东西	在商场丢失钱包
	10. 堵车的经历	开着车的时候前方出车祸导致堵车
	11. 用手机做重要的事	因车祸上班迟到只得远程视频会议
	12. 帮助小孩	帮小表弟给妈妈挑选生日礼物
	13. 工作/学习中的积极建议	兼职工作的老板教会我不要太在意别人的看法
	14. 未实现的志向	写书
	15. 准备过的开心活动	庆祝姐姐订婚而准备的家庭派对
	16. 远距离步行	和朋友在森林中徒步旅行
	17. 别人讲述的故事	姐姐讲述她被求婚的故事
	18. 有趣的讨论	就期末考试的形式而讨论
事物类	19. 保持健康的方法	游泳
	20. 帮助提高专注力的东西	苹果手表的倒计时功能
	21. 让生活变得更好的发明	手机
	22. 传统产品	陶瓷
	23. 节约时间的方法	拼车去上班
	24. 想要送朋友的礼物	送喜欢收藏表的朋友一个布谷鸟钟

	25. 别人送你的衣服	奶奶为我手工编织的毛衣
	26. 特别的蛋糕	12 岁生日时收到的生肖形状翻糖蛋糕
	27. 不喜欢的规则	海滩不允许狗进入
	28. 印象深刻的一节课	朋友教我学骑自行车
	29. 有趣的歌曲	完美版罗密欧与朱丽叶 <i>Love story</i>
	30. 帮助学习语言的工具	通过看电视节目学习外语
	31. 坏掉又修好的东西	亲自修好掉下来的毛巾架
	32. 向长者学习技能	跟着奶奶学会做红豆糕
	33. 生活中不可或缺的东西	吉他
	34. 免费物品	免费得到蛋糕店别人不要了的绿豆糕
	35. 小时候喜欢的玩具	玩具遥控汽车
地点类	36. 推荐他人居住的地方	北京
	37. 安静的地方	图书馆
	38. 重要河流/湖泊	长江
	39. 一个去过的地方	纽约
	40. 有趣的城市	纽约
	41. 乡村一隅	朋友在乡下被大自然包围的家
	42. 想要的公寓或房子	海边的房子
人物类	43. 想共事的家人	有艺术才能和商业头脑的表妹
	44. 有趣的邻居	喜欢养鸟的率直的邻居
	45. 享受的聊天对象/喜欢一起聊天的朋友	聊天很舒服不会唯我独尊的朋友
	46. (国家/家乡) 有名的人	家乡的宠物店老板
	47. 想共度时光的人	鼓励我尝试新事物的朋友
	48. 对社会有贡献的人	急救人员
	49. 一见且想再见的人	在公园画画的陌生人
	50. 社交媒体上常刷的人	有一个失聪女儿的爸爸

Describe a time when you were very busy.

You should say:

When it was;

What you had to do during that time;

How you managed it;

And explain how you felt about being much busy.



1. 忙碌的经历

I'm going to talk about the time I had to **juggle a part-time job with studying for exams**¹. If **memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago during the end of the semester. I wanted to get a job for the **summer**, but I ended up finding a job a bit **earlier** than expected. There was an opening at a **café** near my home, which **seemed like a perfect fit**. The only **downside was that** the job **overlapped**² with the last few weeks of **school**. So I had to start **training** for my job while studying for **exams**, which was **super** stressful.

I was also really busy **handling both work and study**³. I had to **set aside** a few hours⁴ per day to study, but I also had to **go to shifts at my job**⁵. I felt **totally** overwhelmed. **My brain was bursting**⁶ with **all** the information I had to memorize. Not only did I have to memorize lots of **facts** and **concepts** for my exam, but I also had to memorize how to make **beverages** and prepare **dishes** at this café. I started to feel like I **had bitten off more than I could chew**⁷.

I **got through it**⁸ by becoming very good at **time management**. I created a **study schedule** and **worked around my shifts**⁹ at the café. By organizing my time **well**, I felt **confident** enough to handle this **busy** time of my life. I was really **stressed** at first, but I felt **good** about myself for handling the situation.

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¹ juggle a part-time job with studying for exams:

juggle A with B 指同时应付 A 和 B 两件事

² overlapped: 重叠，与...重叠

³ handling both work and study: 同时兼顾工作和学习

⁴ set aside a few hours: 预留出几个小时

⁵ go to shifts at my job: 上班；shifts at my job 指“我

工作的班次或排班”

⁶ My brain was bursting: 脑子要炸了

⁷ had bitten off more than I could chew: 不自量力，做的事情是自己能力范围内无法承受的

⁸ got through it: 搞定了，完成了

⁹ worked around my shifts: 在我轮班的时候工作

Describe an important event you celebrated.

You should say:

What the event was;

When it happened;

Who attended the event;

And explain how you feel about the event.



2. 庆祝过的活动

An important **event** I celebrated recently was my sister's **PhD** graduation. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened just a few **months** ago. It was **a really big deal for her** because she had a **hard** time doing the PhD. You know, doctoral courses are **way harder** and she had to **publish** her research paper in a **reputable** science journal, which is definitely **not a walk in the park**¹⁰. So when she **finally** settled on a PhD degree and **made it through**¹¹, my family and I were very **proud** of her.

The hooding ceremony¹² was a little **boring**, to be honest. We had to sit through **hours** of speeches and a **super** long line of graduates **walking across the stage**. But it was so **worth** it to hear my sister's **name** get called and watch her **accept** her PhD degree. **My heart was bursting with pride**¹³. The **best** part was the **dinner** party that we had after the ceremony. We made a reservation at a **fancy** restaurant and invited **lots** of family and friends. We had our **own** private room to celebrate in, which **made the occasion feel extra special**. It was so **nice** being surrounded by **loved** ones. I know my sister was really **happy** to have us **all** there with her.

I felt pretty happy **as well**. Even though the day **wasn't** about me, I was **over the moon**¹⁴ because my sister had **achieved a huge milestone in her life**¹⁵. I was **glad** that she **made it to the finish line**¹⁶ and was finally ready to get a **job** in her field.

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¹⁰ not a walk in the park: 不是一件容易的事

¹¹ made it through: 在这里指的是顺利毕业，成功拿到博士学位

¹² The hooding ceremony: 学位授予仪式

¹³ My heart was bursting with pride: 我感到无比骄傲

¹⁴ over the moon: 非常开心

¹⁵ achieved a huge milestone in her life: 成就了她人生中一个重要里程碑

¹⁶ made it to the finish line: 到达了终点线，实现了自己的目标

Describe something that surprised you

You should say:

What it is;

How you found out about it;

What you did;

And explain whether it made you happy.



3. 让你惊讶的事情

I'm going to talk about the time my **friends** surprised me **with a really sweet gesture**¹⁷. If **memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. I was getting ready to **move** to another city. I was **excited** for the change, but I was also **sad** about **leaving my friends behind**¹⁸. I wanted to do something **special** with them, but I **wasn't** sure what to do.

Then, **a week** before I **was set to move**, my friends invited me to go to a nearby **park** with them. They told me to **show up**¹⁹ at **seven** in the morning, which was **confusing** because we normally don't hang out **that early** in the day. When I showed up, they said that they had been planning **a special goodbye tour**²⁰ for me. They drove me to **a scenic spot**²¹ I'd been **craving** to visit for a long time. We had a **lot** of fun there and they even prepared **gifts** for me. I was so **touched**. It meant **so much** to me that they **had this all planned out**.

It was one of the most **enjoyable** days I've had **in a while**. After the **sightseeing**²², we went to my favorite **restaurant** for dinner, then we ended the day by going to **a karaoke pub**. I got to do **all** my favorite **things** with all my favorite **people**. I was **so** happy to be surprised in such a **lovely** way. And I felt so **grateful** to have such **amazing** friends.

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¹⁷ with a really sweet gesture: 以非常贴心的方式...

¹⁸ leaving my friends behind: 离开我的朋友

¹⁹ show up: 到场

²⁰ a special goodbye tour: 一场特别的告别之旅

²¹ a scenic spot: 景点

²² sightseeing: 观光浏览

Describe a difficult decision that you once made but had a good result.

You should say:

What the decision was;

When you made your decision;

How long it took to make the decision;

And explain why it was difficult to make.



4. 困难但有好结果的决定

I'm going to talk about the time I decided to give up on **eating sugar**. If memory serves **correctly**, this happened about **a year ago**. At the time, my **friend** was really focused on improving her **health**. She read an article that talked about the health benefits of **cutting down on sugar**²³. So she decided to **challenge** herself. She was going to avoid any food products with **added sugar**²⁴ for a whole month. She asked **me** to do the challenge with her. She said we could **keep each other motivated**.

I **love** **sugary foods**²⁵, so I **was very hesitant to jump on board**²⁶. But after a few days, she **talked me into it**. I thought it would be an **interesting** experience **at the very least**²⁷. It proved to be **pretty hard**. I was basically **going through sugar withdrawal**²⁸. You know, I **craved** it so much every day. But I **slowly** started getting used to **not** having it. After a while, I found that I had **more energy** and that I could **focus** better. They were **small changes** at first, but **it started adding up**²⁹.

After the month was up³⁰, I decided that I wanted to **keep avoiding** sugar for as long as I could. It took me **a while** to decide to try this out indefinitely. But the **results** have been **amazing**. I've lost some **weight** and **I feel like my health has never been better**³¹. So even though it was **hard** to give up sugar, I think it was for the **best**.

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²³ cutting down on sugar: 减少吃糖

²⁴ added sugar: 食物中的添加糖，食品加工过程中加入的糖或糖浆

²⁵ sugary foods: 含糖类食物

²⁶ I was very hesitant to jump on board: 我很犹豫是否要加入

²⁷ at the very least: 至少

²⁸ going through sugar withdrawal: 经历戒糖

²⁹ it started adding up: 久而久之（这些小的变化）逐渐积累了起来

³⁰ After the month was up: 过了一个月后

³¹ I feel like my health has never been better: 我感觉我的健康状况从未如此好过

Describe a time when you were asked to give your opinion.

You should say:

when it was;

why you were asked to give your opinion;

what opinion you gave

and explain how you felt about giving your opinion.



5. 别人向你寻求意见

I'm going to talk about the time my friend asked me for my opinion on **their³² singing**. If **memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. My friend **Alex** decided that she wanted to **try her hand at³³** singing **professionally**. I was a little **surprised**, since she'd **never** talked about it before. But she said it'd been **a secret dream of hers** for years.

She asked me to come over and listen to her **perform**. She wanted to know if I thought she was **good** enough to make it as a **professional** singer. I was pretty **nervous** before I went over. After all, if she was **bad** at singing, it would be pretty **awkward** to **give her my honest opinion**. I didn't want it to **ruin our friendship³⁴**.

Luckily, when she performed, I was **blown away³⁵** by her talent. She has an **amazing** singing voice. She already sounded like a **famous singer** to me. **I gave her a standing ovation³⁶** at the end of the first song. I was so **shocked** that she'd had this **hidden talent** all along.

I told her that I thought she was very **talented** and could **easily** make it as a singer. I was **really** happy to give her **my** opinion, especially because it was so **positive**. I'm **not** sure if she'll find **success** as a singer. After all, talent **isn't** everything when it comes to becoming a **star**. But I think she **has a lot of promise³⁷** and could **go very far if given the chance³⁸**.

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³² their: 这里的 their 指的是“我的朋友”，因为不具体指男或女，所以统一用 their 指代

³³ try her hand at: 初次尝试做某事

³⁴ ruin our friendship: 毁掉我们的友谊

³⁵ blown away: 被惊到，惊讶

³⁶ I gave her a standing ovation: 我为她起立鼓掌

³⁷ has a lot of promise: 很有前途；前景很好

³⁸ go very far if given the chance: 如果有机会，一定可以走得很远

Describe a positive change in your life

You should say:

What the change was about;

When it happened;

Who helped you;

And explain how it affected you later in life.



6. 积极改变

I'm going to talk about a change to my **diet**. **Specifically**, I've decided to stop eating **fast food**. I think it's one of the most **positive** changes I've made in my life. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened about **a year ago**. At the time, my **friend** was really focused on improving her **health**. She read an **article** that talked about the health benefits of avoiding **processed food**³⁹, especially **fast food**. So she decided to **challenge** herself. She was going to stop eating out for a **whole** month. She asked **me** to do the challenge with her. She said we could **keep each other motivated**.

I **love** fast food, so **I was very hesitant to jump on board**⁴⁰. But after a few days, she **talked me into it**. I thought it would be an **interesting** experience **at the very least**. It proved to be pretty **hard**. You know, I really **craved** fast food every day. But I slowly started getting **used to not** having it. After a **while**, I found that I had **more** energy and that I could **focus** better. They were **small** changes at first, but **it started adding up**⁴¹.

After the month was up⁴², I decided that I wanted to **stop** eating fast food **in general**. Even though it was **hard** for me to try it out indefinitely, I know it's the **right** thing to do. And the results have been **amazing**. I've lost a **lot** of weight and **I feel like my health has never been better**⁴³. So even though it was **hard** to give up on fast food, I think it was for the **best**.

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³⁹ processed food: 加工过的食品

⁴⁰ I was very hesitant to jump on board: 我很犹豫是否要加入

⁴¹ it started adding up: 久而久之 (这些小的变化)

逐渐积累了起来

⁴² After the month was up: 过了一个月后

⁴³ I feel like my health has never been better: 我感觉我的健康状况从未如此好过

Describe a contest/competition you would like to participate in

You should say:

What the contest/competition is about;

Where the contest/competition will take place;

When it will be held;

And explain why you would like to participate in it.



7. 想参加的比赛

I'm going to talk about a short **story competition** that I'd **love** to take part in. It happens **every** year, so I definitely **haven't** missed my chance yet. **If memory serves correctly**, I first heard about this contest **a couple** years ago. I've **loved** writing ever since I can remember, but **I've never done it in a professional context**⁴⁴. I've **never** taken any **writing classes** either. So when I **heard** about this contest, **I didn't enter right away**⁴⁵ because I **wasn't** confident in my writing skills.

But **over the years**, I've gotten **feedback** from my friends and they say that I **have a knack** for writing. That **gave me the boost of confidence**⁴⁶ to consider entering this contest. The contest is very **interesting** to me. Everyone receives the **same writing prompt**⁴⁷. Then they have **three** days to come up with a really **unique** story. The judges **vote on** which story is best, and then the winner receives **prize money** and gets their story **published** for everyone to enjoy.

The contest is coming up at the **end** of the year, which gives me **lots** of time to **keep honing my writing**⁴⁸. I think that with **all** this preparation, I'll be **ready** to write a really **compelling** story that will hopefully **knock the judges' socks off**⁴⁹. You know, **winning** the contest would make me feel like a **real writer** and **encourage me on my journey**⁵⁰. So for **that** reason, I really want to **enter this contest**⁵¹ and see if my writing is **good** enough to win the prize.

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⁴⁴ I've never done it in a professional context: 我从来没有在职业（比赛）的环境里做过这个事

⁴⁵ I didn't enter right away: 我没有立马报名参加

⁴⁶ gave me the boost of confidence: 给我增加了信心

⁴⁷ writing prompt: 写作要求

⁴⁸ keep honing my writing: 磨炼自己的写作能力

⁴⁹ knock the judges' socks off: 让评委们感到震惊

⁵⁰ encourage me on my journey: 鼓励我在（写作）这条路上继续加油

⁵¹ enter this contest: 参赛

Describe a special day that you went out but didn't spend much money

You should say:

What day it was;

Where you went;

What you did;

And explain how you felt about it.



8. 外出花费甚少的一天

I'm going to talk about the day I **reconnected** with an old friend⁵². I had a **great** time, but I **barely**⁵³ spent anything. It was so **lovely**. If memory serves **correctly**, this happened about a **month ago**. I **hadn't** seen my high school friend in **years** because we moved to **different cities** for university. We got so **busy** that we didn't even get to **talk** very often.

But **last** month, we both happened to be in our **hometown** for a few days. So we **set up a hangout**⁵⁴. We were both **on a tight budget**⁵⁵. So we decided to do mostly **free** activities together. We met up at a **park** that was near our **old** high school and took a **walk** around. It was so **great** just to see **my friend** and get to talk to **them**⁵⁶ face to face.

The weather was **beautiful out**, so it was **great** to walk around and enjoy some **fresh** air together. After the park, we went to the **local mall** and **window-shopped**⁵⁷. Even though we **didn't** buy anything, we had a **great** time **checking out the stores**⁵⁸. We joked that maybe in **ten** years, we could **afford** some of the nice things we were looking at. We did spend a **bit** of money on dinner, but **it was just cheap takeout**⁵⁹ that we enjoyed at my **friend's** house.

All in all, I was so **grateful** that I could enjoy such a **nice** day with my friend. **Their company was worth more than anything money could buy**.

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⁵² reconnected with an old friend: 和老友重新联系上了

⁵³ barely: 几乎没有

⁵⁴ set up a hangout: 安排了一个聚会

⁵⁵ on a tight budget: 预算紧张, 没什么钱

⁵⁶ them: 注意这里是指朋友, 单数 (因不区分男女而使用 them)

⁵⁷ window-shopped: 浏览店铺 (不进去买)

⁵⁸ checking out the stores: 逛商店

⁵⁹ it was just cheap takeout: 很便宜的外卖

Describe an occasion that you lost something in a public place.

You should say:

What you lost;

When and where you lost it;

What you did to find it;

And explain how you felt about it.



9. 丢失东西

I'm going to talk about the time I lost my **wallet** at a mall. This happened just a few **weeks** ago. I was **shopping** for a couple hours and **had gotten hungry**. So I decided to go to the **food court**⁶⁰ for some lunch. To **pay** for my meal, I had to take my **wallet** out. The **only** problem is that I didn't put it **back** in my bag after paying. I just **set it on the tray**⁶¹ that I got my food **on**.

Then, after I **finished** my meal, I put the tray **back** where it belonged. But I forgot to **take my wallet off the tray**⁶². I only realized that it was gone when I was at **another** store and was trying to **pay** for my purchase. **I felt a wave of panic wash over me**⁶³. I was **freaking out**. I **ran** out of the store and **retraced my steps**⁶⁴ to the food court. But by the time I **arrived**, my wallet was **nowhere** in sight⁶⁵. It felt like my heart was **beating** right out of my **chest**⁶⁶. After all, my wallet had **all** my bank cards and ID in it.

The mall I was at **had a lost and found** section. So I went there and asked **a mall security guard**⁶⁷ if anyone had **turned** in a wallet. **To my relief**⁶⁸, someone had actually **brought** my wallet to them. And they **didn't** take any money out of it. I **thanked** the mall security and decided to be more **careful** from then on.

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⁶⁰ food court: (商场里的) 美食中心

⁶¹ set it on the tray: 把它放到了托盘上

⁶² take my wallet off the tray: 把钱包从托盘上取下来

⁶³ I felt a wave of panic wash over me: 我感到心中泛起一阵恐慌

⁶⁴ retraced my steps: 原路返回

⁶⁵ nowhere in sight: 没有了踪影

⁶⁶ It felt like my heart was beating right out of my chest: 我感觉心脏都要跳出来了

⁶⁷ a mall security guard: 商场保安

⁶⁸ To my relief: 让我感到庆幸的是

Describe a time when you had to wait in a traffic jam.

You should say:

When and where it happened

How long you were stuck due to bad traffic

What you did while waiting

And explain how you felt when you were stuck in that traffic jam.

**10. 堵车的经历**

A few weeks ago, I **got stuck in** an **awful** traffic jam. It felt like I was **waiting behind a never-ending line of cars**⁶⁹. At the time, I was on my way **home** from work. I usually take one of the major **highways** that leads from the **downtown** area of the city to where I **live**, which is **pretty far out in the suburbs**. Usually there's **rush hour** traffic, but this traffic jam was **way worse than that**.

I **wasn't** sure what was going on at first. I was **making decent progress on the highway**⁷⁰ when all of a sudden, **traffic came to a dead stop**⁷¹. **As the time dragged on**⁷², I realized I was **stuck** in a serious jam. I only drove **a couple** of inches every ten minutes or so. **It felt like an eternity had passed**⁷³ by the time I got close enough to see what the **problem** was. It turned out that there had been **a minor car crash**⁷⁴, so one of the lanes was **closed**.

It didn't seem like anyone had been **seriously hurt**, which was **good**. **But on the downside**, I was waiting in traffic for almost **an hour**. I **couldn't** believe how much time I was wasting in my car. I tried to pass the time by listening to my **favorite music** and singing along. But I still felt **super frustrated**.

Eventually, **the traffic cleared up again**⁷⁵ and I was able to make it home **at a half-decent time**⁷⁶. But I was still **annoyed** with that **huge** delay.

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⁶⁹ waiting behind a never-ending line of cars: 在没有尽头的汽车队伍中等待

⁷⁰ making decent progress on the highway: 在高速路上开的还不错(没发生什么事情)

⁷¹ traffic came to a dead stop: 交通完全停止了, 彻底堵了

⁷² As the time dragged on: 随着时间的推移

⁷³ It felt like an eternity had passed: 度过的那段时间感觉度日如年一样

⁷⁴ a minor car crash: 一场小车祸

⁷⁵ the traffic cleared up again: 交通又恢复畅通了

⁷⁶ at a half-decent time: 在一个凑合的时间; 在一个还可以(接受)的时间

Describe a time you used your cellphone to do something important.

You should say:

What happened;

When it's happened;

How important the cellphone was;

And explain how you felt about the experience.



11. 用手机做重要的事

My cellphone has **come in handy** so many times. It's **hard** to pick just **one** occasion. But something that **stands out** is the time I used my cellphone to attend a **meeting** for work. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago when I had a **car accident**. I thought I would **totally** miss the meeting but I got to use my cellphone to have a **phone** meeting.

I was **driving** to work. The car in **front** of me stopped very **suddenly**. I almost **bumped into**⁷⁷ that car, but luckily, I **braked in time**⁷⁸. But **my luck ran out**⁷⁹ when the car behind me **didn't** slow down fast enough. They ran right into the **back** of my car.

Fortunately, there **wasn't** too much damage to my car, which was **great**. But it took me a **while** to exchange information with the driver, and the whole incident made me **late** to work. That was **extra stressful** because I had an **important** meeting that I **didn't** want to miss.

I called my **office** and told them I **wouldn't** be able to attend the meeting **in person**⁸⁰. Instead, I decided to **call into the meeting from my car**⁸¹. I drove my car to a nearby **parking lot** and used my phone to **participate in the meeting remotely**⁸². I was **so** glad I **had my phone on me**. Otherwise, I would've **missed** this meeting and I would've been even **more** stressed. **Needless to say**⁸³, my phone is a **total lifesaver**⁸⁴.

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⁷⁷ bumped into: 撞到，碰到

⁷⁸ braked in time: 及时刹住了车

⁷⁹ my luck ran out: 我的运气用光了

⁸⁰ in person: 亲自

⁸¹ call into the meeting from my car: 在我的车里打

电话加入会议

⁸² participate in the meeting remotely: 远程参与会议

⁸³ Needless to say: 不用说，毋庸置疑

⁸⁴ lifesaver: 救星

Describe a time when you helped a child

You should say:

When it was;

How you helped him/her;

Why you helped him/her;

And how you felt about it.



12. 帮助小孩

I'm going to talk about the time I helped my **cousin** get his mom a birthday **present**. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. My cousin is **eight** years old. He's very **sweet** and **considerate**. I also think he **has a great sense of humour for a kid**. We get along **pretty well**.

Anyway, his **mom's** birthday was coming up. Since we're kind of **close**, my cousin asked **me** for help. He wanted me to take him **shopping** so that he could find her the **perfect** gift. He had been **saving up his monthly allowance for a whole year**⁸⁵ so that he could afford something **really nice**.

I thought this was **such a touching gesture**⁸⁶, especially from a **kid** his age. So I agreed to **help him out**. I **picked** him up after school one day and we went to the **mall**. We spent about **two hours going through every single store**⁸⁷ in search of the **perfect** gift. Finally, he **settled on**⁸⁸ a nice silver **bracelet**. It was definitely **out of his budget**⁸⁹. So I decided to **chip in**⁹⁰ to **help** him buy it. After all, **what eight-year-old**⁹¹ is going to be able to buy nice jewelry on their **own**? **It's really the thought that counts**⁹².

I felt really **happy** that my cousin and I could spend the day **together**. It was really **fun** helping him out. Plus, **it was all worth it** when his mom opened that **present** on her birthday. She was so **excited** about this beautiful gift from her son.

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⁸⁵ saving up his monthly allowance for a whole year:

他把每个月的零花钱都存起来, 存了一整年

⁸⁶ such a touching gesture: 如此感人的举动

⁸⁷ going through every single store: 逛遍了每一家商店

⁸⁸ settled on: 选定了

⁸⁹ out of his budget: 超出了他的预算

⁹⁰ chip in: 出资, 出钱

⁹¹ what eight-year-old: 哪一个八岁的孩子 (能自己买得起漂亮的首饰呢)

⁹² It's really the thought that counts: 心意才是最重要的

Describe an occasion when someone gave you positive advice or suggestion about your work/study

You should say:

Who the person is

What he/she said

How the advice/suggestion affected you

And explain how you felt about the advice/suggestions



13. 工作/学习中的积极建议

I'm going to talk about the time my **boss** gave me some great **advice** at work. A few months ago, I got hired at a **milk tea** shop. I **love** drinking milk tea, so this was **the perfect fit** for me. However, I **don't** know everything about the recipes. You know, I've often had to ask my **coworkers** for help. So sometimes, **customers get frustrated** with me.

It's hard not to take it **personally**⁹³. I really **care** about what people think of me, even if they're **strangers**. So when they get **upset** with me, I feel like I'm a **bad** person because of it. I **brought this up to my boss**⁹⁴, who's very **friendly** and **understanding**. She said that she used to struggle with the **same** issue. But she learned that you **can't** take it personally when customers are **unreasonably** frustrated with you. You just have to learn to be **patient**. She said it also helps **to assume the best of people**⁹⁵. Like, **maybe** this person is getting upset because **they've had a long day** and they're **at their wits' end**⁹⁶.

I was really **impressed** with her advice. It was so **reasonable** and it made me feel like I could be more **confident** in my job. So I **put it to use**⁹⁷ right away. The next time a customer got **frustrated** with me, I did my best to **calmly** explain that **I'm still a bit new at the job**. I **didn't** take it personally. Instead, I just tried to **see the situation through the customer's eyes**⁹⁸, which made me give them **extra good service**.

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⁹³ It's hard not to take it personally: 很难不往心里去

⁹⁴ brought this up to my boss: 把这件事告诉了我的老板

⁹⁵ to assume the best of people: 把人往好的方面想

⁹⁶ at their wits' end: (被一整天的各种问题和困难

搞的身心俱疲) 心烦意乱; 身心疲惫

⁹⁷ put it to use: 在实际工作中用起来 (这个建议)

⁹⁸ see the situation through the customer's eyes: 站在客户的角度考虑问题

Describe an ambition you haven't yet achieved

You should say:

What your ambition is;

How long you have had this ambition;

How you plan to achieve it (or what you have done);

And explain why you haven't achieved it yet.



14. 未实现的志向

One ambition I have had for a very **long** time is to **write** a book. I **have had this ambition since** I was a **child**. I **always** loved reading, and I thought that one day I would become a famous **writer**. As a child, there were **a few** careers that I dreamed of: **veterinarian**⁹⁹, astronaut, **palaeontologist**¹⁰⁰, or **writer**. In the end, I became a **teacher**. I realized that I **wouldn't** be a very good astronaut or veterinarian, and I thought palaeontology was actually pretty **boring**. But, that idea of being a **writer never really left me**¹⁰¹.

Throughout my life, I have always been **an avid reader**¹⁰², and a **talented** writer. I **definitely** think that these qualities are related; the more you **read**, the more **nuanced**¹⁰³ and **engaging** your writing becomes. Anyway, I write in my **free** time, and eventually I would like to **organize** my ideas and write a **novel**. The novel would be a **realistic fictional text**¹⁰⁴, possibly **historical** or **multigenerational**¹⁰⁵.

I'm **not** sure exactly **how** I'm going to achieve this goal, because I lack the one thing that I really need: **time**. I have a **full** time teaching job, so I **don't have nearly as much free time for hobbies as I would like**. Without the time to **dedicate** to my writing, **I don't think that I'm getting any closer to my goal**. Hopefully one day I will be able to make a career **change** that would allow me to **teach** part time and **write** part time, and finally **realize** my ambition.

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⁹⁹ veterinarian: 兽医 (这些词都不是必须说的, 可以按照自己的喜好替换)

¹⁰⁰ palaeontologist: 古生物学家 (这些词都不是必须说的, 可以按照自己的喜好替换)

¹⁰¹ never really left me: 从未真正离开过我 (这里

指我一直都有 ... 的梦想)

¹⁰² an avid reader: 特别喜欢读书的人

¹⁰³ nuanced: 细致入微

¹⁰⁴ realistic fictional text: 现实主义虚构文本

¹⁰⁵ multigenerational: 多代同堂的

Describe a happy event you organized.

You should say:

What the event was;

Where you had it;

Who helped you to organized it;

And explain how you feel about it.



15. 准备过的开心活动

The **first** event that **comes to mind** is a **party** to celebrate my sister's **engagement**. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. My sister has been dating her boyfriend for **three** years. My whole family really **likes** him. And he clearly makes my sister really **happy**. So we were all **over the moon**¹⁰⁶ to hear that he proposed, and she said **yes**. I thought it would be **great** to have a **party** with all our family and friends to celebrate their **upcoming** wedding. So I decided to **lead the charge** and throw a **party**¹⁰⁷.

My mom helped me with some of the **details**, like finding a **venue**¹⁰⁸. We wanted to invite **lots** of people, so we decided to have the party on the **rooftop** patio. To make the outdoor space feel a bit **fancy**, we got some **balloons** and **streamers**¹⁰⁹. We also decided to cook lots of **appetizers**¹¹⁰ so that people could enjoy a **snack** while they socialized.

The **best** part was that we **kept all of our efforts a secret**. My sister had **no** idea that we were going to throw a **party**. We invited **her** and her **fiancé** over, but we **didn't** tell her that we **had all her loved ones coming over**. Instead, we just led them to the rooftop, and everyone yelled '**surprise**'! **The look on my sister's face was priceless**.

I'm **really** happy with how the event went. We all had a **great** time celebrating my sister and her fiancé. They're such a **great** couple.

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¹⁰⁶ over the moon: 非常开心

¹⁰⁷ lead the charge and throw a party: 带头组办派对

¹⁰⁸ venue: 活动场所

¹⁰⁹ streamers: 彩带

¹¹⁰ appetizers: 开胃菜

Describe a long walk you had.

You should say:

When this happened;

Where you walked;

Who you were with;

And explain how you felt about this long walk.



16. 远距离步行

A **couple** years ago, I visited my friend in a **different** city. She wanted to show me some of the **nature trails** in the area, so we went for a really **long** hike. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened about **two** years ago.

At the time, my friend and I were both in **university**. We had just finished **exams**, so we wanted to **celebrate** with each other. She invited me to **stay** with her for a few days. She lives **far away**, so I had to take a **train** to get there. **It was totally worth it to** see her, though. There was a great **hiking trail** not far from her apartment. She said that it would be **great** to **destress**¹¹¹ by going on a **nice** nature walk. Since I hadn't exercised for a **long** time, I **was on board with**¹¹² her proposal right away.

We drove about **half** an hour to get there. When we **arrived**, I was **surprised** to see a **huge** forest so close to the city. The trail included a lot of **uphill climbs**¹¹³, which really **tired** my legs **out**¹¹⁴. But I was **glad** that I visited this place. We saw **so many** tall trees, as well as a **small creek** that went through the forest. It was definitely **an amazing view**.

Honestly, **I'm not usually an active person**. And that day, we walked for **three** hours **in total**¹¹⁵. But I really **enjoyed** myself because I hadn't been this close to nature in a **long** time. Plus, I **had** **such good company**. My friend and I got to **catch up** as we walked, which **made the time go by** **really quickly**.

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¹¹¹ destress: 减压, 消除紧张

¹¹² was on board with: 同意, 赞成

¹¹³ uphill climbs: 爬山, 爬坡攀登

¹¹⁴ tired my legs out: 腿累坏了, 走不动了

¹¹⁵ in total: 总共

Describe a story someone told you and you remember.

You should say:

What the story was about;

Who told you this story;

Why you remember it;

And explain how you feel about it.



17. 别人讲述的故事

One **memorable story** that I want to share is the time my sister told me about her **engagement**. A **couple** years ago, my sister started **dating** her boyfriend. They were such a **cute** couple. My **whole** family loved him. And of course, my sister was **smitten**¹¹⁶. After they had been dating for a **while**, my sister told me that they were thinking about getting **married**. But you know, the **proposal** was going to be a **surprise**.

She told me the **whole** story **right after** it happened. Basically, her boyfriend **took her on a hike**, but **it turned out to be a setup to**¹¹⁷ propose to her. He invited one of her **friends** so she could take **photos** of the event. They hiked all the way to a **waterfall**. While my sister's friend took photos of the **two** of them, her boyfriend **sneakily**¹¹⁸ took out the ring and **went down on one knee**¹¹⁹ while my sister was looking at the **camera**. When she **turned around**, she saw her boyfriend with the **ring** in his hand. She was **completely blown away**!

Before popping the question¹²⁰, he gave a **romantic** speech that explained **all** the reasons he wanted to marry her. Of course, she said **yes**. My sister said it was the **perfect** proposal.

I remember this story **so well** because I think it's **really** cute. And it was a very **special** moment for my sister. Actually I **love** telling the story to others. **I can't think of anyone who doesn't like** listening to this kind of **sweet** and **touching** engagement story

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¹¹⁶ smitten: 被（她的男朋友）强烈吸引

¹¹⁷ it turned out to be a setup to: 结果这是...的圈套；
setup 指提前准备好，安排好的

¹¹⁸ sneakily: 偷偷的，悄悄的

¹¹⁹ went down on one knee: 单膝跪地

¹²⁰ Before popping the question: 在求婚前；pop the question 指求婚

Describe an interesting discussion you had with your friend (as part of your work or studies).

You should say:

What the discussion was about;

What opinions you and your friend had;

What was the result of the discussion;

And why you think the discussion was interesting.



18. 有趣的讨论

The **first** thing that **comes to mind** is a discussion about **exams** that I had in one of my classes. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. My friend and I were both in a **psychology** course. One week, the professor asked the class if we should have a **final** exam, or if we should do a different kind of **assignment** to **get our grade**. She said that we could **split into pairs**¹²¹ and **discuss the pros and cons**¹²².

My friend and I **paired up**¹²³ right away. I honestly expected that my friend would **be on my side**¹²⁴ and vote **against** the exam. After all, who likes **exams**? They can be **super** stressful. I said that exams should be **replaced** with assignments that make you think more **critically**. Instead of just **memorizing facts**, you should do something that makes you **apply** the knowledge.

However, my friend said that exams were the **fairest** way to judge if you've mastered the knowledge. You need to **have a basic familiarity with** the concepts you've studied. And you can't always reflect that in a **different** type of assessment. I was really **intrigued** by her perspective. I hadn't really thought about **that angle** before. We also had an interesting talk about which approach was the most **accessible** for different kinds of students.

I thought it was really **intriguing** to think about **exams** critically, especially as students. In the end, we agreed that the exam **should be an option**, but there **could** also be a choice to do a **different** assessment **as an additional reference**¹²⁵.

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¹²¹ split into pairs: 分成两人一组

¹²² discuss the pros and cons: 讨论利弊

¹²³ paired up: 配对, 组成一组

¹²⁴ be on my side: 支持我, 赞成我的想法

¹²⁵ as an additional reference: 额外的参考, 额外的加分项

Describe something you do to keep fit and healthy

You should say:

what it is

how often you do it

how you do it (or, how easy or difficult it is to do)

and explain how it helps to keep you fit.



19. 保持健康的方法

When it comes to an activity that keeps me fit and healthy, the first one that comes to mind is swimming. I've had a love of swimming ever since I was a little kid. My dad was the one who taught me how to swim. I took to it like a duck to water¹²⁶. Soon, I was able to swim across the pool. As I got older, I started taking part in swimming races.

Nowadays, I swim every week. Instead of working out at a gym, I prefer keeping fit by swimming at a public pool nearby. I love it because not only is it a good exercise, but it also helps me blow off some steam¹²⁷ when I feel stressed. Even though the activity can be quite strenuous¹²⁸, I've been swimming for so long that it feels like second nature to me¹²⁹.

Swimming is so great for your physical health. Not only does it improve your muscle strength and flexibility¹³⁰, but it also decreases your stress¹³¹ and helps you keep off extra fat. I've been able to keep in good shape because I swim so often. Plus, I really enjoy the social aspect of swimming. When you swim with other people, you get to bond over a shared passion¹³² while also keeping each other motivated to exercise.

Overall, I think swimming is great for my mental and physical health. It keeps me active and helps me enjoy life to the fullest¹³³.

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¹²⁶ took to it like a duck to water: 如鱼得水, 很快就学会了

¹²⁷ blow off some steam: 舒缓压力, 发泄情绪

¹²⁸ strenuous: 剧烈的

¹²⁹ it feels like second nature to me: 就像是我的第二天性一样

¹³⁰ improve your muscle strength and flexibility: 改善人体的肌肉力量和灵活性

¹³¹ decreases your stress: 帮助减轻压力

¹³² get to bond over a shared passion: 因为(对游泳这项运动的)共同的热情而彼此关系更近

¹³³ enjoy life to the fullest: 充分地享受和热爱生活

Describe something that can help you concentrate on work/study.

You should say:

What it is;

How does it help you;

What do you think about it;

And explain why you think it is helpful

**20. 帮助提高专注力的东西**

I'm going to talk about the **Apple watch** that helps me **concentrate** on my work. Whenever I have a **task** to do, I like to put my Apple watch **on** and **tune everything else out**¹³⁴. It's a pretty **advanced** watch. **If memory serves correctly**, it **cost** me almost a **whole** month of my salary¹³⁵. I was a little **hesitant** about purchasing it. But **it was definitely worth it**. It's very **comfy**, so I can wear it for a day **without my wrist getting sore**¹³⁶.

Anyway, I think it's **helpful** because when I'm working, I can easily get **distracted** by things around. The smart watch **has a very good countdown feature**¹³⁷, so when I'm about to **start** a task, I often estimate how **long** it will take me and **set a countdown on the watch**¹³⁸. After the countdown **starts**, I try my best to finish the job **before** it ends. It's a really **good** way for me to **get in the zone**¹³⁹ and **boost my concentration**¹⁴⁰. It's like having a **contest** with yourself. It's very **satisfying** when I can **finish** the job **ahead of the countdown**¹⁴¹, because it means I'm even more **productive** than I expected.

I'm **glad** I bought this smart watch. It really **comes in handy**¹⁴². I've **found** that since I started using this watch, I've been able to have **better** focus at work. Actually I left a couple of **glowing reviews**¹⁴³ of the watch on the internet. I often **recommend** my friends to try it out. I believe they will **love** it.

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¹³⁴ tune everything else out: 把其他的事情都放在一边; 不再理其他的任何事情

¹³⁵ cost me almost a whole month of my salary: 花了我几乎一个月的薪水

¹³⁶ without my wrist getting sore: 我的手腕不会感觉痛

¹³⁷ has a very good countdown feature: 有一个很不错的倒计时功能

¹³⁸ set a countdown on the watch: 在手表上设置倒计时

¹³⁹ get in the zone: 进入(做某事的)状态

¹⁴⁰ boost my concentration: 提升注意力

¹⁴¹ ahead of the countdown: 在倒计时结束之前

¹⁴² comes in handy: 需要的时候可以派上用场

¹⁴³ glowing reviews: 热烈好评

Describe an invention that has changed the world in a positive way.

You should say:

What it is;

What benefits it has brought;

How it influences people of different ages;

And explain how it changed people's lives.



21. 让生活变得更好的发明

When it comes to an **invention** that has changed the world in a **positive** way, **the first one** that comes to mind is the **mobile phone**. I feel pretty **lucky** that **I was born** into a world where¹⁴⁴ mobile phones are **easily** available. They make life so **convenient**, but they're also **truly** helpful **in cases of** emergencies.

In the **past**, the invention of the **telephone** obviously **kickstarted a new age of** **communication**¹⁴⁵. People could **talk** to each other, no matter **where** in the world they were. But they were still **limited** in terms of how **easy** it was to talk. They had to use **landlines**¹⁴⁶ that were attached to one place in their home.

But with a **mobile phone**, life got **so much** easier. People were able to make calls from **anywhere** they wanted to. This is especially **beneficial** in situations where you need to **quickly** get in touch with someone. For example, imagine **getting locked out of your house**. With a mobile phone, you can **easily** call someone to **unlock** the door for you. In more **serious** situations, mobile phones can literally be a **lifesaver**¹⁴⁷. Mobile phones allow you to get in touch with the **police** or an **ambulance** when you're **in need of help**.

People of **all** ages can use mobile phones to get in touch with their loved ones. Now, with the **development** of technology, you can also use your phone to take **pictures**, send **emails**, and do **a whole array of**¹⁴⁸ other things. Seriously, I **can't** even imagine how people live **without** cellphones nowadays.

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¹⁴⁴ I was born into a world where: 我出生在一个...的时代

¹⁴⁵ kickstarted a new age of communication: 开启了新的通信时代

¹⁴⁶ landlines: (电话) 座机

¹⁴⁷ lifesaver: 救星

¹⁴⁸ a whole array of: 一系列的, 很多其他的

Describe a traditional product in your country

You should say:

What it is;

When you tried this product for the first time;

What it is made of;

And explain how you feel about it.



22. 传统产品

My country is known for **tons of** different **traditional** products. But one of the more **recognizable** ones is **pottery**¹⁴⁹. It's **typically referred to as**¹⁵⁰ **porcelain**¹⁵¹ or **china**, since a lot of clay and stone has been found in **China**. **The tradition of making beautiful, delicate pottery is thousands of years old**. **Over time**¹⁵², people in China found **new** ways to make and decorate pottery. The Chinese are generally considered **specialists** in this kind of craft.

As for **what** pottery is usually **made** out of, it comes from **porcelain**, which is a type of **fine clay**¹⁵³. Porcelain pots used to be considered a **luxury** and would often be displayed in **rich** people's homes. Nowadays, porcelain is still a really **valuable** product to own. People are very **proud** to **have a set of fine china**¹⁵⁴. One of the most **famous** designs is the **blue-and-white patterned porcelain**¹⁵⁵ that was made in the **Ming** dynasty.

My family has owned **a few** porcelain vases **for generations**. They've been **passed down**¹⁵⁶ through the family for **years**, which makes them feel very **special**. It's really **nice** to be able to **own a tangible piece of our culture**¹⁵⁷. Sometimes we even put **flowers** in the vases for special occasions.

Anyway, I really **love** pottery. It comes in so many **unique** shapes and designs. It's **beautiful** to look at, and it makes for **a great family heirloom**¹⁵⁸. I hope to get my **own** porcelain vases to **pass down** to my kids.

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¹⁴⁹ pottery: 陶器

¹⁵⁰ typically referred to as: 通常被称作

¹⁵¹ porcelain: 陶瓷, 瓷器

¹⁵² Over time: 随着时间的流逝

¹⁵³ fine clay: 细黏土

¹⁵⁴ have a set of fine china: 有一套精美的瓷器

¹⁵⁵ blue-and-white patterned porcelain: 青花瓷

¹⁵⁶ passed down: 流传、传承

¹⁵⁷ own a tangible piece of our culture: 拥有一件真实有形的文化 (遗产); 此处意指拥有一件看得见摸得着的文物

¹⁵⁸ a great family heirloom: 是很棒的传家宝

Describe a way/change that helps you save a lot of time

You should say:

What it is;

How you implement it;

How it helps you save time;

And explain how you feel about the way (about your change)



23. 节约时间的方法

When it comes to a **change** that helps me save a lot of **time**, **the first one that comes to mind** is **carpooling**¹⁵⁹ to work. In the **past**, I would always **commute** to work. I usually had to take **two** buses and a **subway**, which was **pretty time-consuming**¹⁶⁰. Plus, since I commuted during **rush hour**, it was **common** to get **stuck** in traffic or **deal with other delays**. It was starting to get very **overwhelming**. It even made me **late** a few times, which was **stressful**.

Anyway, this change happened when I talked to some of my **coworkers**. One of them has a **car**, and **they** suggested that they could drive us **all** to work. I really **appreciated** this kind offer. Now that I **get rides from my coworker**¹⁶¹, my morning commute is **half as long**¹⁶². It's saved me a **lot** of time in the morning, which is **amazing**.

I **love** carpooling to work because not only does it save me **time** and **money** on transit, but it helps me **start each day with some socializing**. It's **great** to talk to my coworkers on the way to work. We can listen to **music**, talk about the **night** before, and discuss all kinds of **personal stuff** before we get to work and have to be professional. I still pay our driver for **gas**, but we **split it among the group**¹⁶³ so it **doesn't cost that much**. I'm really **glad** that I've made this **change**. It definitely makes getting to work a more **positive** experience.

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¹⁵⁹ carpooling: 拼车

¹⁶⁰ time-consuming: 耗时的，花费时间的

¹⁶¹ get rides from my coworker: 搭乘我同事的车

¹⁶² half as long: 是之前通勤时间的一半长

¹⁶³ split it among the group: 搭车的人一起分摊

Describe a gift you would like to buy for your friend.

You should say:

What gift you would like to buy;

Who you would like to give it to;

Why you would like to buy a gift for him/her;

And explain why you choose that gift.



24. 想要送朋友的礼物

I'd like to talk about a **cuckoo clock**¹⁶⁴. It might sound like an **unusual** gift, but it makes **sense** if you know my friend Sarah. She **loves** collecting clocks. I think she has at least **a dozen**. They **come in all different shapes and sizes**. I **swear**, **she has one for every time of day**.

But **to my knowledge**¹⁶⁵, she's **never** gotten a cuckoo clock before. **If memory serves correctly**, Sarah and I saw one for **sale** at a store a few **months** ago. She was so **charmed** by the clock. **The little bird that popped out** was **adorable**. The **coolest** thing is that the clock was **handmade**. **Unfortunately**, that meant it was **super** expensive. So Sarah decided **not** to buy it.

Honestly, I **wasn't** able to afford it at the time. Otherwise, I **would've gone back to the store** and gotten it for her **right away**. But right now, my plan is to **save up some extra money**¹⁶⁶ so that I can give it to her. Sarah and I have been **friends** for years, and she's always good at giving me **thoughtful** gifts. I would love to be able to **give her one in return**¹⁶⁷.

I think the cuckoo clock would look **great** in her house. Plus, since she collects **clocks**, this would be **a perfect addition to her collection**. I'm really **nervous** that someone else will buy this unique clock **before I can get my hands on it**¹⁶⁸. Hopefully I can get it for her **soon**.

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¹⁶⁴ cuckoo clock: 布谷鸟钟

¹⁶⁵ to my knowledge: 据我所知

¹⁶⁶ save up some extra money: 多存一些钱

¹⁶⁷ give her one in return: 送给她一个(礼物)作为回报

¹⁶⁸ before I can get my hands on it: 在我买到它之前

Describe a piece of clothing you have that was given by someone.

You should say:

What it was;

Who gave it to you;

When you got that;

And whether you liked it or not.



25. 别人送你的衣服

The **first** thing that comes to mind is a **hand-knitted sweater**¹⁶⁹. If memory serves **correctly**, I got it from my grandma **two** years ago. She has had a **liking** for knitting since she was young. Since my **birthday** was coming up, she wanted to make me something **unique**. So she decided to knit a sweater for me with some **bees** and **flowers** on it. You know, **bees** are my favorite animal. Even though they're small and they **go unnoticed** by¹⁷⁰ most people, I think they're **adorable** and I love their black and yellow stripes. I also love different **flowers**, so I'm glad **they were incorporated** into the design¹⁷¹.

When I opened the **gift** from my grandma, I was **totally blown away** by her knitting work. The bees were so **cute**, and the **colors** of the flowers really **popped on the sweater**. It all looked so **pretty**. I was so **impressed** that my grandma could **pull this off**¹⁷² after only a few **months** of knitting.

It was a **one-of-a-kind**¹⁷³ **gift**, so I was really **happy** with it. I wore it **pretty** often. I loved to **show it off** to my friends. They were also **impressed** that my grandma could make something so beautiful.

It's so great to get **handmade** things as a gift. But when it's something so **customized**, it really **makes you feel appreciated**. I told my grandma that I felt really **touched** that she spent so much time and effort on making a sweater for me. Plus, she even remembered my **favorite** animal. It was so **sweet** of her to **put that effort in**¹⁷⁴.

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¹⁶⁹ hand-knitted sweater: 手工编织的毛衣

¹⁷⁰ go unnoticed by: 被忽略

¹⁷¹ they were incorporated into the design: 被融入到 (毛衣的) 设计中

¹⁷² pull this off: 搞定, 做好

¹⁷³ one-of-a-kind: 独一无二的

¹⁷⁴ put that effort in: 付出如此多的努力、精力

Describe a special cake you received from others.

You should say:

When it happened;

Where it happened;

Who you got the cake from;

And explain why it's a special cake.



26. 特别的蛋糕

I'm going to talk about a **birthday** cake I got for my **twelfth** birthday. Even though **that was ages ago**, it's one of the most **memorable** desserts I've ever had. **If memory serves correctly**, my **friends** bought it for me, with their **parents'** help.

I was born **in the Year of the Tiger in the Chinese Zodiac**¹⁷⁵. For my **twelfth** birthday, it was the Year of the Tiger **again**. So my friends thought it would be cool to get a birthday cake shaped like a **tiger**. I didn't even think that was **possible** before I got it, but they **surprised** me by going to a local bakery and **placing a special order**¹⁷⁶.

The bakers had **shaped the cake into a tiger**, and added lots of **fondant**¹⁷⁷ and **icing**¹⁷⁸ to make it look realistic. It even had a long, striped **tail**. I was so **amazed** by **the level of detail**¹⁷⁹. Honestly, I didn't even want to **eat** it at first. **It seemed like a shame to ruin something so beautiful by eating it**. But when I said that, my friends just laughed and told me **that was the whole point of**¹⁸⁰ having a special cake. I made sure that we took lots of **pictures** of it before we **cut it up** and **served**¹⁸¹ it.

Anyway, I was so **touched** when I got that cake. It showed that my friends really **cared** about me and remembered **little** details about me to make the day even more **special**.

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¹⁷⁵ in the Year of the Tiger in the Chinese Zodiac: 在中国 12 生肖的虎年 (出生)

¹⁷⁶ placing a special order: 下了一个很特别的订单; 定了一个很特别的蛋糕

¹⁷⁷ fondant: (装饰蛋糕的) 翻糖

¹⁷⁸ icing: 糖霜

¹⁷⁹ the level of detail: 细节级别 (指细节做的非常好)

¹⁸⁰ that was the whole point of: 这是...的核心、意义

¹⁸¹ served: 招待大家吃 (蛋糕)

Describe a rule that you don't like

You should say:

What it is;

Why you don't like it;

How others feel about the rule;

And explain whether you've followed the rule.

**27. 不喜欢的规则**

I'm going to talk about a **beach** that doesn't allow **dogs**. **If memory serves correctly**, I first found out about this beach from a **friend**. They were **looking into cool spots to visit**¹⁸² that were close to our city. We had to drive **an hour** to get there, but **it was totally worth it**. The sights were **incredible**. The **water** was so clear and blue, and the **sand** was nice and warm. We had a **great** visit, so we decided to bring our **dogs** the next time we went there.

One weekend, we **went through all the effort of**¹⁸³ packing up toys, food, and water for our dogs. But when we got to the beach, we came across a **sign** that said "**no** dogs allowed." We hadn't noticed that the **first** time we went. We were both **pretty ticked off**¹⁸⁴.

We've visited **other** beaches that **allow** you to bring your dog, as long as you **pick up after them**¹⁸⁵. I **totally** get that some owners **don't clean up after their dogs**, but that's definitely not the **majority**. So my friend and I were **annoyed** that this beach in particular **wouldn't** let us bring our dogs with them. We **reluctantly** packed everything back up again and took our dogs home.

It **wasn't** worth breaking the rule, especially since those beaches are sometimes **patrolled by security**¹⁸⁶. But it was really **annoying**, and I know lots of dog owners who **aren't** a fan of this rule either. Hopefully they will **cancel** this rule soon, or **at the very least**¹⁸⁷, **set up a dog park** where dog owners can take their dogs to play, which I think might be a **better** solution.

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¹⁸² looking into cool spots to visit: 寻找一些很棒很酷的景点游玩¹⁸³ went through all the effort of: 竭尽全力的做某事¹⁸⁴ ticked off: 非常生气¹⁸⁵ pick up after them: 把某个地方搞的脏乱差后要收拾整理, 这里的意思是在狗狗拉了以后主人要及时做好清理工作¹⁸⁶ patrolled by security: 有保安巡逻¹⁸⁷ at the very least: 至少, 起码

Describe a lesson you remember

You should say:

What the lesson was about;

Where you had it;

Why you remember it;

And explain how you feel about the lesson.



28. 印象深刻的一节课

I'm going to talk about the time my friend **Alex** taught me how to ride a **bike**. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened **two** years ago. A lot of people learn how to ride a bike when they're **kids**. But **for some reason**¹⁸⁸, I **never** did. I guess my parents just **didn't** think it was important. Otherwise, they **would've gotten me a bike** and taught me **how** to ride it.

When Alex learned that I **didn't** know how to ride a bike, he **immediately** insisted on teaching me. I was really **nervous**, especially since **I'm not the most coordinated person in the world**. But Alex told me that I was going to be **fine**. Honestly, I really **appreciated** his patience and encouragement. I went over to his house and he brought out a **bike** for me to **practice on**. Before we even tried biking on the **street**, he **held the bike in place**¹⁸⁹ and **walked me through**¹⁹⁰ the basic technique.

It was **funny** because he even brought a **megaphone**¹⁹¹ to shout **encouragements** through. I managed to bike **halfway** down the street before **wiping out**¹⁹². But when I **did**, Alex **didn't** laugh or make me feel **bad** about it. Instead, he helped me **dust myself off**¹⁹³ and encouraged me to try again. With **his** help, I managed to **get the hang of**¹⁹⁴ riding a bike in an afternoon. Afterwards, he and I went for a short **bike ride** around his neighborhood. It was a really **lovely** day. I still remember it **very fondly**.

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¹⁸⁸ for some reason: 由于某种原因

¹⁸⁹ held the bike in place: 把车子固定好

¹⁹⁰ walked me through: 仔细地、一步步地教我

¹⁹¹ megaphone: 扩音器

¹⁹² wiping out: 摔倒

¹⁹³ dust myself off: (帮我) 拍了拍身上的土

¹⁹⁴ get the hang of: 掌握...的窍门

Describe an interesting song.

You should say:

What the song is;

What story the song tells;

Whether the song is popular;

And explain why you think it is interesting.



29. 有趣的歌曲

I'm going to talk about a song called "Love Story." It's a song by a **popular** American singer-songwriter named **Taylor Swift**. **If memory serves correctly**, I first heard this song when I was in **elementary** school. I remember **being really caught up in the story of the song**, which is basically **a retelling of Romeo and Juliet**¹⁹⁵. But it's from **Juliet's** perspective, which I think is **unique**.

In the song, Taylor **takes on the character of Juliet**¹⁹⁶ and sings about **meeting** and falling in **love** with Romeo. But her dad **doesn't** want them to be together, which **makes their love difficult**. In the **chorus**¹⁹⁷, she sings about wanting Romeo to **come** and **save her from her situation**¹⁹⁸ so that they can run away and be **together**. The chorus ends with her saying that it's a **love** story, and **all he has to do is say** yes.

Then, later in the song, she talks about **losing hope that they can ever be together**. But Romeo appears and **proposes** to her. Then she says yes and they have a **happy ending** together. I think it's interesting that she decided to do a **different** version of the story. In the **original**, Romeo and Juliet both **die** at the end. It's very **tragic**. But Taylor wrote a song where they got to be **together** instead.

The song is definitely really **popular**. It's one of Taylor's **best-known songs**¹⁹⁹ because it's so **catchy**²⁰⁰ and the lyrics are **fun** and **romantic**. I love the song and I think it's a **classic**.

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¹⁹⁵ a retelling of Romeo and Juliet: 复述罗密欧与朱丽叶的故事

¹⁹⁶ takes on the character of Juliet: 饰演朱丽叶的角色

¹⁹⁷ chorus: 副歌，副歌部分

¹⁹⁸ save her from her situation: 把她从她所处的困境中解救出来

¹⁹⁹ best-known songs: 有名的歌曲

²⁰⁰ catchy: 悦耳的，朗朗上口的

Describe something that helped you learn a language.

You should say:

What it is;

What language you learned;

How it helped you learn the language;

And how you felt about it.



30. 帮助学习语言的工具

I'm going to talk about how watching a **TV show** helped me learn a **new language**. **If memory serves correctly**, I first wanted to learn **French** when I was in **high school**. I had a **dream** of visiting **Paris** once I graduated, and I thought it would be **cool** to be able to talk to the **locals** there in their **native language**. But I **wasn't** taking any French classes, so I had to **learn it on my own**²⁰¹.

One really helpful method was watching a **French TV show**. At first, I **put on subtitles in my own language**²⁰² so that I could understand **what** was being said in French. Then, as I became more **familiar** with the language, I put the subtitles on in **French**. By **reading along with what was being said**²⁰³, I started to understand more of the sentence **structure** and **vocabulary**. I even **rewatched** some episodes and tried to **say the dialogue along with the actors**²⁰⁴. It helped me **become more active in the learning process**. Once I had watched the **entire** show, I felt a lot more comfortable with **listening** and **speaking** French.

I was really **proud** of myself for **trying this method out**. Obviously, watching a TV show **isn't** the perfect **replacement** for **having a tutor** or actually learning by practicing it in **real life**. But **it was a great first step**. It made me more **confident** in learning a language. And it was actually **really helpful**.

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²⁰¹ learn it on my own: 自学

²⁰² put on subtitles in my own language: 我配上了我自己语言的字幕

²⁰³ reading along with what was being said: 跟着电

视节目里的人读，做跟读

²⁰⁴ say the dialogue along with the actors: 和演员一起说对白、台词

Describe something in your home that you broke and then repaired.

You should say:

What it is;

How you broke it;

How you repaired it;

And how you felt about it.



31. 坏掉又修好的东西

The **first** thing that **comes to mind** is the **towel rack**²⁰⁵ in my bathroom. You know, it's just a thin metal **rod** that's attached to the wall. **If memory serves correctly**, I first broke it when I was **grabbing** a towel and pulled **too** hard. It **snapped right off**²⁰⁶, which was really **startling**²⁰⁷. I almost **hit** myself in the face with the rod, which was kind of **embarrassing**.

But when I looked **closely**, I realized that I just had to **screw** it back in. Instead of being attached **directly** to the wall, it was attached to two **metal fixtures**²⁰⁸. So I just had to **fit the bar back into**²⁰⁹ the fixtures, and then use a **screwdriver**²¹⁰ so that **it didn't get loose enough to pull off**²¹¹. Honestly, I'm **not** usually very handy. But this seemed like **a pretty simple fix**.

I found my old **toolbox**, which had lots of **different** sizes and types of screwdrivers. **Through some trial and error**, I got a screwdriver that would be able to **fit** the screws of the metal rod. Then, I **managed** to screw the rod back into the fixtures so that it worked as a towel rack again. Even though it **wasn't** that complicated, I felt pretty **proud** of myself for figuring it out. I think it's **good** to learn some basic skills when it comes to using **tools**. It can help you do some simple **repairs** and **save you lots of trouble**²¹².

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²⁰⁵ towel rack: 毛巾架

²⁰⁶ snapped right off: 立马就断裂了

²⁰⁷ startling: 让人吃惊

²⁰⁸ metal fixtures: 金属装置

²⁰⁹ fit the bar back into: 把这个杆子装回到...里面

²¹⁰ screwdriver: 螺丝刀

²¹¹ it didn't get loose enough to pull off: 它就不会松到掉下来

²¹² save you lots of trouble: 为你省掉很多麻烦

Describe a skill that you learned from older people.

You should say:

What it is;

Who you learned it from;

How you learned it;

And how you feel about it.



32. 向长者学习技能

One skill that I learned from older people is **baking**. My grandma is an **amazing** baker, and she always made the desserts for any **family gathering**²¹³ or holiday that we had. She has been teaching me to bake ever since I was a **child**. **Some of my earliest memories are of when** I would be at my grandparent's house for a **sleepover** and she would be teaching myself and my sister how to bake **cookies**. We always had a **great** time, even if we were **too** young to really understand the process.

My favourite thing to bake is **red bean cakes**²¹⁴. These are a **traditional** kind of snack in China, and most importantly, they taste **really** good. Red bean cakes are **crispy** outside but **tender**²¹⁵ and **sweet** inside, and the red bean flavor **is the best part**. They were pretty **easy** to make, but my grandma **didn't** properly teach me how to make them until I was in **high** school. Now, I make them **all** the time for **family get-togethers**²¹⁶.

I'm so **grateful** to my grandma for everything she taught me, but especially for teaching me how to **bake**. She **passed on**²¹⁷ all of her recipes to me and I make them **every chance I get**²¹⁸. I also had a lot of **fun** learning to bake, because it was something that we could do **together**. My grandma is someone I have **always** **looked up to**, and I'm glad she taught me so many **important** skills.

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²¹³ family gathering: 家庭聚会

²¹⁴ red bean cakes: 红豆糕

²¹⁵ tender: 软糯的

²¹⁶ family get-togethers: 家庭团聚, 家庭聚会

²¹⁷ passed on: 把...传下来, 传给了 (我)

²¹⁸ every chance I get: 只要一有机会

Describe the thing that you cannot live without (except phone and internet)

You should say:

What it is;

Why you can't manage without it;

How long you have had it for;

And explain how you felt when you were without it.



33. 生活中不可或缺的东西

The first thing that **comes to mind** is my **guitar**. **If memory serves correctly**, I bought this guitar **five** years ago. I had wanted to learn how to play guitar for a **long** time, but I never had the **opportunity** or the **time**. However, **five** years ago, I had just finished **high** school and I wanted to **treat myself**²¹⁹. So when I saw a decent guitar on **sale**, I decided to buy it **without a second thought**²²⁰. Honestly, **it's one of the best purchases I've ever made**.

I started learning how to play whenever I had **free** time. It was really **difficult** at first, but it became very **rewarding** whenever I figured out how to play some **chords**. I started with some **easy** songs, and then I gradually learned how to do more **advanced** techniques like **finger-picking**²²¹. Even though **I'm mostly self-taught**²²², I've been able to learn how to play **lots** of different styles of music. It's helped me **relax** whenever I get stressed out, so I **can't** imagine life without it.

Actually, I did have to go **without** my guitar when I went on **vacation**. Even though the vacation **was supposed to help me relax**, I actually really **missed** my guitar and I wished that I had it the **whole** time. Playing guitar not only helps me **decompress**, but it also gives me a lot of **joy**. So I was **kind of sad** that I **couldn't** be playing it every day. Whenever I come home from a **long** trip, I feel a lot **happier** and more **relaxed** playing a few **songs** on my guitar. It's like seeing an **old friend** again.

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²¹⁹ treat myself: 犒劳自己, 奖励自己

²²⁰ without a second thought: 毫不犹豫

²²¹ finger-picking: (吉他) 指弹技巧

²²² I'm mostly self-taught: 基本是自学的

Describe something that you received for free.

You should say:

What it was;

Who you received it from;

Where you received it;

And explain how you felt about it.



34. 免费物品

I'm going to talk about the time I got a box of **dim sum**²²³ for free. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a **couple** years ago. I was **picking up** some cupcakes at a local bakery. I've been going to this place for **years**, since it always has really **delicious pastries**²²⁴ and desserts. Plus, it's **not** that expensive, which I really **appreciate**. Anyways, I was getting cupcakes for my **sister's** birthday party when I **overheard** a conversation²²⁵ between a customer and the cashier.

The customer was returning a box of green bean cakes they ordered because the bakery accidentally **overbaked** them. But the cakes **didn't** look so bad to me. The cashier explained that they would **give the customer a refund**²²⁶, but they would probably have to **throw out**²²⁷ the green bean cakes. Honestly, I normally **never** intervene, but I **pipd up**²²⁸ and said that if they were just going to **throw** it out, I could **take it off their hands**²²⁹. The cashier looked **surprised**, but they said that **there was no rule against that**²³⁰, so they added it to my order for **free**. I ended up leaving the bakery with my cupcakes as well as **most of perfectly good green bean cakes**.

It was a **small** thing, but I **felt on top of the world**²³¹. It's always **cool** getting something free. Plus, when I showed up at my **sister's party** with the box of green bean cakes, everyone was **amused** by the story and **happy** that I brought **extra** dessert.

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²²³ dim sum: 点心

²²⁴ pastries: 酥皮糕点

²²⁵ overheard a conversation: 无意中听到别人的对话

²²⁶ give the customer a refund: 给顾客退款

²²⁷ throw out: 扔掉

²²⁸ pipd up: (在别人没有注意到的时候) 突然开

口说 (往往表述的是别人会因此感到诧异); 插嘴

²²⁹ take it off their hands: 从他们手中拿走

²³⁰ there was no rule against that: 没有规定说不可以这样

²³¹ felt on top of the world: 感到开心愉悦

Describe a special toy you had in your childhood.

You should say:

What it was;

Who gave it to you;

How often (How) you played with it;

And explain why it was special for you



35. 小时候喜欢的玩具

I'm going to talk about a **remote-control**²³² car I had as a kid. If memory serves **correctly**, I got it as a **birthday present** when I turned ten. Since it was my **first double-digit birthday**²³³, my parents wanted to celebrate in a **special** way. This toy was **pretty** expensive. I could **hardly believe my eyes**²³⁴ when I opened it. Remote-control cars were **all the rage**²³⁵ at the time, so I felt like the **luckiest** kid in the world when I realized that I **had** one.

It took me a while to **get the hang of**²³⁶ it. It wasn't **that** hard to **steer**²³⁷, but I was only **ten**, and my coordination definitely **wasn't** the greatest. It was just **difficult** to get the turns right. But once I **practiced enough**, I could steer the car **wherever** I wanted. Of course, that quickly got **annoying** to my parents. After all, it was a big **tripping hazard**²³⁸. So I could only play with it in **my room** or **outside**.

I **really** loved that car. My friends were all **green with envy**²³⁹ that I had it. But I made sure to **share** with them. When they came over, we all **took turns** driving the car around. Sometimes it was **tempting**²⁴⁰ to keep the car all to myself. But I **got a kick out of**²⁴¹ **watching** my friends steer it. They often **bumped** it into the wall, which was **pretty** funny to me.

Anyway, I'm really **glad** that my parents got me such a **nice** gift. It was a **great** way to spend my time. (Copyright to 雅思过过过淘宝店铺)

²³² remote-control: 遥控的

²³³ double-digit birthday: 两位数的生日

²³⁴ hardly believe my eyes: 几乎不敢相信我的眼睛

²³⁵ all the rage: 流行的，时尚的

²³⁶ get the hang of: 摸清...的窍门

²³⁷ steer: 控制

²³⁸ tripping hazard: 被绊倒的危险

²³⁹ green with envy: 羡慕嫉妒

²⁴⁰ tempting: 短暂的，暂时的

²⁴¹ got a kick out of: 从...中得到极大的乐趣

Describe a place (not your hometown) where you would like to recommend living in.

You should say:

Where it is;

How you know there;

What people can do there;

And explain why you would like to recommend the place.



36. 推荐他人居住的地方

When it comes to somewhere I'd **recommend** living, **the first place that comes to mind** is **Beijing**. It's a **major** city in **northern** China. **It has lots of charm to it**²⁴², and I think **it has something to offer for every** type of person.

Since it's a **big** city, **there's a sense of excitement** wherever you look. There are so many **famous** and **historic sites** to visit. The **coolest** one is probably the **Great Wall** of China. You can **walk** on it and see a **beautiful** view of your surroundings. You can also visit **amazing** places in the city like the **Forbidden City** and the **Temple** of Heaven.

Actually it's a great place to **live** and **not just be a tourist in**. **On a day-to-day basis**²⁴³, you can enjoy the **stunning** modern architecture and **the bustling night life**²⁴⁴. Plus, the **food** there is **to die for**²⁴⁵. You have to try **famous** dishes like **Peking duck** and **thousand-layered** cake, as well as more **unique** specialties like **fish head** soup. What's more, Beijing has lots to offer in **other** areas of life. For example, the city has very **reputable schools**²⁴⁶, good **hospitals**, and great **public transportation**. There are also lots of **job opportunities** in many different fields, and **the average wage** is also way higher than²⁴⁷ most cities in China.

All in all, I think Beijing is a **beautiful, exciting** city where there's **always** something to **capture your interest**²⁴⁸. So it would be a **great** place to live in.

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²⁴² It has lots of charm to it: 这座城市魅力无限

²⁴³ On a day-to-day basis: 在日常生活中

²⁴⁴ the bustling night life: 繁华的夜生活

²⁴⁵ to die for: (食物) 美味至极

²⁴⁶ reputable schools: 名校

²⁴⁷ the average wage is also way higher than: 平均工资远高于...

²⁴⁸ capture your interest: 吸引你的兴趣

Describe a quiet place

You should say:

Where it is;

How you knew it;

What you do there;

And explain how you feel about the place.



37. 安静的地方

I'm going to talk about a **library** that's **within walking distance of** my home. **To be accurate**²⁴⁹, it takes me just about **10** minutes to walk there. So that's the **first** quiet place that I can think of.

It's a **large** public library that has lots of different **sections**²⁵⁰, like a newsroom, video room, study room and children's reading room. It's also a **popular** place in my neighborhood as I always see **plenty of** people there. Even though it often has **many** visitors, the environment there is usually **quiet and peaceful** as most of them **are conscious about**²⁵¹ **keeping their voices down** after they've entered the library.

Actually it is the place to go **whenever** I want to study for the IELTS test, especially on **weekends**. It's **definitely** a perfect place for **silent study**. I've **never** **had any issues with**²⁵² people making **noise** and **disturbing** my study. And I always feel very **productive** studying at the library. You know, when **everyone** around is concentrated on studying, the atmosphere **is really conducive**²⁵³ for motivation and concentration.

The **librarians**²⁵⁴ there are usually **pretty** strict about **limiting** noises and require all visitors to **mute their cellphones**²⁵⁵. So you **barely** hear a cellphone ringing. And visitors **all** try to keep quiet. **To tell the truth, it is rare to** have such a peaceful place in the city. I really **enjoy** the peace and quiet of the library.

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²⁴⁹ To be accurate: 准确的说

²⁵⁰ sections: 分区, (划分很多不同的)部门

²⁵¹ are conscious about...有意识的...

²⁵² never had any issues with...从没有遇到任何问题

²⁵³ conducive: 有益的

²⁵⁴ librarians: 图书馆管理员

²⁵⁵ mute their cellphones: 让手机静音

Describe an important river/lake in your country

You should say:

Where it is located;

How big/long it is;

What it looks like;

And explain why it is important.



38. 重要河流/湖泊

My hometown is Wuhan, a city in the **middle** stretch of the **Yangtze River**. So **when it comes to a river, the first one I can think of is** the **Yangtze River**. In China, it's known as **Changjiang**, which means "**Long River**." It's probably one of the most **well-known** rivers around the world. It's almost **4,000** miles long, which makes it the **longest** river in China and Asia. It's also the **third-longest** in the world. That's pretty **impressive**! Since it's **so** long, the Yangtze River **goes through many different provinces and regions in China**²⁵⁶.

I learned **a lot** about the Yangtze River from **geography** classes in **secondary** school. It was an important **cradle**²⁵⁷ of **early civilization**²⁵⁸ in China. For **thousands** of years, it's been used for **water, irrigation, sanitation**²⁵⁹, **boundary-marking**²⁶⁰, and even **war**. Besides, it has always been an important **waterway**²⁶¹ between the **western** provinces and the **eastern** provinces.

Even **nowadays**, towns and cities along this river **still** benefit from it for **agriculture, transportation and tourism**. For example, the beautiful and scenic **Three Gorges area**²⁶² on the Yangtze is one of the most **popular** tourist attractions in China. My family and I took **a river cruise trip**²⁶³ through there before. The trip really **takes a weight off my shoulders**²⁶⁴. Actually, every year, **tons** of tourists make a special trip to visit this **peaceful** place. So, in both **ancient** China or **modern** China, the Yangtze River has always been **valuable in terms of**²⁶⁵ economy and culture.

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²⁵⁶ goes through many different provinces and regions in China: 流经中国许多不同的省份和地区

²⁵⁷ cradle: 摇篮

²⁵⁸ early civilization: 早期文明

²⁵⁹ sanitation: 卫生清洁

²⁶⁰ boundary-marking: 边界标记

²⁶¹ waterway: 水道

²⁶² Three Gorges area: 三峡地区

²⁶³ a river cruise trip: 河上巡游 (长江三峡游)

²⁶⁴ takes a weight off my shoulders: 减轻了我的负担, 让我得到了放松

²⁶⁵ in terms of: 在...方面

Describe a time you visited a new place.

You should say:

Where it is;

When you went there;

Why you went there;

And explain how you feel about the place.



39. 一个去过的新地方

I'm going to talk about the time my **friends** and I visited **New York City**. It's one of the most **famous tourist destinations** in the world, and **for good reason**²⁶⁶. It's a very **well-known**²⁶⁷ city in the United States. In general, it's considered **a hub of**²⁶⁸ **art, finance, entertainment**, and lots of other **industries**.

I first visited this city when I went there on a **trip** with my friends about **five** years ago. We wanted to see a **real Broadway musical**²⁶⁹, so we booked **tickets** and decided to spend a few days **sightseeing**²⁷⁰ as well. It was such a **great** experience. The musical was **fantastic**. We were all **blown away** by the **quality** of the performance.

Plus, **the city has an amazing energy**²⁷¹ that makes you feel **excited** to be there. We did **all** kinds of tourist activities. One of my favourite experiences was **walking** across the **Brooklyn Bridge**. It was really **cool** getting to see the city from the bridge. We also took lots of **cute pictures** with all the **intricate architecture** in the background. Once we made it across the bridge, we had the **best pizza** I've ever tasted. **It was definitely worth going back for**.

As for **how** I feel about New York, I think it's one of the **coolest** places in the world. **It's such an interesting city with so much to offer**. I would love to go **back** and check out even **more** tourist spots, like the Statue of **Liberty** or the **Empire State Building**.

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²⁶⁶ for good reason: 是公认的，已经被充分理由证实的

²⁶⁷ well-known: 著名的，众所周知的

²⁶⁸ a hub of: ...的中心

²⁶⁹ Broadway musical: 百老汇音乐剧

²⁷⁰ sightseeing: 观光，游览

²⁷¹ the city has an amazing energy: 这座城市有惊人的活力、能量

Describe a city that you think is interesting

You should say:

Where it is;

What the city is famous for;

How you knew this city;

And explain why you think it is very interesting.



40. 有趣的城市

When it comes to an **interesting** city, I have to mention **New York City**. It's one of the most **famous tourist destinations** in the world, and **for good reason**. It's a very **well-known** city in the United States. In general, it's considered **a hub of art, finance, entertainment**, and lots of other **industries**. Just like **Tokyo, London, and Paris**, New York **has a reputation for²⁷² being an amazing city with so much to offer**.

It's **hard** to say what New York is **most** famous for. It's usually known for **Broadway** musicals, **cutting-edge²⁷³ fashion**, an impressive **financial** district, and some **unique** architecture. Lots of tourists love going to see the Statue of **Liberty** or the **Empire State Building**. New York also has lots of **famous** bridges, like the **Brooklyn Bridge** or the **Manhattan Bridge**. Tons of **movies** and **TV shows** are filmed there, so you can often **spot celebrities walking around²⁷⁴**.

Anyway, I came to know this city when I went there on a **trip** with my friends. We wanted to see a **real Broadway musical**, so we booked **tickets** and decided to spend a few days **sightseeing** as well. It was such a **great** experience. **The city has an amazing energy** that makes you feel **excited** to be there. We also tried lots of **delicious** food. Their pizza is **fantastic**.

I think it's an **interesting** city because not only does it offer lots of **unique** things to see and do, but **the people there are so diverse** and have lots to offer as well. The atmosphere is really **thrilling**.

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²⁷² has a reputation for: 以...而闻名

²⁷³ cutting-edge: 尖端的, 这里指前沿时尚

²⁷⁴ spot celebrities walking around: 见到路过的明星们

Describe a place in a countryside that you visited

You should say:

Where it is;

When you visited this place;

What you did there;

And how you feel about this place.



41. 乡村一隅

I'm going to talk about my friend **David's house**. It's located in the **countryside**, about a **few hours** away from where I live. I got to visit him **last summer**. I had such a **great** time because of how **beautiful** it is there.

If memory serves **correctly**, he invited me over so that we could **go for a nature walk**. He said he just discovered this awesome **trail** close to his house. David is a pretty **active** person. He's always going for **hikes**. So I trusted him and **made the drive out to his house**²⁷⁵.

He **has an amazing property**. It's **far** away from **the main roads**. There **aren't** many neighbors around, so the place feels very **private** and **secluded**²⁷⁶. I really **enjoy** going to his house because it's nice to **take a break from the hustle and bustle of the city where I live**²⁷⁷. Once I got there, we had a nice **dinner** together, then we went for a **walk** after. He lives close to a **hill**, so we **walked to the top**²⁷⁸ and watched the **sunset**. The next day, he took me for a **longer hike** through the trail he'd found in a nearby forest. We saw some pretty **birds** and even found a **small river running through the forest**.

I felt so at **peace**²⁷⁹ there. It's really **nice** being surrounded by nature. I really **love being at his place**. It has **amazing** views and it's very **relaxing**.

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²⁷⁵ made the drive out to his house: 开车去他的家

²⁷⁶ secluded: 隐蔽的

²⁷⁷ take a break from the hustle and bustle of the city where I live: 从所居住城市喧嚣的生活中解脱出来

休息一下

²⁷⁸ walked to the top: 爬到山顶

²⁷⁹ felt so at peace: 感到很平和，很平静

Describe a house or an apartment you would like to live in

You should say:

What it is like;

Where it would be;

Why you would like to live in this house/apartment;

And how you feel about this house/apartment



42. 想要的公寓或房子

When it comes to **where** I'd like to live, my dream is to **live in a house by the sea**²⁸⁰. It sounds pretty **extravagant**, especially considering how **expensive** those kinds of properties are. But I think it would be the **perfect** place to **settle down**²⁸¹.

The idea of a place like this **first** came to me when I visited my friend's **cottage**. Her parents bought this cottage **years** ago, **when the cost of housing wasn't so bad**²⁸². It's an **amazing** property. It has a **stunning view** of the water. You can watch the most beautiful **sunrises** from a window in their **living** room. So after I stayed there for a **weekend**, I knew that I wanted to live somewhere **exactly** like it.

Cottages are **unique** because they **aren't** super big. Instead, they're **cozy** places that you usually just stay in when you go on **vacation**. But honestly, I believe I would really **enjoy** living in a house **that** size. I **wouldn't** want a house that has **too many** rooms. I think it would be **nice** if it had a very **simple** design. I don't like **extravagant** interior designs²⁸³.

Anyway, living by the sea would be awesome because you could spend a **lot** of time at the **beach**. It would be a **perfect** place to **host get-togethers**²⁸⁴, because **everyone** would want to **come** **enjoy the scenery**. It's probably **unrealistic** for me to dream of having this kind of house, but **I'm** **so in love with the idea**. I hope it can come **true** someday.

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²⁸⁰ live in a house by the sea: 住在靠海的房子里

²⁸¹ settle down: 安家, 定居

²⁸² when the cost of housing wasn't so bad: 当时的房价还不算很贵

²⁸³ extravagant interior designs: 奢侈夸张的室内设计

²⁸⁴ host get-togethers: 举办聚会

Describe a family member who you want to work with in the future.

You should say:

Who he/she is;

What kind of person he/she is;

What kind of work you would like to do with him/her;

And explain how you felt about this family member.



43. 想共事的家人

Well, I'm going to talk about my **cousin**, Sarah. She's a few years **younger** than me, but I actually feel like I could learn a **lot** from her. Since **we're not too far apart in age**²⁸⁵, we've always been very **close**. I would consider her a **friend**, not just a **relative**.

Sarah is a very **bright** young woman. She **excels in everything she tries her hand at**²⁸⁶. In addition to being very **creative** and **artistically-minded**²⁸⁷, she also **has a great knack for business**. She would make a great **entrepreneur**. So it would be **cool** to start a **business** with her. She's especially talented at **painting** and **making knickknacks**²⁸⁸, so I think that she could make really **artsy products**²⁸⁹ and we could **sell** them together. We could **make one-of-a-kind products**²⁹⁰ that people would **go crazy over**²⁹¹. Since Sarah would be good at **making** the products and **figuring out a business model**²⁹², I would be happy to **do the behind-the-scenes work**²⁹³ and handle the **administrative** side of things.

Anyway, I think we would be a **great team** because we get along very **well** and we have a **good** relationship with each other. I believe we could overcome **any** disagreements and **cooperate** to ensure that our business **runs smoothly**²⁹⁴.

All in all, I really **like** and **respect** Sarah. I think that she'd be a **great** business partner. **If I ever have the chance**, I would love to **work** with her in the future.

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²⁸⁵ we're not too far apart in age: 我们的年龄相差不大

²⁸⁶ excels in everything she tries her hand at: 她每一件事都做得非常出色

²⁸⁷ artistically-minded: 有艺术细胞

²⁸⁸ making knickknacks: 制作小饰品

²⁸⁹ artsy products: 有艺术性的产品

²⁹⁰ make one-of-a-kind products: 制作出独一无二的产品

²⁹¹ go crazy over: 为之疯狂

²⁹² figuring out a business model: 想出一个商业模式

²⁹³ do the behind-the-scenes work: 做幕后工作

²⁹⁴ runs smoothly: 顺利经营下去

Describe an interesting neighbor.

You should say:

Who he/she is;

How you knew him/her;

What you do together;

And explain why he/she is interesting.



44. 有趣的邻居

I'm going to talk about my neighbor **Susan**. She's a very **interesting** woman in her mid-thirties. **If memory serves correctly**, she first moved into the neighborhood three **years** ago. She came over and **introduced** herself to me and my family right away, which **made a strong impression on me**²⁹⁵. Susan is a very **friendly** and **eccentric**²⁹⁶ person. From the **moment** you meet her, you can tell that she has a very **special** kind of energy.

Susan really **stands out** because she owns a **ton** of **exotic birds**²⁹⁷. It's pretty **uncommon** to see someone living **alone** with **a bunch of birds**²⁹⁸, but Susan doesn't seem **lonely** or anything. She loves her pets **so much**. She often **invites** me over to **hang out with the birds**. She's trained them to say little **phrases** and **do tricks**²⁹⁹. It's **super** fun to watch.

I think Susan is interesting not only because of her **pets**, but also because of her **attitude** toward life. **She's very carefree**, but she also has **street smarts**³⁰⁰. So while she **hasn't** planned out every moment of her life, she's **smart** enough to save her money in case of **emergencies**. She's very **practical**, but she's also very **spontaneous**³⁰¹. Last month, she went on a week-long trip to another **city** just because she felt **like** it.

All in all, Susan **has a very unusual approach to life**, but it seems to **be working for her**³⁰². I really **admire** her. I'm **glad** she's my neighbor.

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²⁹⁵ made a strong impression on me: 给我留下了深刻的印象

²⁹⁶ eccentric: 异乎寻常的、古怪的

²⁹⁷ exotic birds: 奇异鸟类

²⁹⁸ a bunch of birds: 一群鸟

²⁹⁹ do tricks: 做些小把戏

³⁰⁰ She's very carefree, but she also has street smarts: 她（过的）非常的无忧无虑，而且她也很有“江湖智慧”（街头智慧）

³⁰¹ spontaneous: 率直的

³⁰² be working for her: （这种生活方式）很适合她

Describe a friend you like to talk with

You should say:

Who he/she is;

What you like to talk about;

Why you like to talk with him/her;

And explain how you feel about him/her.



45. 享受的聊天对象/喜欢一起聊天的朋友

The **first** person who comes to mind is one of my **best** friends, **Alex**. He's a **great** friend to hang out with. We've known each other for **six** years now. We first met in **university**. We happened to sit **next to** each other in class. I asked if I could borrow a **pencil** since I'd **forgotten** mine. Alex **handed over**³⁰³ his **whole** pencil case and said I could take **anything** I wanted. We **hit it off right away**³⁰⁴. Ever since, we've been very **close**.

I really like **talking** to Alex because he's a very **open-minded**³⁰⁵ and **generous** person. He likes talking about **any** topic **under the sun**³⁰⁶. If we **disagree** on something, he's **never** rude about it. He's genuinely **interested** in hearing **different** opinions and **having a civil debate**³⁰⁷. He also **never dominates** the conversation³⁰⁸. He makes sure that **everyone** has the chance to be heard. I really **appreciate** that about him.

I especially enjoy talking about **TV shows** with him. He's a **fan** of **lots** of different shows, so we **always** have something to talk about. He always has interesting **theories** about the characters and **where** the plot will go next³⁰⁹. It's so **fun** watching a TV show with him. He usually **has funny commentary**³¹⁰, which makes the experience really **entertaining**.

I definitely **value** Alex's friendship a lot. I think he's a **wonderful** person. I feel **comfortable** talking to him about anything, no matter how **personal** it is. I hope we always **stay in each other's lives**³¹¹.

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³⁰³ handed over: 交出

³⁰⁴ hit it off right away: 很快就打成一片，一见如故

³⁰⁵ open-minded: 豁达的

³⁰⁶ under the sun: 天底下，世界上的任何地方的

³⁰⁷ having a civil debate: 礼貌的辩论（不吵架）；

³⁰⁸ never dominates the conversation: 他从来不会在聊天中占主导地位（让别人听他的）

³⁰⁹ where the plot will go next: 剧情下一步走向

³¹⁰ has funny commentary: 发表（针对节目的）有趣的评论

³¹¹ stay in each other's lives: 留在彼此的生活中

Describe someone who is well known/popular in your town, area or country.

You should say:

What s/he does;

How you know him/her;

Why this person is well known/popular;

And explain whether you like this person or not, and why.



46. (国家/家乡) 有名的人

I'm going to talk about a **business owner** who's pretty **famous** in my hometown. It sounds **funny**, but she's actually **a bit of a minor celebrity**³¹². She's **middle-aged**, probably **in her late forties**. A few **years** ago, she decided to open a **cat café**. It was a pretty **unusual** business idea, considering that our town **doesn't** have anything else like that. But I think that's what made her café such a **success**.

If memory serves correctly, I first went to this café when it **opened**. I was really **intrigued** by the idea and I wanted to meet the **owner**. She was so **friendly**. As soon as I **walked** in the door, she **greeted** me and told me I could **pick a cat to play with**. She had **four** or **five** of them walking around the café. I was **surprised** to see them **roaming around**³¹³, but I had a **great** time enjoying a cup of coffee while playing with an **adorable** cat.

Actually, many people **have become regulars**³¹⁴ at the cat café because it's such a **fun** environment. Since almost everyone is using **social media** nowadays, many customers of her shop have **left glowing reviews** about the food and service there, which has made her shop **go viral**³¹⁵ in my hometown. There were even **reporters** from a local TV station asking her for **interviews**. So this woman has really **made a name for herself**³¹⁶. I like her a **lot**, and I'm really **glad** she **opened up this business**. I hope her business **keeps prospering and expanding**³¹⁷.

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³¹² a bit of a minor celebrity: 有点小名气的人

³¹³ roaming around: 闲逛

³¹⁴ have become regulars: 已经成为了常客

³¹⁵ go viral: 走红

³¹⁶ made a name for herself: 为自己赢得了名声

³¹⁷ keeps prospering and expanding: 不断发展壮大

Describe someone you really like to spend time with

You should say:

Who this person is;

How you knew him/her;

What you usually do together;

And explain why you like to spend time with him/her.



47. 想共度时光的人

The **first** person that **comes to mind** is my best friend, **Alex**. **If memory serves correctly**, I first met him **four** years ago at the **beginning** of university. We were in the **same** class together. On the **first** day, he sat down next to me and asked if he could **borrow** a pencil. Well, he's so **forgetful** that he ended up borrowing a pencil from me **pretty much every day that semester**. We got to know each other **really** well, and quickly became **close** friends. **In the years since**³¹⁸, we've gone on **trips**, tried **new** activities, and **gone through all sorts of ups and downs together**³¹⁹.

One of my **favourite** things about Alex is that he gets me to try things **outside of my comfort zone**³²⁰. For example, I'm not the most **active** person. I usually like staying **indoors** and doing something relaxing, like watching a **movie** or **TV** show. But Alex loves the **outdoors**. So **more often than not**³²¹, he'll **invite** me to do something fun and active, like go **hiking** or **biking**. Just last week, he took me on an **amazing** nature trail that **passed by a waterfall**. I **wouldn't** get to enjoy such amazing views if he **didn't** take me to those kinds of places.

I **love** spending time with Alex because **not only does he challenge me**, but he's also very **kind**, **funny**, and **energetic**. He's great at giving **advice**, and he always helps me **expand my horizons through new experiences**³²².

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³¹⁸ In the years since: 在那之后的几年中

³¹⁹ gone through all sorts of ups and downs together: 一起经历了各种各样的起起落落

³²⁰ outside of my comfort zone: 跳出我的舒适圈

³²¹ more often than not: 通常，常常

³²² expand my horizons through new experiences: 通过新的体验开拓我的视野

Describe a person whose work/job is useful to society.

You should say:

Who this person is;

How you knew him/her;

What type of work he/she does;

And explain why you think his/her work is useful to the society.



48. 对社会有贡献的人

The **first** person that **comes to mind** is my friend, **David**. I've known him since **high school**, so we've been friends for a **long** time. He's been working as a **paramedic**³²³ for two years now. **If memory serves correctly**, he decided to **pursue this line of work**³²⁴ back when we were in **high school**. He was **skateboarding** at a skatepark when he saw someone **wipe out**³²⁵. They ended up **cutting** their knee really badly. While everyone else was **panicking**, David immediately went over to the person and **helped them stop the bleeding**³²⁶. He was **so** calm and **level-headed**³²⁷ in the middle of a crisis. So that inspired him to become a **paramedic**.

It's a pretty **tough** job. Before he got **started** in the field, he had to **do a whole college program**³²⁸ first. But when he started going out in **ambulances**, he saw so many **horrible** injuries. He thought that it might be **too overwhelming** for him at first. But he knew that he wanted to **help** people, so he decided to **stick** to it.

Being a paramedic is really **demanding**³²⁹ since you have to deal with all kinds of **emergencies**. That's why I think David's work is really **useful** to society. It **helps people in need**. Everything he does gives **hope** to the patients and their families. It's **hard** to imagine the world would be better off **without** those medical workers **at the front line**, especially when the **pandemic**³³⁰ is still going on.

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³²³ paramedic: 急救人员

³²⁴ pursue this line of work: 从事这项职业

³²⁵ wipe out: (滑雪时) 翻到

³²⁶ helped them stop the bleeding: 帮他止血 (这里的 they 指的是前面提到的某个人)

³²⁷ level-headed: 冷静的, 平静的。遇事冷静, 不慌不忙

³²⁸ do a whole college program: 完成所有大学课程

³²⁹ demanding: 要求高的

³³⁰ pandemic: 疫情

Describe a person you only met once and want to know more about

You should say:

Who he/she is

When you met him/her

Why you want to know more about him/her

And explain how you feel about him/her



49. 一见且想再见的人

I actually **had a cool encounter with** a **stranger** a while ago. **If memory serves correctly**, this happened a few **months** ago. I met this woman in a **park** close to my house. I was going for an **evening walk**, and she **caught my attention** because she was sitting on a **stool** in front of an **easel**³³¹. I was surprised to see someone just **painting** in the middle of a park. So I decided to **check** it out.

She **noticed** me looking, so she invited me to come **closer** and look at her **artwork**. **To my surprise**, it was actually a stunning **painting in progress**³³². She was painting the **trees** in front of her. They looked so **vibrant**³³³ and **lifelike**³³⁴. I was **absolutely** blown away.

We **struck up a conversation**³³⁵ for about **twenty** minutes. She told me that as a **young** girl, she'd always **loved** painting. But she **couldn't** afford art lessons, so she had to **teach herself** a lot of basic skills. Now, she likes to go to **public** places and paint the **scenery**. She says it's a **good** way to practice, but it also helps others **enjoy** art by getting to see it happen **before their very** **eyes**³³⁶.

I agreed that painting in public was a really **cool** way of connecting with **strangers** and **brightening their day**³³⁷. This woman has such a **unique** perspective and has the **courage** to stand out. I **admire** her for that. So I **definitely** want to know **more** about her. It'd be **interesting** to hear **how she got to this place in life**³³⁸.

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³³¹ easel: 画画的架子

³³² in progress: 正在进行的 (还没有画完)

³³³ vibrant: 充满活力的

³³⁴ lifelike: 栩栩如生的, 逼真的

³³⁵ struck up a conversation: 攀谈

³³⁶ before their very eyes: 就在他们眼前发生 (令人

无法置信)

³³⁷ brightening their day: 点亮他们的一天, 让他们一天都心情愉悦

³³⁸ how she got to this place in life: 她是如何走到今天这一步的

Describe a person who you follow on social media.

You should say:

Who he/she is;

How you knew him/her;

What he/she posts on social media;

And explain why you follow him/her on social media



50. 社交媒体上常刷的人

I follow so many **different** people on social media, but one person who **stands out** is a man with a **deaf** daughter. He mostly posts **videos** of him and his daughter **communicating in sign language**³³⁹. I **don't** know this person in **real** life, but I think that his content is really **interesting** and **educational**.

If memory serves correctly, I found his account because one of my **friends** sent me a **video** he posted. In the video, he and his daughter were answering some **frequently asked questions**³⁴⁰ about her being **deaf**.

Before seeing his videos, I **didn't** know that much about **the deaf community**. I definitely **didn't** think about what **life** is like for **young** children who are deaf or hard of hearing. So this video really **caught my interest**³⁴¹. Plus, you can tell when watching the videos how much this dad **loves** his kid. It's really **sweet** and **endearing**³⁴². So I decided to **follow** his account. I thought it was a **great** way to learn **more** about being deaf while also enjoying some **funny** content of a father and daughter.

I find **all** of the videos really cool. They're often **the highlight of my day**³⁴³. I've even **picked up**³⁴⁴ a few **phrases** in **sign** language. It's really **interesting** to learn about people with **different** experiences. Plus, the kid is really **funny** and always **jokes** around with her dad. She is **an optimistic child with a sunny disposition**³⁴⁵. Every time I see her, she cheers me **up** and I have **more** energy to deal with the **setbacks**³⁴⁶ in my life.

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³³⁹ communicating in sign language: 用手语交流

³⁴⁰ frequently asked questions: 常见问题，最常被提及的问题

³⁴¹ caught my interest: 引起了我的兴趣

³⁴² endearing: 惹人喜爱的，讨人喜欢的

³⁴³ the highlight of my day: 一天中我最喜爱的时刻

³⁴⁴ picked up: 学会，掌握

³⁴⁵ an optimistic child with a sunny disposition: 性格开朗、乐观的孩子

³⁴⁶ setbacks: 挫折