

IELTS Speaking Topics (+Real test) And Model Speaking

Question and Answer

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IELTS 2 Minutes Presentation Topics:

1. Favorite personality
2. Favorite game
3. Ideal life
4. City
5. Country
6. Tv play
7. Movie
8. Child
9. Your mother
10. Your father
11. Favorite uncle
12. Favorite aunt
13. Best moment in life
14. Biggest achievement
15. Unforgettable incident
16. Leader
17. Advantages and disadvantages of shopping
18. Book
19. Novel
20. Wife
21. Husband
22. Your dream life
23. Passion in life
24. Best teacher
25. Best traveling experience

Note: Let the candidate think on each topic for a minute and pen down five points to explain for two minutes.

Check: His/ Her

1. Command over English
2. Contents

3. Knowledge
4. Fluency
5. Flow of sentences
6. Grammar
7. Face expression when explaining
8. Arms, Hands, etc., and other gestures
9. Interesting or not
10. Overall Quality

Max. Band = 8 for showing exceptional quality.

IELTS Speaking: Real Test Topics

Part 2 Topic Card

1. Describe a museum

- 1) How often do you visit the museum?
- 2) Which type of museum is popular in your country?
- 3) Why do you want to visit the museum?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you think of the importance of museums in history?
- ◇ How do you think of the heritage of a country?
- ◇ Compare the museums nowadays and in the past

2. Describe your favorite photograph

- 1) Where was the photo taken?
- 2) Who took the photo?
- 3) What can be seen from the photo?
- 4) Explain why it is the favorite photograph for you.

Follow-up:

- ◇ How to take good photo?
- ◇ When do people use camera?
- ◇ How can the new technology put cinema's skill advanced?

3. The important historic place

- 1) What is the place?
- 2) Where is it located?
- 3) Why do you think it is important?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you think of the historic place in the future?
- ◇ Will the government increase or decrease the safety guard?
- ◇ What are the changes to the local people and economy?
- ◇ What is the impact on the historic place by tourists?

4. Describe a party

- 1) What is the party?
- 2) Why was the party held?
- 3) Who attended the party?
- 4) What did you do for that party?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What's the difference between serious party and friendly party?
- ◇ Why are some people late for parties intentionally?
- ◇ Why do some people like party while others hate it?
- ◇ What would you do if the guests feel bored?
- ◇ Will there be more and more people to attend parties?

5. Describe a subject taught in your school?

- 1) Who teaches it?
- 2) How is it taught?
- 3) What do you learn from the class?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Is there any difference between the traditional and modern educational systems?
- ◇ What are the pros and cons of the current educational system in your country?
- ◇ Do you think it is necessary to give comment or criticism to teachers?

6. What is the important invention before the age of computer?

- 1) What is the invention?
- 2) Why do you think it is very important?
- 3) What are the advantages and disadvantages of the invention?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What is the significant impact of modern inventions on life?
- ◇ Which skills do you want to study in the future?
- ◇ Do you think it's necessary to develop modern invention in the countryside?

7. Describe a foreign country you have never been to

- 1) Where is the country?
- 2) When will you go there?
- 3) Why would you like to go there?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Say something about the tourism development in China, facility, services and the effect on environment.
- ◇ What is the importance of travel and tourism industry?
- ◇ What do you think the function of tourist guides?

8. Describe your favourite movie

- 1) What's the name of the film?
- 2) What's the theme of the film?
- 3) Why do you like it?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Describe a type of movie you like.
- ◇ What's the difference between Chinese and American movies?
- ◇ What do you think of the violent films (Hollywood films)?
- ◇ Why movies need computer techniques? Any example of movie using computer techniques
- ◇ Which parts of cinema are the most important and how to improve it?

9. Describe a newspaper or magazine

- 1) What's your habit for reading?
- 2) What are the benefits of reading?
- 3) What's the main difference between newspaper and magazine?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you think the important qualities for a news reporter?
- ◇ What's the function of a report to the society?
- ◇ What kinds of books/newspapers/magazines do Chinese adolescents read?
- ◇ With the popularity of Internet, do you think newspapers and magazines will disappear?

10. Describe a children's game (sports not suggested)

- 1) How is it played?
- 2) What can you learn from the game?
- 3) What impact does it bring on your growth?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you think of the benefits of children's games?
- ◇ Nowadays children have less and less time for game, what do you think about it?
- ◇ What do you think the difference between games nowadays and in the past?
- ◇ What's the negative aspect of games?

11. Describe a happy event in your life?

- 1) When did it happen?
- 2) Where did it happen?
- 3) What was it?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Tell me how you organize your study time?
- ◇ What do you think is important in achieving happiness?
- ◇ How do Chinese celebrate some happy events?
- ◇ What do the camera and video play in celebrating?

12. Describe a thing which is important to you

- 1) Who gave it to you?
- 2) What is the thing?
- 3) What does the thing mean to you?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What are the changes of city between now and past?
- ◇ Does money represent happiness and why?
- ◇ How do you regard as the things people want to earn?

13. Describe one of your neighbours

- 1) When did you become neighbours?
- 2) Do you often meet?
- 3) State whether your neighbour is a good one

Follow-up:

- ◇ What is the difference between neighbours and friends?
- ◇ Why do people like to watch TV serials in their houses?
- ◇ How do you think of the relationship in the city?
- ◇ How to improve the neighbourhood?

14. Describe one of the shopping centers you often go to

- 1) Where is the shopping center?
- 2) How often do you go to the center?
- 3) Why do you often go to it and its characteristics?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Will smaller shops survive in the current business system?
- ◇ What are the characteristics of shopping malls and smaller shops and their difference?
- ◇ What is the trend of future shopping centers?
- ◇ Talk about Internet shopping

15. Describe your favourite animal

- 1) What kind of animal is it?
- 2) Describe it briefly
- 3) Why do you like the animal?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you need to do to take care of it?
- ◇ What's the future trend of the animal?
- ◇ How do you think of the poaching of some precious animals such as pandas?

16. Describe a historical place

- 1) What is the place?
- 2) Where is it located?
- 3) What is the historical meaning of the place?

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do you think of the future trend of historic places?
- ◇ Will government strengthen its protection toward historic places?
- ◇ What are the changes brought about by the historic place in local economy, people, etc?
- ◇ What is the effect of tourists on the place?

17. Advertisement

- 1) What are the forms of advertisement?
- 2) What are the functions of advertisement?
- 3) What is the effect of advertisement to people?

Follow-up:

- ◇ Do you feel bored and disgusted about advertisement?
- ◇ What do you think are the criteria of assessing a good piece of advertisement?
- ◇ What will happen if unauthoritative advertisements prevail in the market?

18. Describe an important letter

- 1) When did you receive the letter?
- 2) From whom did you receive the letter?
- 3) Explain the reasons why it is important

Follow-up:

- ◇ What is the significance of handwriting?
- ◇ Does your country have handwriting lesson now?
- ◇ Compare the handwriting now and past
- ◇ With the popularity of computers and Internet, will people lose their ability to write letters?

19. Describe the best present you have received

- 1) Who sent it to you?
- 2) When did you receive it?
- 3) Detailed information about the present

Follow-up:

- ◇ Do you think that present giving will play an important role in Chinese daily life? Why?
- ◇ Do you think that the brand name is very important for sales?
- ◇ In terms of the media, which do you think will play a main role in present giving, television, newspaper or Internet?

20. Describe your holidays

- 1) Where do you go for the holidays and how long do they last?
- 2) Who do you go with?
- 3) Talk about any interesting things happening during your holidays

Follow-up:

- ◇ What do the Chinese people mostly do in their leisure time?
- ◇ What's the difference between holidays today and 5 years ago and the reasons for the change?
- ◇ Do you think people will spend more time on leisure or working in the future?

Suggested questions for stage 1

Warm-up

1. Could you show me your identification card please?
2. Could you tell me your full name please?
3. What shall I call you?
4. Does your name have any special meaning?
5. Why do so many people change their names?
6. Is your name important to you?

Hometown or birth place

1. Where do you come from?
2. Where do you live?
3. Can you tell me something about your hometown?
4. Can you tell me some famous landscapes or scenic spots in your hometown?
5. Can you tell me some history of your hometown?

Personal background and information

1. Are you a student or do you have a job?
2. What do you like most about your study?
3. What kind of job do you prefer after graduation?
4. What is your major?
5. What do you do for living?
6. Could you tell me a typical day of yours?
7. How do you get your job?
8. Are you satisfied with your job?
9. What do you like most about your job?
10. What kind of job do you prefer in the future?

Hobby or inclination

1. What do you usually do in your spare time?
2. Do you prefer to stay alone or with your friends?
3. What do you usually do on weekends and weekdays?
4. What do you usually do when you go out?
5. What do you usually do with your friends?

6. Do you like reading?
7. What kind of books do you like best?
8. Do you like English? Why or why not?
9. What do you think of the importance of English?
10. What are good hobbies and bad hobbies? Why?

Future plan

1. Why do you take the IELTS test?
2. What are you planning to do in the next five years?
3. What are you planning to do in the next ten years?
4. What is the first thing you will do when you arrive at the new place?

Suggested stage 02 questions most frequently asked in stage 1

1. Traveling

Do you like traveling?

Do you like travel alone or with your friends?

Have you traveled to other places? Where are they?

What do you usually do when you first arrive in a new place?

What are the benefits of traveling?

Why do so many people like traveling nowadays?

2. Friends

Do you have many friends? Are they casual acquaintances or close friends?

Do you prefer to stay with your family or with your friends?

Do you prefer one or two close friends or many friends?

Can you talk about your best friend?

How to make friends?

What do you usually do with your friends?

Is the time you spend with your friends as much as that you spend with your family?

3. Music

Do you like music?

What are the benefits of listening to music?

What kind of music do you like best?

Why do you like this kind of music?

4. Transportation

Can you say something about the transportation in your hometown?

What is the common means of transport in your country?

Do traffic jams often occur in your hometown or in the city where you live?

How to solve the problem?

What changes in transportation have taken place in the past several years in your country?

5. Building

Can you tell me an interesting building in your hometown?

Can you tell me an interesting building in Guangzhou?

Suggested topics in stage 2 & related questions for stage 3

Category 1: Describing things (1 test item)

1. Describing a piece of equipment you often use at home or at work. You should say,

What is it ?

What you do with it/ How to use it?

How long you have had it?

How important it is to you?

Discussion:

1. What are the impacts of electrical equipment on human'

s life in the past ten years?

2. What are the differences of the life in the past and at the present?

3. What role does technological development play in people' s life?

4. How will technology develop in the future?

5. Do you have a mobile phone? What are its advantages?

6. Why do many foreign countries develop faster than China?

7. Why does the China's West develop faster than China's East?

8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of computer and internet?

Category 2: Describing people (3 test items)

1. Describe a well-known person. You should say,

Who he/she is?

What makes him/her famous?

Why you admire him/her?

Discussion:

1. Do you want to become famous?

2. How to become a well-known person in China?

3. What kind of people can become famous in China?

4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of being famous?

5. What do you think of the privacy of a well-known person?

6. What do you think of the relationship between a well-know person and advertising?

7. Would you be influenced by the well-known persons in TV commercials?

8. Do you often talk about singers with your friends? What do you often talk about?

2. Describing a friend in your school time/ you like most. You should say,

Who he/she is?

When did you became friends?

Why do you like him/her or why do you think that he/she is important to you?

How he/she influences you.

Discussion:

1. What are the differences between adults and children in terms of making friends?

2. Can adults make friends with children?

3. What do you think are the most important factors when making friends?

4. What are the possible factors that cause the break-up of friendship?

5. Why is it difficult for adults to make friends?

6. What will the friendship become like when getting old?

3. Describing a person whom you like to work or study with. You should say,

Who is he/she?

When did you work/study together?

What do you often do together?

Why do you like to work with him/her?/ What can you learn from him/her?

Why is he/she particular?

Discussion:

1. Do you like to work alone or with a partner?

2. What do you think of teamwork and team spirit?

3. What kind of people are good to work with?
4. Do you like group work or group learning?
8. What is your opinion on efficiency?
9. What are the advantages of studying by yourself?
10. What do you think of efficiency?

Category 3: Describing places (2 test items)

1. Describe a restaurant or a cafe. You should say,
Where it is?
What it looks like?
What kind of services is provided?
What kind of food you like there/ What kind of food is famous?
Why you like it?

Discussion:

1. Do you like cooking?
2. Will you cook for your friends when they visit you?
3. Who cooks in a Chinese family?
4. What do you think of the advantages and disadvantages of fast food?
5. Why is fast food so popular?
6. Where would Chinese go when they eat out?
7. What changes would take place in terms of Chinese eating habits?
8. What food is popular?
9. What is the difference between fresh food and canned food?
10. What can we do to solve the problem of food shortage?
11. What are the advantages and disadvantages of family food?

2. Describing an interesting building. You should say,
Where it is located.
What it looks like.
What services are provided?
How you like it.

Discussion:

- What role do old buildings and new buildings play in modern society?
What changes have taken place in architecture in the past two decades?
Do you think it necessary to protect old buildings?

Category 4: Describing media and communication (4 test items)

1. Describing a kind of book you like. You should say,
What kind of books you like most.
What they are about.
Why you like them most.
What effect have books brought on you?

Discussion:

1. What is the difference between men and women when choosing what to read?

d?

2. What kind books do children like? Why do they like reading?
3. What is the difference between reading and watching TV?
4. What is the relationship between reading and computer?
5. What are the advantages of reading books?
6. Why do children like pictorials?
7. What books are popular in China?

2. Describing one of your favorite books. You should say,
What kind of books you like.

What is your favorite book?

What it is about.

When did you get it?

Why you like it.

Discussion:

1. Do you like other books?
2. What kind of books do Chinese people like?
3. What kind of books do Chinese women like?
2. What kind of books do Chinese children like?
3. What kind of books do you recommend to others?

3. Describing a letter. You should say:

When you received it.

Who sent it to you?

What it is about?

Whether it is important to you? Why?

Discussion:

1. What is the difference between letter and e-mail?
2. Do you often keep diaries?
3. What is the difference between diary and letter?
4. What is the difference in the past and at the present as regards communications?
5. What is the role of letter 50 years ago and at the present?
6. What do you think of the role 50 years later?
7. What do you think of creative writing?
8. Would post office disappear 50 years later?
9. What role does computer play in our society?
10. What changes have been brought by the computer? What is professors' attitude?

4. Describing a kind of music. You should say,
Whether you like music. Why or why not?

What kind of music you like best

What role music plays in people's life.

Discussion:

- 1. How long do you listen to music everyday?**
- 2. Why is it easier for children to learn playing a musical instrument?**
- 3. What are the benefits of learning to play musical instruments?**
- 4. Discuss the impact of western music on the world music?**

Category 5: Describing celebration and leisure time (4 test items)

**1. Describe a traditional festival in China. You should say,
What it is.**

When is it celebrated?

How to celebrate? / what you usually do on that day.

What you like and what you don't like.

Discussion:

- 1. What is the concept of holiday in China?**
- 2. Why is holiday so important to modern people?**
- 3. Do you think it is necessary to observe the traditional customs?**
- 4. What changes in terms of spending festivals and holidays have taken place in the past decade?**
- 5. What is the difference as regards celebration in different part of the country?**

2. Describing a perfect trip/ holiday. You should say,

Where you would go.

When would you go?

Whom you would go with.

What you are going to do.

What you think it perfect.

Discussion:

- 1. What is the difference in the past and at the present as regards travelling?**
- 2. How would the tourist industry develop in the future?**
- 3. What should the government do to attract tourists?**
- 4. What should the people do to attract tourists?**

3. Describing an interesting trip you have taken. You should say,

Where you went.

When you went there.

Whom you went with.

What you did there.

Why you like it.

Discussion:

- 1. What is the difference in the past and at the present as regards traveling?**

2. How would the tourist industry develop in the future?
3. What should the government do to attract tourists?
4. What should the people do to attract tourists?

4. Describing an interesting hobby. You should say,
What it is.

When began to do it.

How long you spend on it.

How often you do it.

Why you like it.

Discussion:

1. Do you think that surfing the Internet, watching TV, listening to music or keeping a pet are interesting hobbies?
2. Do you think it will cost too much time to do them?
3. Do you like hobbies requiring teamwork?
4. Why do people usually do in their spare time?

Category 6: Additional test items (4 test items)

1. Describe an environmental problem. You should say,
What it is?

How long it has existed.

What effect it has brought to people's life./ What it happens?

What we can do to solve it.

Discussion:

1. What causes environmental problems?
2. What should the government do to protect the environment?
3. What should we do to protect the environment?
4. What other measures can you think of to protect the environment?
5. How should we educate children to protect environment?
6. What's

the difference between the old and the young as regards environmental protection?

2. Describing a kind of extreme weather. You should say,
What it is.

When did it happen?

Where you were.

How you felt at that time.

Discussion:

1. What should you do in a bad weather?
2. Will bad weather mould or change people's personality?

3. What is the relationship between weather and culture?
4. The climate has changed these 50 years. Have you noticed the changes?
5. What changes do you predict in the following years?
6. Are the people interested in gathering the weather information in your place?
7. How does weather influence people's personalities in your country?

3. Talking about learning English. You should say,
When and where you began studying English.
What is the most interesting thing in an English class?
What is the most effective way of learning English?
What difficulties you have when learning English.
What are the advantages of learning English?

Discussion:

1. What problems do you have when studying English?
2. Do you think that English is the most important language in the world?
3. Can English take the place of Chinese in China?
4. What other languages are taught in China?
5. Do you think that age is the most important factor of learning English? Why?
6. What difficulties would a foreigner have when he learns your native language?
7. What problems would Chinese people have when communicating with foreigners?
8. When would be most suitable for children to learn English?
9. How will translation and interpretation develop in the future?

4. Describing the way of getting news. You should say,
Whether you get news everyday.
Whether the news is national or international?
How you get news (via newspaper, TV, Internet, radio or other people?)
How do most Chinese people think about the importance of getting update news everyday.

Discussion:

1. Do you think the information on the Internet believable or not?
2. What is the most effective way of getting news?
3. How do reporters gather information?
4. What do you think of the importance of privacy?
5. How do journalists entertain their customers?
6. What role do media play in people's life?
7. How do Chinese people gather information?
8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of different media?

9. Do you think it necessary to control the news coverage?

10. What kind of news do you think should be controlled?

5. Describing a skill you want to learn. You should say,

What it is.

Why you think it is important.

How you are going to learn it.

What role it will play in you future life.

Discussion:

1. What do you think of the traditional skills?

2. What skill do you think the university has provided for your job?

3. What skills can you learn in school?

4. What kind of skills have your parents learned?

5. What do you think of the role of family for children to learn skills?

6. What is the most popular skill that people want to learn?

7. What kind of school would you send your children to? Why?

8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of school education and family education?

Sample Answer to IELTS Spoken Topics

(Version 1)

1. Special gift:

Describe the best present/gift you have received:

i. Who sends it? What is the gift? What is it for?

ii. When did you receive it?

iii. Detail information about the present.

Last year , my wife celebrated my birthday at home. She bought a electronic dictionary as birthday gift. I like the electronic dictionary very much. It's blue and quite small. It fits into my pocket. I remember at that time, my wife said to me : "she decided to immigrate to Canada with me. In future, we must study very hard .And she hoped that the electronic dictionary could help me to improve my English." On that day, I was very happy because my wife agreed to immigrate to

Canada finally. Also, with the help of the electronic dictionary, I made such rapid progress that before long I began to write articles in English.

1) In China, when will people send the present?

Oh, attend the party, such as Wedding Party, Birthday Party. During Spring Festival, people give presents each other, including clothes, books, flowers and foods.

**2) Compare the gift which people have received 10 years ago to the present that people now are receiving, what's the difference between them?
(try to compare the gift you received in your teenage with the gift children received now)**

Oh, I think the gift was monotonic before. For example, I often received a notebook as gift. But now, there are various gifts to choose from. Such as flowers, wine, food, clothes etc.

3) Just image the gift in the future children will receive.

In the future, I think more and more children will receive intellectual gifts, such as electronic dictionary, notebook computer and so on.

4) Just image the gift in the future people will receive.

In the future, oh, in most case, people will give flowers each other. I think flowers will be the most popular present.

2. building

What is the interesting building in your country?

What is it located?

What is it used for?

Explain why you think it is the most interesting?

I think the interesting building is the Great Wall. It runs across north China like a huge dragon. It was used to enemies. Soldiers used to keep watch on the Great Wall. When the enemy came , fires were lit to warn other soldiers.

I think the Great Wall is the most interesting building. Because it is one of the wonders of the world and it was one of the few man-made objects on earth that could be seen by the astronauts who landed on the moon. Also, the Great Wall has become a symbol of both China's proud history and its present strength.

1) Are there some old buildings in your hometown? Where and Describe it?

Wenfeng Tower, built in 1420, is located in the southern of Anyang City.

During the Ming and Qing dynasties, people came to the tower to worship the God of Heaven and pray for a good harvest. Nowadays, it serves as a museum of history

. Murals of Wenfeng Tower give visitors a feel for the great artistic achievements of ancient Chinese civilization. In a word, I think the Wenfeng Tower is the most interesting building, and it is the oldest building in my hometown.

2) Compare the differences between the constructions in your city with them in

20 years ago? Describe the building styles in detail?

The traditional buildings are made of the red brick and always have curved eaves. Thousands of buildings look the same. But now, various buildings with different colors and styles have been going up in my hometown. In addition, room is equipped with kitchen and bathroom. This is very convenient.

3) What are people's attitudes to old building today and that of our later generation? Should we protect them? Why?

People, including our later generation, advocate that government should protect old buildings .Because old buildings represent the great artistic achievements of ancient Chinese civilization.

4) What role do you think the old and modern buildings play in the society?

Oh, modern buildings are for us to live and work, while old buildings are for us to visit and research.

5) Compare the differences between house and apartment?

In China, there is a big yard beside house, where we can plant some flowers and trees etc. But house is more expensive. Apartment is convenient and cheap but small.

3. friend:

Who is your best friend?

How did you meet?

What do you do with your friend?

Tell me the way you make friends with others and you think what people should be your friends?

My best friend isxxx. We were in the same class for 5 years. At that time, we often gather together to study and play. Now, we work in the same company. Friendship is extremely important to me. It's like being brothers or sisters, but even more than that. I mean, I would do nearly anything for my friend, and I would expect that he would do the same for me. If he didn't help me when I was in need, then I would not consider him a good friend. I have a lot of different kinds of friends. Some are loud, others are shy. I prefer having a real variety of friends.

1) Do you think it is easy to make friends in China?

Yes, of course. Nowadays, transportation and communication are easy and

convenient. We have more opportunities to meet all kinds of people and make friends with them.

2) what do you think the difference between adults and children making friend?

The difference is attitude or mindset between adults and children making friend. In general, children like to make friend with good students because they can help each other in studying. But adults make friends with anyone they like.

3) How do children make friend?

Children to children.

4) What is the most important thing in friendship?

Trust.

5) What is the second important thing in friendship?

Helping each other.

6) What makes friendship break up? Misunderstanding

For example, when I studied in Chongqing University, one day, my roommate lost his watch. He thought I had taken it. At that moment, I was very angry but I said nothing, and then I helped him to look for the watch. Finally, we found it in his pocket. My roommate apologized to me. I forgave him his rudeness. So, I think trust is the most important thing between friends.

4. Festival

*There are many festivals in China, such as Spring Festival, National Day and Yuan Xiao Festival etc. The Spring Festival is the **biggest** festival in China. I suppose it's somewhat like Christmas is in western countries. Spring Festival is the only time when **all families** gather together and stores and business **are closed** for several days. During the Spring Festival, we **eat delicious food**, visit **relatives and friends**, and **watch TV** to welcome the New Year. I also like to try and contact some friends before and **see how they're doing and what they're up to**. We give each other **presents** for the New Year.*

5.travel:

Describe your latest interesting travel in detail.

When and where you go?

Whom you go with?

What things you do?

Last year, I went to Shilin with my wife. Shilin, is located about 80

kilometers from Kunming. Kunming is the capital city of Yunnan Province .It took us 3 days to get Shilin. Shilin is famous for its large areas of stone forests. All stones in Shilin are vividly shaped, resembling various figures. Some stones look like a monkey, and some stones look like a bird. In a word, the stones are fantastic. In addition, I met a classmate of Chongqing University in Shilin. We talked about the things and persons which we remembered in school. I think that is an interesting trip.

1) Describe some interesting things happened during your travel. Can u describe it for me?

Ok. I met a classmate of Chongqing University .We talked about the things and persons which we remembered in school. I think that is an interesting thing.

2) What is your goal to travel and your reason to travel is

I enjoy traveling. It is so interesting to see how other people live, and it is really an amazing way to learn about different cultures.

3) Describe the advantage and disadvantage of travel for the country

Tourism is a useful source of foreign currency for the country, but sometimes some visitors destroy cultural heritage.

4) Why China can attract people to travel?

A 5,000--year cultural heritage attract more people to China.

5) Do Chinese people like to travel now?

Yes, of course. Since the opening-up, transportation is easy and convenient. Also, we have ample money for the journey.

6) Which festival do people travel in and where do people travel to?

We often go to resorts around National Day, such as Forbidden City, Summer Palace, and Temple of Heaven in Beijing.

7) Compare the difference about traveling among Chinese people between 100 years ago and now?

100 years ago, transportation was very difficult; few people could travel in China because most of people were very poor. But now, transportation is easy and convenient and we have ample money for the journey.

6) natural scenery

What is the most beautiful natural scenery you have ever seen? What is the specific point? Where did you see it? Who did you go with?

Last year, I went to Shilin with my wife. Shilin, located about 80 kilometers from Kunming. Kunming is the capital city of Yunnan Province. It took us 3 days to get

there. Shilin is famous for its large areas of stone forests. All stones in Shilin are vividly shaped, resembling various figures. Some stones look like a monkey, and some stones look like a bird. In a word, the stones are fantastic. Also, there is a lake in Shilin. Surrounded by green mountains and forests, the lake is not destroyed by any pollution. Travelers can row a boat on the lake or stroll on the shores to enjoy its special quiet beauty.

(1) What measures does your government take to protect natural scenery?

The government establishes protective zones of natural scenery. Educate people to protect natural environment. People who destroy natural scenery will be punished.

(2) Do you think it is effective?

Yes, of course. Establish protective zones can prevent pollution.

(3) What role does tourism play in your country's economy?

Tourism is playing a more and more important role in our country's economy. Since the opening up, the number of tourists has increased quickly, and this is a useful source of foreign currency for the country. (159 Also, tourism can accelerate other industry to develop.)

(4) What should you pay attention to in travel?

Safety, weather, and I think it is necessary to bring some medicine.

7. Transportation

Give me some opinion on the transportation in your city?

In my opinion, one of the biggest problems of transportation is traffic jams in Anyang city. It has become common to see passengers and drivers having to wait in long lines of buses and cars moving at a snail's pace on the streets during the rush hours. There are several reasons for this problem. First, the number of vehicles is increasing much more rapidly than the building of roads. Second, there seem to be too many private cars and not enough public buses. Third, many people, including drivers, pedestrians and cyclists do not obey traffic rules properly, especially at busy intersections.

In my opinion, one of the biggest problems of transportation is traffic jams in Anyang city. In view of the seriousness of this problem, effective measures must be taken before things get worse. On the one hand, the government should invest more money in the building of new roads and the repairing and maintenance of old ones, particularly those in busy areas of the cities. On the other hand, the number of private cars in urban areas should be limited while the number of public buses should be increased. At the same time, it is essential that stricter traffic rules and regulations be issued to strengthen traffic control.

1) Compare the different transportation, such as between plane, train and car.

Drive car to travel is convenient because we can set out at any time. But it is too slow and it may spend us much more time. Plane ticket is more expensive. So, I think train is the best transportation for me.

2) Can you just image the transportation in the future and describe it for me?

In the future, the speed of car, train and plane will be faster. And, the transportation will be easier and convenient.

3) Just compare the transportation in the past and now? What transportation do you like and why?

Nowadays, we have more choice on the transportation than the past. Such as tube, plane etc, even though in the small city. I like tube, because tube is safety and tube ticket is cheap.

8. meaningful things (= handcraft)

9.music:

What role do you think music plays in our life?

Just as other kinds of art, music has become an indispensable part of human culture. It brings us with nutritious spiritual foods, enriches our leisure life .In addition, music can do good to us very much. It can elicit the imagination of us. And, it teaches us how to distinguish beauty from nature. Listening to the music, I am sure you will soon be refreshed from a day's hard work and relax.

1) Can you tell me the western music's impact on the world music?

Oh, it is a difficult question, the western music is definitely great, and it plays an important role on the world music. Many musical talents and eminent musicians have been trained in western country, such as Beethoven, Mozart and so on.

2) Do you think it's necessary to open a music course in high school?

Yes, of course. There is usually 1 or 2 hours each week used for teaching music. I think there should be more, such as at least 3 or more.

3) What effects will take place u think to let children (students) study an instrument?

Music can do good to children (students) very much. It can elicit the imagination of children (students). Also, it teaches them how to distinguish beauty from nature.

4) It's often more easy for children to learn music than adults. Can you tell me why?

Oh, that's because it's important to have soft fingers and palm to learn a music

mechanism, such as guitar. Children have more flexible fingers and they are more likely to find the correct feeling.

5) Do u like music or not? Why?

I like music. I like singing, especially in front of many people. I often sing for my friends. When they praise me, I feel happy. Also, listening to the music, I am sure you will soon be refreshed from a day's hard work and relax.

6) Describe the music you like most and tell me why?

I like classic music. It usually has a slow rhythm and a pleasant melody. Listening to the music; I can soon be refreshed from a day's hard work and relax.

7) What are the differences in music between China and western countries?

Oh, it is a big question; in general, the symphony of western countries is long while most of Chinese music is small piece.

10. Clothes:

u like what clothes?

Clothes aren't only used to keep us warm. It has become a important part of modern civilization. Different nations have different styles clothes. And different styles clothes represent different cultures. All people want their life to be filled with variety, color and comfort by wearing clothes. We will have a good mood when we wear beautiful clothes. I like leisure clothes very much. Because it is not only cheap but also convenient to wear. (In addition, the material of leisure clothes is more environmentally friendly.) But I must wear work clothes when we are working. Otherwise, I will be fined.

1)What's the prescript on clothes when you are working? and just the prescript on clothes in school.

We must wear work clothes (a school uniform) when we are working (in school). Otherwise, we will be fined..

2)the different between the older and younger people on clothes.

The older people think a lot of style and material. But the youger people would like to follow the fashion. Personality is the first consideration when younger people choose clothes.

3)compare the differences between the clothes in ur city with them in 20 years ago. In the past, the colors and styles of clothes were very monotonic. Thousands of people look the same .But now, we can wear clothes with different colors and styles .

11 Think of a person in your family that is the most similar to you.

Who is this person?

How is he/she similar to you?

What kind of family is yours? Is it of a typical family structure in China?

My family is a typical family in China. There are grandparents, parents, a brother, my wife and I in my family. I look just like my father. Medium build, pointed nose and dense black hair. My father is very kind and easy going. His love is the most selfless love. I am lucky enough because I have a good father. My father has been specially thirsty for knowledge as he had only a few years of schooling himself. He believes that knowledge can change fate. So, my father offers more opportunity for me to study (no matter how poor my family was) To sum up, my family is harmony and our life is very happy.

1) What do you think are the differences between families in and past and today, and what have caused these changes?

In the past, there were several children in a family. But now, government has introduced "one-child policy" to limit the size of the family. So, there is only one child in a family. Couples will be punished financially if they have more than one child. This is "one-child policy".

2) What is your opinion of "one-child policy"?

I agree with one-child policy. Because it is difficult to provide enough food and education for a large number of people. So, government must control the population. Also, it is the best way that we can find to control population.

3) What has your government done to support families?

Such as Project Hope. It means that government supports the students in poor families to continue their schooling and improving their education conditions. (6/1999 P10) In addition, our government establishes beadhouse to provide services for old people who have more difficulties or no families to take care of them. (3/1999 P34)

12 Describe a teacher who has greatly influenced you in your education. You should say:

where you met them

what subject they taught

what was special about them

and explain why this person influenced you so much.

I think my first English teacher has greatly influenced me in my education. I had some trouble in studying English when I studied in middle school. I felt English was very difficult, so I didn't like to study it. One day, my English teacher spoke to me about the study of foreign languages. He said: "You must do

a lot of reading, listening and speaking. Never mind, keep on trying, I believe you are a good student." In the years that followed, I studied hard and made greater progress. My English teacher loved his job and he was knowledgeable in his field. I love and respect him.

1) compare the differences between education in ur city with them in 20 years ago? In the past, many children can't go to school, and educational conditions were very poor. But now, government provide 9 years compulsory education. Each child who is 7 years old must go to school. And government provide much better facilities and staff. Also, schoolyards are beautiful than before.

2) compare the differences between university and middle school? We study basic knowledge in the middle school. But the course of university is practical and special, such as computer and business courses.

3) compare the differences between students now and past. At present, it is difficult for student to find job. So, their pressure is heavier than before.

13 Sports, Hobby

Describe an interest or hobby that you particularly enjoy:

1) What is this interest or hobby?

2) How long have you been doing it?

3) What effect has it brought to your life?

What do you think about the balance between the work and the leisure?

I am a big table tennis fan, even though I am not very good at playing table tennis myself. I love to watch the game on TV. I have played table tennis whenever I get a chance since I studied in the middle school. Playing table tennis not only refreshes my body and makes me mentally alert, and ready and eager to engage in the work of the day. In addition, a reasonable amount of exercise prepares the body for a good night's sleep. However, over-indulgence in physical exercise can do more harm than good. Because it will make you too tired to stay awake during the work.

1) Is it dangerous for people to spend too much time on hobby?

Yes, over-indulgence in physical exercise can do more harm than good. I have noticed that some of my friends spend too much time on sports make themselves too tired to stay awake during the work.

2) Do you think hobby is beneficial to social life?

Yes, of course. I make many friends during playing table tennis. So, I think that hobby is beneficial to the social life.

3) Why do people like to watch games?

Oh, it is an interesting question. Watching games can enrich our leisure life. Also, it is very exciting to watch a close game.

4) What are the advantages and disadvantages for watching games?

Watching games can enrich our leisure life. Also, it is very exciting to watch a close game. But over-indulgence in watching games can affect our rest.

5) What are the advantages and disadvantages between watching games and playing games/sports /

Watching games can enrich our leisure life. Also, it is very exciting to watch a close game. Take part in sports can build our bodies and keep us healthy. But, over-indulgence in watching games or in physical exercise can affect our rest.

6) Do you think which sports demand enough courage ?

Oh, I think it is boxing . It is very dangerous and it can do harm to health of athletes.

7) What are the sporting facilities like in your hometown?

Anyang City has a lot of modern indoor facilities offering bowling, table tennis, swimming etc. But , it's too expensive for most Chinese, and you have to belong to the club in order to use the facilities.(P144)

14. Reading

Do you often read newspapers? What's your reading everyday?(how frequent do you read? what do you like to read the best , I read newspapers everyday, such as Workers Daily, Henan Daily. I enjoy reading.

It is so interesting to see how other people live and it is really an amazing way to learn about different cultures. In addition, reading can do good to us very much. It can elicit the imagination of us . I also like to read the China Today and China Daily. Both of these magazines are in English , and it is a good way for me to improve my English.

1) Do you like to discuss with others when you read books ?

Yes, I do . Because it is easy to understand the difficulty of books.

2) How long do you read ?

Usually, I read books or newspapers for 1 hour before I go to bed.

3) where do you like to read ?

In the library, because there are all kinds of books which I can read.

15. Handcraft

*Describe a handcraft which is made by yourself Kite flying is popular in China. Kites are often played with around the Qingming Festival in April. I like kites very much and I can make kites myself. Once, I made a kite . It was a beautiful swallow. Firstly , I collected 3 sticks and paper. The paper was adorned with paintings. Secondly , I used 3 sticks to control the paper , one linked to its neck , the other two linked with its wing. And then , the work was completed . The kite flew lightly in the sky as if the swallow was greeting the coming of the spring season. (2000/6)
What handcraft are there in China? ?
Folk papercuts , lanterns and kites , shadow play etc.*

16 . Restaurant

on the test card

- 1) talk about your favorite restaurant.*
- 2) why do you like it?*

Sichuan dish features pungent , spicy and salty flavors and tend to go well with rice. Sichuan Restaurant is the largest restaurant in Anyang City. The restaurant is a beautiful , clean and its price is cheap. My wife and I often have dinner in the restaurant on the weekend. Stir--Fried Shredded Beef is one of the restaurant's best dishes. It's made of fresh tenderloin and celery . Condiments include vinegar, rice wine and ginger etc. When finished cooking , the beef is red and the vegetables are green. The dish is very delicious.

extension of the card topic

*1) What is the general ideas about fast food among Chinese people?
Although fast food has little nutritional value , but it is a blessing for busy people .Few people eat fast food all the time-- usually for breakfast and/or lunch--so they can help to balance their diet by eating a sensible evening meal.
And I like to eat fast food.*

*2) what do you think about science in food processing(production)?
Scientific processing(production) is important. Because it can keep us healthy.*

*3) what is your opinion on food production and the world's population.
At present, it's difficult to provide enough food for world's population.
So, on the one hand, we should limit population of world. On the other hand, we should manage to provide enough food.*

17. Environment protect

Is there any pollution in your city?

(In Anyang City , pollution is serious.)With the development of modern agriculture and industry, more and more waste is produced. Most of this waste is harmful. It goes into the water , the soil and the air. Especially the air is often made very dirty by factories. In places around big factories , trees and vegetables are often killed by the bad air. Also, when we breathe the air , harm will be done to our health. Fortunately, people are beginning to realize just how serious the whole situation is. Government is taking measures to prevent pollution.

1)What has your government done to prevent pollution

The measures are:

(1)First, all new projects are to have lower discharge levels ;

(2) Second, all sources of pollution must be identified and monitored. (3)

Third, all enterprises should assure a clean and safe work place .

18. Learn

What do you plan to learn in the future?

Why do you want to learn it?

Where and how will you learn it?

I plan to learn computer science in the future. I am very interested in it.

There are too many things that I don't know about computers. Also, computers play an important role in our life and are of great use in every field. I think the whole society will be computerized soon. I need more knowledge in this field to meet the great demands of the application of computers. If things go well , I 'd like to further my study in computer science and I want to work on my Master's degree in Canada.

1)What's the most important skill nowadays?

I think it is computer. Because computers play an important role in our life and are of great use in every field.

2)Are there any traditional skill in your country? what are they?

Yes, such as sewing and weave cloth. I remembered that my grandmother used to sew clothes herself. But now, few people can do it.

3)Do you think it necessary to learn these skills?

No, I just don't like to spend much time on sewing. Because we can buy all kinds of clothes in shop.

4)Is there any difference between your parents' study and nowadays children?

In the past, when our parents studied in school, educational conditions were

very poor. But now, children are lucky enough because government provides much better facilities and staff.

5) Do schools teach non-academic courses?

Yes, of course, such as music, physical education, and painting etc.

6) Should school responsible for teaching these non-academic courses?

Yes, of course. Because school should stress student's moral, intellectual and physical development in a comprehensive way.

7) teacher

describe a teacher you like or dislike

8) useful machine

for example: you can talk about computer

9) national dish

Real interviews

TOPIC 1:

Q: Describe the best present/gift you have received Requirement:

i. Who send it?

ii. When did you receive it?

iii. Detail information about the present.

A: I have a Japanese friend. His name is Naoki Watanabe. I met him in Guangdong Sanyo company in 1997. We worked together there for 3 months. Last year, he visited me in golden week. He gave me the Walkman which is made in Sony in Japan. I use it for listening to English. It is small and delicate (exquisite, fine), it is just as same as cassette tapes. The color is light purple and it has a very clear voice. He told me that the price of walkman was 10,000 yen. (ten thousand yen, about 90 u.s dollars) It helps me a lot for improving my English. I usually take it with me to listen to English after work.

Q: In China, when will people send the present?

A: In China, firstly, people send gifts **on special holidays**, such as in Spring festival, we give our parents money, clothes, etc. Or we give our children **red bags with some money**, It means that we give them a next year's good luck. again, in **a friend or relative's wedding**, we usually give bride or groom a gift, the wedding gift includes money, craft work, flower, new clothes and life necessities, **also, on someone's birthday**, we give him or her a gift, **the birthday gift includes birthday card, flower,**

new clothes ,secondly when **close friends will part**, they will give some souvenir gifts each other for happy memories of their friendship.

Q: Compare the gift which people have received 10 years ago to the present that people now are receiving, what's the difference between them?

A: Ten years ago, the gifts people received were **simpler and cheaper** ,but nowadays they are **pretty fine by appearance, higher quality, more beautiful packaging** I think people will send **flowers as gifts**, They are beautiful and cool, especially flowers can be used in all aspects both good thing and bad thing.

Q: What do you think are the differences between families in and past and today, and what have caused these changes?

A:In China, about 20 years ago families were large, \$B!! (Bgenerally \$B!! (B, \$B!! (Beach family had at least 4 or 5 members,but now they are small,especially in big cities,they have one child.In countryside,they have no more than two children. The main reason for this is that we have **the family planning policy**,which is permitted to have one child.This policy has been executed for about 20 years.

Q: What has your government done to support families?

A: Our government provide the policy to encourage us to receive aids of money if we are too poor

Q: What is the interesting building in you country/city?

What is it located?

What is used for? Explain why you think it is the most interesting?

A:I am from Foshan. In my city, there is an interesting building whose name is Baihua plaza.

It is located in the center of my city It has 65 storeies, and is the highest building in my city.It is used for offices on 10th floor and over,It also has shopping mall from the first floor to the 8th floor.We can buy everything, such as foods, clothes, cosmetics, stationery , sports goods, and so on.The most interesting floor is on the 9th floor. It ha s a food street where you can eat various kinds of foods, such as Japanese foods, Thai foods, French foods.I like to visit there on weekends.

Q: What do you think are the differences between your grandpa's house and your building.

A: My grandpa's house is made of wood and soil. It is not strong.On the other hand ,my house is made of steel and concrete. So it is strong. In addition , his house is small. It is about 30 square meters and mine is large, about 100 square meters.

Q:do you enjoy cooking ,why?

A:I like cooking. I came to be fond of cooking.I can cook what I like. If I have enough time, I can cook for my family.

TOPIC 2:

Q: Think of a person in your family that is the most similar to you.

Who is this person?

How is he/she similar to you?

A: My brother is the most similar to me. He is 5 years older than I, We are the

same height. We are one point seven meters and have the same many hobbies, for instance we like to go swimming, playing Chinese chess, and reading. In addition to these, we are very alike. Some of my colleagues get confused who I am. We have a sense of humor and like to make friends.

Q: What kind of family is yours? Is it of a typical family structure in China?

A: My family is large, I have Dad, Mom, two sisters, four brothers. Our relations are very strong. We usually help with each other. I am very proud of my family. My brothers, sisters and I have already got married. Everyone has one or two children. I think my family is a typical one.

Q: What do you think are the differences between families in and past and today, and what have caused these changes?

A: About 20 years ago they were large in China. Each family had at least 4 or 5 children, but nowadays they are small, especially in big cities. In countryside they have no more than two children.

The main reason for this change is that we have the family planning policy, which allows us to have one child. This policy has been executed for about 20 years.

TOPIC 3;

Q: What is the interesting building in your country/city?

Where is it located?

What is used for? Explain why you think it is the most interesting?

Q: What do you think the difference between adult and children making friends?

A: Children make friends just for playing, if a child can play with another one, they will become good friends, and the friendship between children is more lily-white and naive. But adults make friends in many aspects, including play, business partner, colleague, anyone who has common in some aspects each other. Of course, the friendship has some profits for them.

Q: Tell me the way you make friends with others. And you think what people should be your friends?

A: I make friends in many ways, for example introducing my friends to other ones, sometimes with Internet.

I believe in the maxim "prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them" I can give my friend help if he needs, but if he did not do the same for me when I need, I will not consider him my friend.

TOPIC 4:

Q: What is your best friend? And how you met?

A: My best friend is Mr. Sheng. I met him in 1993. He is my colleague. When I came to Foshan for the first time, I had difficulty in looking for my job. He encouraged and supported me. We have a lot in common in hobby, such as playing Chinese chess, badminton.

TOPIC 5: festival

Q: Describe the festival in your country:

(Chinese New Year: 1. dinner (family gathering); 2. special programme on CCTV to welcome the CNY; Chinese New Year's Day: 1. visiting relatives; 2. friends visiting. (all eating/drinking);

the rest of the days:1.shopping;2.sightseeing.)

A: In China, the spring festival is the most important festival. It is just like a Christmas in the western countries. During the spring festival, we have seven-day holidays. We usually go back to our parents' home and get together. It is the only time that all of the stores are closed. We make delicious food for the gatherings. We usually visit our friends and relatives on Chinese Year's Eve. We watch CCTV special program for the spring festival.

TOPIC 6:

Q: describe your latest travel in detail. with whom?
and the destination,
it take u how long to get to the destination.

A: Last month I went on a trip to Xi'an with my wife and my daughter. We went there by train .It took about 20 hours from Guangzhou to Xi'an, I admit that Xi'an is my hometown. I have not gone back to see my parents for 4 years, We miss my family very much. After arriving Xi'an, we visited one of the 8th wonders of the world. That is terracotta warriors. My wife and I have visited several times before. I have long wanted to show my daughter the wonder of the world. This is the first time she visited. Unfortunately she did not like them. I thought she was too young to enjoy them.She is only 12 years old.

Q:describe the natural scene.some interesting things happened during ur tavel?
can u describe it for me? ur reason to travel is what?

A: The terracotta warriors is the tomb of Qinshihuang emperor about 2000 years ago ,who is the first emperor in China history. In his tomb, there are thousands of terracotta warriors and horses.

These terracotta warriors are lifelike(??),also there are lots of ancient weapons such as swords, spears and so on. It is said that the swords are very sharp-edged now.If you visit the museum, you will find how magnificent it is.

TOPIC 7:

Q:give me some opinion on the transportation in ur city.

A: My city is Foshan. Here the public transportation are mainly buses and trains. There are no planes.People own motorcycles and bikes for transportations . Motorcycles are very popular and convenient. More and more people have private cars. Because of the preverances of those, environmental pollution is a very serious problem here. We should develop the public transportations and restrict private motorcycles and cars. By doing so, the environment can be protected a bit.

Q: compare the different transportation,such as between plane,train,car.

A: Generally speaking, planes are the safest traffic transportation.It is very fast, but the flight tickets are very expensive in China. If you have a long distance trip more than 800 kilometers ,we should take planes . Trains are much cheaper than planes. If your destination is located near the train station and within 300 kilometers, you should take trains. They are more comfortable than planes. (??) of course,you take a plane or a train,you must catch plane or train by plane or train timetable.so the most convenient tool is car,you can travel anytime and anywhere you like.

Q: can u just image the transportation in the future and describe it for me?

A: The transportations in the future will be much more useful, safer and (??) Maybe it runs on land, on water and on air

Q: just compare the transportation in the past and now. u like what transportation and why.

A: In China, long long time ago, people used horse, cows, on foot. Then it has changed into bikes, trains, Now we can travel by plane, train, bus, car, motorcycle. I personally like motorcycles, because they are very convenient.

TOPIC 8:

Q: describe the role music play in our life.

A: I think music plays the important role of our life. It makes our life brighter. When we are happy, we want to listen to music for pleasure. When we are blue, we can be encouraged by listening to music. It helps us to forget the sad things. It makes us feel comfortable.

Q: what effects will take place u think to let children study an instrument?

A: I think some children like music and they are interested in learning instruments such as piano, violin, dulcimer, electronic organ and so on. If they have music talents, they can become musicians. But some children hate to learn music instruments. If they are forced to learn by parents, they will not be able to learn music and other subjects such as English, mathematics, Chinese.

Q: u like music or not? why? u think music play what role in ur life?

A: I like music so so. When I was young, I did not learn any musical instruments, I liked reading books listening to music after work.

Q: describe the music u like most and tell me why?

A: I like some Chinese classic music, and western symphony such as Spanish corrido music. I like rhythmical and strong music.

TOPIC 9:

Q: u like what clothes?

A: I like the clothes which are comfortable for me to wear. I especially like sweat shirts, T-shirts and jeans

Q: the prescript on clothes when u r working?

A: Because I work for new high technology company, all the male colleagues wears western-style clothes. They includes ties, white shirts, black suits, and black shoes. but female colleagues wears black skirts. The main reason for this is to establish a good enterprise image.

Q: and just the prescript on clothes in school.

A: In China school clothes are blue trousers, white shirts. There is a picture or name of the schools.

Q: the different between the older and younger people on clothes.

A: Generally speaking, young people like to wear fashionable clothes. but older people like to wear traditional ones.

TOPIC 10:

describe a meaningful thing made by yourself.

A:

TOPIC 11:

The most beautiful natural scenery you have ever seen

. where did you see it?

who did you go with.

A: Last year I went to the seaside for a trip with my wife and daughter. The scenery there was very beautiful. It is the most natural scenery I have ever seen. The ocean was blue. There are a lot of seagulls flying over the sea. And the sand beach was clean. There were no pollution there. A large number of people go enjoy swimming, sun bathing, playing with children.

Topic 12

Q: name

A: My full name is xxx. My family name is x and my given name is xx. Most of my friends call me "old li"(I have heard that "old " means "useless person" in western countries???)

Q: work

A: I am a computer engineer. My job is to analyze computer system and to develop soft wares such as OA system (office automatization), industry control and enterprise management and so on,

Q: work plan in the future

A: My work plan is to finish my task assigned to my boss and to improve my knowledge constantly. Computer technology is developing so fast.

Q: how frequent do you read?

A: In my spare time I like reading including history, newspaper, of course my computer books.

Q: what do you like to read the best?

A: I like to read computer books the best. because they are interesting and they are very important for my improvement of my job skills.

Q: where do you like to read?

A: Sometimes I enjoy reading at home, sometimes in our city library where there are a lot of new books.

Q: talk about your favorite restaurant. why do you like it?

A: There is a food street near my home. It has various kinds of foods such as Japanese, Italian and domestic foods from other regional ones for example sichuan spicy food. shanxi food. On the food street, not only can we taste foreign foods and other regional foods but also eat my hometown foods, especially the noodles in my hometown, The foods are very cheap and clean. So I like them very much

extension of the card topic

Q: your opinions on fast food

A: In my opinion, fast food is not healthy so it is not suitable for us to eat so frequently, but fast food is convenient and it can save our time and money. Some foreign fast foods such as Mcdonald's and KFC are very attractive for children because they have the different taste from Chinese ones.

(??) the environment is very clean and beautiful. sometimes (??) they send our

children toys as presents.

Q: general ideas about fast food among Chinese.

A: Chinese fast food, sometimes, is dirty ???

Q: what do you think about science in food processing/production.

A: I am not an expert for nutrition. I think the science in food process would not destroy the nutrition factor and not add any harmful ingredients such as additive, coloring matter and at the same time, it is conducive to protect our environment.

Q: what is your opinion on food production and the world's population.

A: The population is over 6 billion all over the world. There will not enough food for people to eat. So we should save the food and should not waste any food.

Topic 13

Section 1:

Q: What's your full name?

A: My first name is x, my given name is xx, but most of people call me li gong, It means li engineer.

Q: Do you work or still a student?

A: I am an engineer in a high technology company.

Q: Do you like your current job?

A: I like my job, because I find it very interesting. I have achieved my goals many times in my job, for example publishing some articles, finishing some complicated projects.

Q: How many languages can you speak?

A: I can speak Mandarin, Cantonese, English and a few Japanese.

Q: What do you think Foreign language to people?

A: I think foreign languages are important to us, especially in the age of hi-tech info and globalization, If we can understand foreign languages, it is easy to communicate with foreigners.

Q: Future's plan?

A: My plan is to improve my English first, and then to find another better job. I hope to get a wonderful achievement in the field of my study.

Section 2:

Q: Building: where/what use for/why interesting?

A: I am from Foshan. In my city there is an interesting building which is called the Baihua plaza. This building is located in the center of my city. It has 65 stories. It is the highest building in my city. It is used for offices from over the 10th floor. It is also used as a shopping mall from the first floor to the 8th floor. We can buy everything we need, such as foods, clothes, cosmetics, stationery, sports goods. The most interesting floor is on 9th floor. It is a food street where we can taste not only foreign foods and other province foods but also we can eat my hometown foods. especially the noodle of my hometown, The price of the dishes are very low and there are no problems as for hygiene so I like them very much. I like to visit the food street on weekends.

Section 3:

Q: Are there some old buildings in your hometown?

A: My hometown is Xi'an. It is an ancient city. There are many old buildings there, such as temples, ancient city walls, towers.

Q: Where and Describe it.

A: The bell tower was built in about 500 years ago. Its height is about 20 meters. There is a great bell in the tower, It maybe tell their life period.

Q: What people's attitudes to old building today?

A: I think the old buildings have a lot of attractions to us. And at the same time there are some research values for ancient architectural technology.

Q: Should we protect them? Why?

A: We should protect them. (??) first they can bring tour income for our country, second they are of research value. finally they are the culture inheritance from our ancestors(??)

Q: What role do you think the old and modern buildings play in the society.

A: The old buildings symbolize the ancient culture and civilization but modern buildings express modern cultures and civilization. (??) They are supplements each other(??).

Topic 14

What's your full name?

Do you work or study now?

Tell me something about your job.

Do you plan to change your job?

What's your future plan?

Q: Tell me something about the accommodation you live in, either here or in your hometown

A: I live in an apartment. We have two bedrooms, one living room, one kitchen and of course one restroom. The size of my apartment is about 100 square meters.

Q: What's the advantage and the disadvantage of your accommodation?

A: The advantage is that my accommodation has sufficient sunlight from the windows, and a good ventilation system. And the disadvantage is that there are some noise because it is near the centre of the city.

Q: What's the weather like in your hometown? Which season do you like most?

A: In my hometown, it is extremely cold in winter. The temperature is about minus 15 degrees. Normally there are some storm snow but in summer it is fairly hot. The temperature is about 33 degrees. In spring and autumn, it is very nice. I like autumn the best because the weather is crispy and we can eat delicious fruits such as watermelons, apples, oranges.

part2:

Describe one sport that you like to play or watch most.

1. How do you begin to like it?
2. Why you like it?
3. How often do you play or watch it?
4. And explain why you prefer this sport to other sports?

A1: I like to go swimming the best, In my hometown there is a large pond. When I was a child, I began to learn how to swim in the pond. So I can swim very well, I like swimming very much. We can exercises every parts of our body by swimming. It can especially extend our vital capacities. In my high school days I got a swimming champion. I had much confidence of swimming by getting this prize. In addition swimming is an individual sport. I can swim anytime if the public swimming pool is open. But as for other sports such as football, basketball are team sports, if I want to play those ,I must organize several people. Many people are very busy, it is very difficult for me to organize them. This is the main reason why I like swimming rather than other sports. I usually swim with my daughter in our city public swimming pool on every weekend.

A2: I like to watch NBA game. When I was in high school. I began to watch NBA. It is wonderful and all the players have comprehensive skills. It is usually blood-and-thunder. Sometimes in the last one second maybe a team defeats the another team and win the game instead of losing. I am sure you agree watching such games is really enjoyable.

If there is a NBA game on TV, I can surely catch the game. No matter how late it is

NBA players win the game by skills and cooperate privacy. We know each player is professional and has special skill.

A3:I like to play badminton. I began to play it about 20 years ago. In those days I was in high school, I usually played it with my classmates after school. I also played it at university. I play it with my daughter and my wife on weekends.

part3:

Q:What's the difference between watching sports on TV and in the stadium?

A: Watching them in the stadium is more exciting than doing on TV. The more exciting atmosphere comes from the players and the audience. Especially the audience always get very excited by a wonderful goal but watching games on TV at home is less exciting. This is why some of my friends like to watch the football games at midnight. They usually get sleepy before the game finish.

Q:Why people like to watch sports on TV?

A:I think watching sports on TV does not cost a lot of money. We do not need to buy any entrance tickets. Sometimes it is impossible for us to watch the game. (??) At the spot some games hold in another place,such as in foreign countries.(??) Watching sports on TV is safer than doing at the stadium because after the football games sometimes there are some riots among the fans on the street.

Q:What do you think the importance of playing sports?

A: I think it is very important for us to play sports ,in the age of hi-tech information ,a lot of people have stress even after work, so playing sports can relax us physically and mentally.

Q:If someone don't like sport, how do you push him or her?

A: I can tell them the importance of sports , then I ask them to take part in the sports activities. I can teach them its skills. I think they will gradually be interested.

Q:Do you think playing too many sports is harmful? Why?

A:I think so. Everything has the limit including our bodies, too.(??Many sports will break the limit,we will feel uncomfortable,so our bodies will be harmful,(??)

Q:disadvantage and advantage of watching and playing sports \$B!# (B)

A: Playing sports can exercise our body. If we win the game, we will be happy but playing sport too much makes us tired.(??) Watching sports is comfortable but they have little happiness when game win(??),and watching sports cannot exercise our bodies.

Topic 15

Part I

\$B!W%#!#!V (B what's your name

\$B!W%\$#!#!V (B Where are you come from?

\$B!W%&!#!V (B Can you describe your home town?

\$B!W%(#!#!V (B Compare ShenZhen with your hometown , why did you decide to live

in shenzhen?

A:My hometown is in countryside. Shenzhen is a modern city. The countryside is a quiet place. There are more modern entertainment and educational facilities and rich and colorful night lives in big cities , so in China most people like city lives.

Part II

Q:Introduce your hobby,why do you like it ?

A:I like to play chinese chess with my friends, although what I win is more than what I lose, but I like it very much because Chinese chess is a mind game and playing this game can improve our intelligence.

Q:What do you think about the balance between the work and the leisure.

A:I think when we are working we must do our best. We should enjoy our leisure time after work. No matter how busy we are ,we should find some time to entertain ourselves.leisure

Part III

Q: Introduce the eaten habit of the Chinese people

A:I think in the north China people like to eat the food made of wheat, such as mantou, noodle. On the other hand people in south China they like rice. In some provinces like Sichuan, Hunan ,they like spicy foods. In addition, people in north like to drink wine. People in south like to drink beer. I think these eating habits may be different because of the differences of weather.

Q:Tell what shall you do in the future

A; I plan to make much money by my ability and wisdom. Then I am to travel around the world with my wife and my daughter. All of us like to travel. We have travelled many sightseeing spots around my country. I also plan to write a book about my travel memories.

Topic 16

Section 1: What's ur full name?

Do you work now? or still a student?

Do you like your current job?

Future plan.

Describe your accommodation, and its advantages and disadvantages.

Do you like cooking? Why?

Section 2: What do you plan to learn in the future?

Why do you want to learn it?

Where and how will you learn it?

A:I will continue to learn the computer technology. I can learn the latest technology.

His specialty is computer science, I like it at the same time, I make a living for computer technology.

I will learn it at my work time or my spare time at my office, at library, or at home.

Section 3:

Q:What's the most important skill nowadays?

A:In the age of hi-tech info, I think the most important skill is IT. If someone has a great skill in IT nowadays I think it is very easy for him to find a job with a high salary.

Q:Are there any traditional skill in your country? what are they?

A:the traditional skills include sculptor (who know how to sculpture),sewer (who know how to make clothes), chef (who know how to cook food),carpenter or architect (who know how to build house) and so on.

Q:Do you think it necessary to learn these skills?

A:Yes,these skills are important parts of traditional culture. We need all kind of skills for our life.

Section 4:

Q:Is there any difference between your parents' study and nowadays children?

A: In the age of my father childhood, children hardly had opportunities to learn at school, They learned Chinese and mathematics in a small classroom. Sometime there were 3 to 4 children in the classroom. Of course the number of the teachers were very small. But nowadays in China almost all the children have chances to go to school. There are 30 to 40 students in each classroom. There are more qualified teachers.

Q:Do schools teach non-academic courses?

A:Yes, Schools teach the students a lot of practical courses, such as how to operate computers, do business and communicate with others.

Q:Should school responsible for teaching these non- academic courses?

A:I think so, schools are responsible for teaching these non- academic courses for the purpose that their students could find a good job after graduation. If they cannot get a good job due to their lack of non-academic course, their schools are not responsible for their students.

topic 17

Q:tell me something about you hometown

A:My hometown is Xi'an,which is in the northwestern of China. It is famous for its sites ,especially for the terra cotta warriors, which is the one of the eight wonders of world. The weather is extremely cold in winter. The temperature is

about minus 20 degrees, and in summer the weather is fairly hot, The temperature is about 40 degrees. Of course, spring and autumn are comfortable.

Q:the advantages and disadvantages living in your hometown

A:I think the advantage living in my hometown are as follows; Firstly the prices of all food and vegetables are much lower. Secondly people are very kind.The disadvantage is that the weather is extremely cold in winter and fairly hot in summer.

Q:,compare the clothes wearing in the work days and weekend

A: We wear western style clothes on duty, and on weekends. We like to wear T-shirts, jeans, sweaters. These clothes are more comfortable to wear.

Q:can you tell me something about the clothes which students wear

A: Students at school usually wear school uniform,which are white shirt and blue pants,there is a pattern of the school badge on the clothes.

card

tell me a family member who is similar to you

1,who is them

2,what does she or he looks like

3,why do you think you are similar

next

Q:can you tell me the old structure about your grandparents time

A: There were a lot of members of family, such as dad .mom, about 3 sisters,5 brothers, at the same time, they had a lot of uncles and aunts. Namely they had a large family.

Q:can you tell the structure of chinese family changed for yourgrandparents' time

A: Now we have a small family, There is only one child,(son or daughter) in Chinese cities ,but in country sides each family has no more than 2 children., we have the family planning policy. The increase of the population has caused a lot of problems, such as education problems, environment, pollution .

topic 18

Q:The most beautiful natural scenery you have ever seen \$B!W%= (B

A:Last year, I had a business trip to Shandong province,I went to a beach ,where I think is the most beautiful natural scenery, The ocean is very blue. The sand on the beach is pretty clean. There is no pollution.

Q:how should we protect these natural scenery \$B!W%= (B

A: We should legislate laws to protect these scenery. In addition we should notice the consciousness of environment.

Q:what measures has the government taken to protect these natural scenery \$B!W%= (B

A:I think the government have legislated a lot of laws to protect the natural scenery. and give some education for environment protection

Q:what effect do you think have they done?

A: After government taking some measures ,our environment will have a great improvement.

Topic 19

Q: what do you do?

A: I am a computer engineer. I work for a hi-tech company.

Q: do you like your job, why?

A: yes I do, my job have bring me a lot of fun.???

Q: what's your hobby?

Card

What's your favorite sport, why, when did you begin? what merit does it have?

What do you think the balance both work and leisure?

topic 20

Q: where is your home town?

A: My home town is &&&.

Q: what's advantage and disadvantages of your home town?

A: advantage is that it's that its economy is &&&&, disadvantage is air pollution. and if you go on street wearing a white shirt, when you reach the destination, you can find your collar dark

Q: let's talk about the western music. Can you tell me the western music's impact on the world music?

A: The western music is definitely great. Often the symphony is long while most of china's music is in small pieces. Western music and Chinese ones are totally different. They are actually a great merit to human merit.

Q: why they are a great merit?

A: because they are ???.....

Q: do you think it's necessary to open a music course in high school?

A: Of course. There are usually one or two hours each week used for teaching music. I think there should be more, such as at least three or more.

Q: why?

A: Because music can do good for students. It can elicit the imagination of the children. It can teach them how to distinct beauty from nature.

Q: It's often much easier for children to learn music than adults. Can you tell why?

A: That's because it's important to have soft fingers and palms to learn music mechanisms, such as guitar. Children have more flexible fingers and are more likely to find correct feelings.

Q: ok.ok. do you like music?

a: Yes. I like singing, especiallly in front of many people. I often sing for my friends. when they praise me , i feel happy.

topic 21

Q: name

Q: work

Q: work plan in the future

Q: how frequent do you read?

A: Sometimes.

Q: what do you like to read the best?

A: I like to read caricature the best. It is very funny

Q: where do you like to read?

A: Sometime I read at the library or at the bookstore. Most of the bookstores are open, we can read books without buying them.
on the test card

Q: talk about your favorite restaurant.

Q: why do you like it?

extension of the card topic

Q: your opinions on fast food.

Q: general ideas about fast food among Chinese.

Q: what do you think about science in food processing/production.

Q: what is your opinion on food production and the world's population.

Topic 22

Q: your favorite transport and the tool of travel

A: If the trip is not long, I like to use my motorcycle, If trip is long, I like to take buses, coach trains or planes.

Q: Now many people buy car, who buy and the benefit of using a car,

A: Normally, if a car is important or necessary to his work or to his hobby and he has enough money to buy and maintain a car, I think he will buy a car.,

Q: and imagine the transport in the future.

A: Transportation in the future is much safer and faster. And more environmentally

Topic 24:

STAGE 1 \$B!W%3 (B

Q: What do you do?

A: I am a computer engineer, I work for a hi-tech company.

Q: work duty?

A: I am in charge of developing softwares.

Q: do you like your job \$B!W%= (B

A: Yes. I do. If I finish a software, I will feel happy.

Q: if you are asked to change your job, what will you do \$B!W%= (B

A: I will become a doctor, and I hope to research new medicine for patients and save the patients who are suffering from cancer and AIDS, I think this is the most important things.

Q: what do you do at the weekend \$B!W%= (B

A: If I have money, I like to go shopping, If I have not enough money I like to look at the show windows, sometimes I like to play with my wife and my daughter in the park

Q: what do you like to play \$B!W%= (B

A: sometime I like to play card with my friends,

STAGE 2 \$B!W%3 (B

Topic : interesting trip ,

When/where/what/why

STAGE 3:

Q: do Chinese like to travel? why?

A: I think everyone likes to travel in China, but about 20 years ago, Chinese people

have little money to travel ,with the open policy more and more Chinese people like to travel, because they have more time and money for travel.

Q:what are the differences the Chinese tour between now and 100 years

A:I think the most big difference is transportation tools, Now there are planes, trains,coaches ,buses and motorcycles for travel ,but 100 years ago they used animals or travel,such as horse on land, camel in desert.

Q:what holiday do Chinese like to tour,and where?

A:generally speaking,Chinese people like to travel in the national days the Spring Festival,and International Labour Day,because in these holidays,we have a long holidays about 7 days.most people make use of these holiday to travel sceneries such as famous mountains,museums,and galleries.

Q:what is aim of general tour

A:to know outside world.and to enjoy their life

topic 25;

Q;what does the advertisement effect on sports?

A:well,we can see a lot of advertisements in sports stadium,I think,the more advertisements in the sports,the more successfully the sports games hold,because the sport organizer will get more money from advertisements and then do their best .

Model Speaking Question & Answer

part 1-Introduction

1. Hello. Could you show me your identification card please?

Hello. Sure, here you are.

2. Could you tell me your full name please?

My full name is XXX. I am also called by my English name, which is XXX.

3. What shall I call you?

You could call me XXX.

4. How are you?

I am well thank you, and yourself?

5. How old are you?

I am 22 years old. In other words, I was born in 1980. On the eight of March 1980, to be exact.

6. Does your name have any special meaning? (5 - 6)

Yes, my name does have some special meaning. My family name means peace, and my first name means strong one. My English name was given to me by one of my high school teachers, and it does not have any special meaning really.

6. Does your name have any special meaning? (7 - 8)

I presume you are referring to my Chinese name. Yes, the English equivalent of my family name would be something like peace, and in the case of my first name it would be strong one. My English name was randomly chosen by one of my high school teachers, and it really doesn't have any special meaning.

7. Is your name important to you? (5 - 6)

No. I don't think it can do anything for me. I believe a person has to work out his own life. I am planning to do this as well as I can

7. Is your name important to you? (7 - 8)

Not really. I am part of the new generation who do not attach too much significance to our names. Names were important to the older generation as they are of the opinion that it will determine your destiny to some extent. However, I personally believe that I myself will determine my destiny irrespective of what my name is. I will do this by acquiring good qualifications and by working hard.

part 2-hometown

8. Where do you come from? (5 - 6)

8. How long have you lived in your hometown? (5 - 6)

I come from xxx. My parents have been living here for the past thirty years or so. I grew up here and I attended a well-known school called School number 163. We live in a nice area with many shops, restaurants, and other businesses.

8. Where do you come from? (7 - 8)

8. How long have you lived in your hometown? (7 - 8)

I come from xxx. My parents have been living here for the past thirty years or so. I grew up here and I attended a well-known school called School number 163. We live in a respectable area with many shops, restaurants, and a variety of other businesses. The people in our building are generally friendly and quite, which makes it a pleasure to live there.

9. Where do you live? (5 - 6)

I live with my parents here in xxx at the moment. To be more exact, we live in an apartment building in one of the northern suburbs of the city. I have my own room and enjoy the privacy that it brings, but I am looking forward to the day that I can have my own apartment. Allow me to explain: they are good parents, and I love them very much, but I would like to be more independent soon.

9. Where do you live? (7 - 8)

Well, that is not so easy to answer. Please allow me to explain. During the week I live in a dormitory at the university, but over weekends I live with my parents in a village about one hour by car from xxx. So I really do not know which of the two to call my home at the moment.

10. Can you tell me something about your hometown? (5 - 8)

Yes, certainly. xxx is in the northeast part of my country, and the capital of the xxx province. It has about three million inhabitants. It has many heavy industries such as automobile, aircraft, and machine tool manufacturers. In addition, it is rich in history. For example, the xxx invaded the city and committed many atrocities (that is to say many crimes) during the occupation. This is still remembered by many of the elderly folks to this day. Another example that I could mention is the Imperial Palace that belonged to the last dynasty .

11. Can you tell me about some famous landscapes in your hometown? (5 - 8)

11. Can you tell me about some famous scenic spots in your hometown? (5 - 8)

11. What are the main places of interest in your hometown? Why? (5 - 8)

11. What places should foreigners visit in your hometown? Why? (5 - 8)

Sure. Firstly, I could mention the Great River, which you will find around the city. To the northeast of the city there is the famous Mountains and the zoological park and botanical gardens. In summer it is a popular place to visit and see tigers, bears, wolves,

other animals and even pandas in their natural environment. In winter we often go skiing there. Secondly, I would like to mention the Park. It consists of a large park, with many gardens and a lake. In addition it also is the site of an emperors tomb from the Dynasty. Lastly, there are many other sites that are worthwhile visiting. For example, Government (City Hall) Square with the Great Theater alongside it, Java Square, and the spectacular TV Tower, which is the highest architectural attraction in my country.

12. What places in your hometown do you like best? (5 - 8)

There are many places that I like. If I had to choose one place, I would like to tell you about Government Square. Firstly, it is the largest square . What I mean is that it is a large open space where one can see the sky clearly, and feel free. Secondly, it houses an important government building. I guess you could call it the City Hall.

13. What are the main crops in your region? (5 - 6)

In our region many crops are grown. For example one would find all kinds of vegetables in the fields of this region. In addition, many farmers have orchards. Here they grow many kinds of fruit like apples, pears, and peaches.

13. What are the main crops in your region? (7 - 8)

In our region many crops are grown. For example one would find all kinds of vegetables in the fields of this region. In addition, many farmers have orchards. Here they grow many kinds of fruit like apples, pears, and peaches. Lastly, it is important to note that it is not known for its agriculture. It is better known as an industrial city. For example, here are many heavy industries manufacturing anything from aircraft and automobiles to machine tools.

14. What is the difference between your hometown and other cities(such as Hong Kong)? (5 - 6)

The main difference between my hometown and Hong Kong is the climate. For example, there they have a tropical climate. That is to say that it is very hot and humid. Here in my hometown we have cold winters and hot summers. Secondly, My hometown is an industrial city, whereas Hong Kong is more a financial center. That is to say, here we have many factory workers, or to be more exact, family-orientated workers who are not very wealthy, and in Hong Kong there are many tycoons, millionaires, and wealthy people.

14. What is the difference between your hometown and Hong Kong? (7 - 8)

The main difference between my hometown and Hong Kong is the climate. For example, there they have a tropical climate. That is to say that it is very hot and humid. Here in my hometown we have cold winters and hot summers. Although cities like Toronto, New York, are larger than my hometown , they all are bustling with industrial and cultural activities. Maybe Hong Kong is an exception, as it is better known as one of the most important financial capitals of the world.

15. What are the people like in your hometown? (5 - 6)

15. Can you tell me something about the character of the people in your hometown?
(5 - 6)

Well, they aren't any different from the people in any other large city. For example, here we also have good and bad people. Secondly, like everyone else, they are trying to work out a good life for themselves and their children. For example, parents are trying all they can to ensure that their children receive a good education.

15. What are the people like in your hometown? (7 - 8)

15. Can you tell me something about the character of the people in your hometown?

Well, they aren't any different from the inhabitants in any other large city. For example, here we also have many wholesome families as well as our share of criminal elements in the society. In addition, I believe that my hometown has not been westernized to the same extent as a city like Hong Kong. For example, the people have not become materialistic to the same extent as the inhabitants of Hong Kong. In other words, in my hometown you would still find many good old-fashioned (traditional) people who have strong principles and values about many aspects of life.

Part 3-present situation (student)

16. Are you a student or do you have a job? (5 - 8)

I am a student at the moment. I am studying English on a full-time basis at a Language School here. We have classes in the mornings, afternoons, and evenings. Wednesday afternoons we are off, and are allowed to go swimming at a nearby hotel. We have a number of foreign teachers who assist us in the correct pronunciation and grammar of the language.

16. Are you a student or do you have a job? (5 - 8)

I have a job. I am working in a workshop of a large manufacturing plant at the moment. I graduated from high school two years ago, and went to work immediately. I am an assistant to one of the automotive electricians in the workshop. I have to assist my artisan in getting his jobs done. For instance, I have the responsibility to see that the tools are in good order, and that the workshop is always kept clean and tidy.

17. What do you like most about your studies? (5 - 8)

Well, I guess the speaking part. Please allow me to explain. Language is all about communication. So when I am able to communicate with someone in English, I feel that I have achieved something. I particularly like our free talk sessions with the foreign teachers. It gives me the opportunity to question them about their countries and cultures.

18. What is your major? (5 - 8)

As I have been studying on a full-time basis at an English Language School, we have only one subject, namely English for Academic Purposes called EAP. We do reading and writing, practical speaking, and listening by means of cassettes. English is the language of the future, especially in the business world. What I mean to say is that when I am able to communicate well in English I will not only be able to go and study abroad and improve my qualifications, but also have mastered a very necessary tool for my future career.

19. Which is the best university in your country? (5 - 8)

That's an interesting question. Allow me to explain my personal view by shortly mentioning the following points: I believe that the xxx University is the best University in the country. For example, it has the highest percentage of students passing their courses of all the universities in my country.

20. Describe your study habits? (5 - 8)

I have well established study habits. For example, I always start promptly at eight in the evenings. I study for two hours, have a ten-minute break, and then study for another two hours. I follow this habit from Mondays to Fridays, but over the weekends I put in more hours. For example, I study in the mornings and afternoons, and then take the evenings off to relax with my family or friends.

21. Do you think your present subjects are relevant? (5 - 8)

Yes. Allow me to explain myself by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, we often use case studies in class. What I mean is that the professor gives us examples from real life to examine and report on. Secondly, our lecturers and some advisors from the relevant industries have set up our study material. What I mean to say is that the people who we are going to work for one day have had the opportunity to tell the university what they think we should be taught.

22. What kind of job would you prefer after graduation? (5 - 8)

I would like to become a medical doctor. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I would like to render a service in the community to which I will eventually belong. For example, I would like to assist the elderly that do not have the financial means to afford private hospitals.

23. What are your job prospects? (5 - 8)

I am planning to become a Hotel Manager. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I believe that the hotel industry will be growing greatly in future. For example, people are becoming more affluent, and spend more and more of their money on holidays. In addition, I believe that after graduating I will be able to find a good job anywhere in the world. What I mean to say is that all hotels and resorts have the same objectives irrespective of where they are situated. Their aim is to ensure that their guests have a good time and return again.

Part 3-present situation (employee)

24. Do you have a degree? If so, when and where did you graduate? (5 - 8)

Yes. I have a Bachelors Degree in Electrical Engineering. I graduated in 2001 from xxx University . It is the largest university in my country and has about twenty thousand students.

24. Do you have a degree? If so, when and where did you graduate? (5 - 8)

No. I have a Diploma in Nursing. I graduated in 2001 from the Medical Training College . It is a well-known College giving excellent training to future nurses and other medical staff. For example, ambulance drivers, hospital staff, and so on are all trained there.

25. What impressed you most when you were at university / college? (5 - 8)

I was most impressed by the knowledge and skills of my lecturers. For example, they had experience in the working environment, and could tell us exactly what we would come across there. Secondly, I was impressed by the facilities. For example, we had a large library, well-equipped laboratories, and sporting facilities at our disposal.

26. Do you still remember your school days? (5 - 8)

Of course! Those were some of the best times in my life. Allow me to explain myself by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly they were carefree days. What I mean to say is that I had no or very few worries. My parents provided in my day-to-day needs, and all I had to do was get good grades. Secondly, I had many friends in school. For instance, some o my best friends today were people that I met in school.

27. What do you do for a living? (5 - 8)

27. Describe your job in detail. (5 - 8)

I am an Engineer. Allow me to explain myself by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I work for a large construction company. To be more precise, we specialize in the building of railway bridges. Secondly, I would like to mention that I am in the designing department. We have to look at the site for a new bridge, and then decide what type of bridge will be suitable. Lastly, we have to make recommendations to the railway company of all the alternatives, and give them some idea of the costs.

28. Is your job important to you? (5 - 6)

That is a broad question. Allow me to explain by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, my job is important to me because by doing it I can serve my community and my country. For example, when my company builds a new road, many people benefit from our work. Secondly, it makes me feel good about myself. For instance, I am earning enough money to be able to rent my own apartment.

28. Is your job important to you? (7 - 8)

That's a broad question. Allow me to explain by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, my job is important to me because by doing it I can serve my

community and my country. For example, when my company builds a new road, many people benefit from our work. Secondly, I personally get a lot of job satisfaction. What I mean to say is that after we have completed a road, I am proud to drive on the road with my family and explain to them what was involved during the building of the road.

29. If you could, would you change jobs? (5 - 6)

No, not really. What I mean is that I am very happy in my present job. In addition, in my present job I get along well with my colleagues. Should I change jobs however, I might not find such nice people to work with and could be very unhappy. Lastly, I believe I will be able to develop my career here. For instance, if I keep up the good work that I am presently doing, I could be promoted in two years time and so become the head of a department.

29. If you could, would you change jobs? (7 - 8)

Although I am very happy in my present job, I believe one should always be ambitious. That is to say one should never be complacent, but should be on the lookout for opportunities to advance in your career. Furthermore, I would not hesitate for one moment if I could obtain a promotion by changing jobs. I realize that one should show some loyalty to your present employer, but there has to be a balance between looking after ones own interests and those of your present employer.

30. Are there possible changes that could affect your job in any way? (5 - 8)

I don't think so. The company that I am working for is large and strong. In addition, I have a good relationship with my colleagues and my boss. Lastly, the only possible change that would affect me is if I should receive a promotion. That would be a positive development, so I am worried at all.

31. Could you tell me something about your family? (5 - 8)

Certainly. We are a normal Indian family. It consists of my father, my mother, and me. I am the only child, so I don't have any brothers or sisters. My grandparents passed away when I was still very young, so I did not have the privilege of knowing them. My father was one of four children, and my mother has a brother, so I have a number of uncles and aunts, and many cousins.

32. What do you think of the One-Child Policy in China? (5 - 6)

That's a tough question. Allow me to explain my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I think we have to have the policy in China. Our population had been growing too rapidly and something drastic had to be done. Secondly, I believe the policy will give China a chance to move ahead in the world. What I mean to say is that as soon as the population growth has stabilized, China will be able to make progress in the fight against unemployment.

32. What do you think of the One-Child Policy in China? (7 - 8)

That's a controversial question in China. Allow me to explain my personal views by

shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly I believe that the authorities had to do something to curb the increasing problem of overpopulation. However, I am of the opinion that the One-Child Policy was extremely harsh on the people. Maybe the government should have started off by introducing a Two-Child Policy.

33. Why do people in your country traditionally want to have a son? (5 - 8)

That's an interesting question. Allow me to explain my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I believe that fathers all over the world want someone to carry their name into the future. For example, in many western countries it is customary for a boy to receive his grandfathers name. A second reason that I could mention is that parents worry about what will happen to them after they had retired. They feel that when they have a son he would be able to provide for them in future.

34. Who does most of the shopping in your family? (5 - 8)

As far as this topic is concerned, I could say that my mother does most of the shopping, but my father and I will do some shopping from time to time. My parents allow me to buy my own clothes. Lastly, I would like to mention that my mother does not like my fathers smoking habit and therefore refuses to buy cigarettes, so that my father has to do that kind of shopping himself.

35. Who does most of the cooking in your family? (5 - 8)

My mother does most of the cooking, but my father and I will do some cooking from time to time. For example, sometimes my mother will be out the whole day doing voluntary work in our community, and then my father and I will do the cooking for her. The second aspect I could tell you about regarding this topic is that we often eat out. For example, often on a Friday night none of us feel like cooking, and then we visit one of the local restaurants, and have our favorite dish.

36. How does your family feel about you going abroad? (5 - 8)

They are very happy about me going abroad. I believe my parents will be very proud if I were to achieve a degree at a university abroad. In addition, they themselves never had the opportunity to study. I am their only child, and they would do anything in their power to allow me to have the opportunity.

Part 4-family (married person)

37. Are you married, and if so when did you get married? (5 - 8)

Yes, I am married. I got married about three years ago. I have a good husband / wife, and we are very happy together. To put it in another way you could say that we are best friends. For example, we do not keep any secrets from one another. We had known each other for many years before we got married, so we did not have to adjust too much. For example, I knew that he snores loudly when he turns onto his back

when sleeping.

38. Do you have any children? (5 - 8)

No, I don't have any children yet. We are planning to start with a family as soon as we have our own apartment. Until then my husband / wife and I are working as hard as possible to improve our positions in the companies that we are employed by. We would both like to have a son and a daughter, but because of the one-child policy that will not be possible.

39. What is your child's name? Does it have any meaning? (5 - 8)

My child's name is David Lee. His nickname is Superman, as we believe that he is going to become a strong man one day.

40. What does your wife do? (5 - 8)

My wife is a housewife at the moment. We are looking for a job for her, but it is not easy, as she does not have any qualifications or experience. They are opening up a new supermarket in our area soon, and we are hoping that she will be able to find a job there. She has placed her name on a waiting list, and we will be hearing from the employment officer soon.

41. What does your husband do? (5 - 8)

My husband is a civil servant. He works for the Department of Health at a hospital near our home. He is responsible for keeping the patient records in the men's wards. He loves his work, and is receiving a good salary, so we don't have any serious worries. As a matter of fact we both agree that we have a lot to be thankful for.

42. Did you have a honeymoon, and if so where did you go? (5 - 8)

Yes, we did have a honeymoon. We went to Cuba for a week, and stayed in a small hotel next to the beach. I will never forget the time we spent there. For example, it was very romantic, as we could sit on the beach in the evenings and watch the moon rising over the sea.

43. Did you and your spouse have to ask permission from your parents before you could get married? (5 - 8)

No, not really. They knew we were going to get married. We only had to confirm the date with them to ensure that it would suit them and our families. In earlier times it was customary for the young man to get the permission from his girlfriend's parents before they could get married.

44. Is living together without getting married acceptable in your country? (5 - 8)

It depends to what extent the couple would adhere to earlier customs. What I mean to say is that these days it is becoming more and more acceptable. For example, young people feel that they first want to get to know each other even better by living together. When they are absolutely sure that they are able to adapt to each other's lifestyles, they

would then most probably decide to get married.

45. Do you think couples should live with their parent or on their own? (5 - 8)

There are several reasons as for why I think couples should live on their own. Allow me to explain by mentioning some of them briefly. Firstly, I believe couples should become independent as soon as possible. For example, they should learn how to cope with the money at their disposal. Secondly, I believe they should be alone as soon as possible. For example, should they have an argument, they have to solve the problem by themselves.

46. What responsibilities should a couple take? (5 - 8)

There are several responsibilities that couples should take. Allow me to explain by mentioning some of them briefly. In the first place, I believe they should be responsible for their own finances. For example, young couples usually do not have a lot of money, and find it difficult to make ends meet. Secondly, I believe that later they have to look after their children. For example, they have to feed and clothe them, and ensure that they get a good education.

Part 4-family (children)

47. Are there any traditions around the birth of a baby in your region? (5 - 8)

Yes, there are quite a few. Firstly, after the baby is born, the father will give his wife some flowers, and take photographs of the baby and her. When the baby arrives at home, the parents will make prints of its hands and feet. This, together with a paintbrush made by using some of the baby's hair, will be kept as memorabilia.

48. What kind of parent do you intend to be? (5 - 8)

That's an interesting question. Allow me to explain my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: First of all, I would love my child unconditionally. What I mean is that I realize my child is not perfect, but I will still love him/her even if s/he has made a mistake. Secondly, I would like to be known as a strict but fair parent. For example, I will not allow my child too many freedoms, but I will also try to understand his/her needs.

49. What hopes or fears do you have concerning your children? (5 - 8)

That's an interesting question. Allow me to explain myself/my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I fear that my children will have a very hard life. For example, I wonder if they will have work to do. Secondly, I hope that they will be happy. For example, that they will find a good spouse, have children, and live together in peace and love.

50. What type of culture do you want your child to grow up in? (5 - 8)

That's a broad question. Allow me to explain myself/my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I would like my child to grow up in a culture of love. What I mean to say is that I hope the circumstances in our home will be full of

love and understanding. Secondly, I hope my child will grow up in a culture where the finer things in life are important. For example, things like music, art, and studying should be part of his life from the beginning.

51. Are you going to bring your children up differently from the way you were brought up? Why? (5 - 8)

No, not really. I believe my parents raised me well, and gave me a good education. If I could do the same for my child I would be happy. Maybe I would be a bit more modern. For example, I believe my parents were unreasonably strict at times. I would try and keep a balance between discipline and freedom. 52. Is there any sex discrimination in your country? (5 - 8)

Part 4-family (woman)

52. Describe the position of woman in China? (5 - 8)

One of the aspects I could tell you about regarding this topic is that there is some discrimination against woman in my country. For example, woman who are doing exactly the same job as men, are getting smaller salaries. Secondly, women are not considered for certain high level positions, like for example, in government. In addition, in many communities, women are still regarded as inferior to men. This is particularly the case in the rural communities. Lastly, parents prefer to have a boy as opposed to a girl. This is an unhealthy situation, as it will disturb the balance between the number of men and women in my country in the years to come.

53. What are the causes of sex discrimination? (5 - 8)

One of the main reasons regarding this topic that I would like to highlight is the fact that men often determine the wages in the companies. Secondly, women are not seen as able to do certain jobs as well as men. For instance, construction work has always been seen as a mans job. Lastly, many men still believe that a woman should stay at home, raise the kids, and be of service to her husband.

53. What are the causes of sex discrimination? (7 - 8)

Thats an interesting question. Allow me to explain myself by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I believe that discrimination against woman have deep roots in societies all over the world. In other words, it is not a present day phenomenon. Throughout history woman have not enjoyed the same status as men. It is only recently that woman have been filling the same positions in the work place. Lastly, I believe that it will take much more time to eradicate this practice. For example, as more and more woman become the sole breadwinners in families, they will have to be compensated as such irrespective of their sex.

54. Should housewives be paid a salary by the government? Why? (5-👍)

Yes, I believe housewives should be paid a salary by the government. Firstly, to be a

housewife is a job just as any other, and one should be paid for what you are doing. Secondly, the more housewives there are, the better. For example, housewives can spend more time with their babies, and so lay the foundation of healthy relationship

part 5-preferences (spare time)

55. What do you usually do in your spare time? (5 - 6)

55. What are your spare time interests? (5 - 6)

As a matter of fact, I have very little spare time these days. My studies are so important to me that I have given up all my other activities. For example, I used to love playing tennis, but these days I simply do not have the time. In addition, I used to swim often, as I believe it kept me fit without the danger of being injured.

55. What do you usually do in your spare time? (7 - 8)

55. What are your spare time interests? (7 - 8)

Well, these days, I surf on the Internet in my spare time. I have just bought my first computer, and love to look for exciting web sites that I have not known before. It is of course very time consuming, so I don't really have time for anything else. I have to mention that it is an educational activity. For example, by means of web cams (video images from cameras set up at certain places) I am able to watch what wild animals are doing in many parts of the world. I particularly like to watch the polar bears playing with their cubs.

56. Do you often watch TV? What is your favorite program? (5 - 8)

Yes, I often watch TV. My favorite program is called Discovery. As to why it is my favorite, I would like to mention the following. Firstly, it is not science fiction but a documentary on real life events and happenings. For example, it had a program on the latest eclipse of the sun that occurred at the end of the year. Secondly, it often has items about nature. For example, last week it explained how some birds have adapted to survive in a desert.

57. Do you think watching TV is a waste of time? (5 - 8)

No, I do not think watching TV is a waste of time. Firstly, one can learn a lot from watching TV, and secondly, it is a good way to relax. For example, the soap operas help me to relax, while the documentaries are informative. Lastly, I believe that TV has become the best source of information these days. For example, it is a fast and convenient way to find out about the latest news from all over the world.

part 5-preferences (friends)

58. What does friendship mean to you? (5 - 8)

One of the aspects I could tell you about regarding this topic is that friendship is very

important to me. For example, I believe that friendship should be the basis for many of our relationships. Husbands and wives, for example, should be friends. In addition, I need friends to help me when I am in trouble. I know this sounds selfish, but I feel that it is one of the reasons why I have friends, and they would not mind me saying so. On the other hand, my friends know that I will always be available should any one of them get into some trouble.

59. Do you have a lot of friends? (5 - 8)

Yes, I have a lot of friends. Some of them are only casual friends like my friends at work, but I also have some best friends. For example, I have some friends who I have known for many years. I will do anything to help them when they need me, and I know they would do the same for me.

60. Do you prefer to be alone or to be with friends? (5 - 6)

I prefer to be alone. Please allow me to explain. I like reading, which takes a lot of my time. Reading to me is a way of studying, so I have to do it alone. I often have to check the meaning of unfamiliar words in my dictionary, which is a slow process taking a lot of time.

60. Do you prefer to be alone or to be with friends? (5 - 6)

I prefer to be with my friends. Please allow me to explain. At work I spend most of my time alone in my office. So after work I like the company of other people. I often invite some of my friends over, and we listen to our favorite music, or just chat the whole evening.

60. Do you prefer to be alone or to be with friends? (7 - 8)

Sometimes I prefer to be alone. For example, after a hard day at work I just want to relax without anybody disturbing me. Those are the times that I might meditate on the meaning of life for example, or just savour some fond memories. On the other hand, sometimes I want to be with my friends. For example, over weekends, I like to go out with them and enjoy their stimulating company.

61. What do you usually do with your friends? (5 - 6)

Firstly, we often visit the nearest net bar for a number of reasons. For example, to play computer games or to surf the net. Sometimes we chat to young people abroad. We often spend hours there at a time. Secondly, we like to play basketball. For example, we would challenge another group to play against us.

61. What do you usually do with your friends? (7 - 8)

We usually go to the movies. My friends and I like cartoons very much, so we will look in the newspaper where a new cartoon is being showed and go and watch it. In addition, we like to watch a good action movie from time to time. We find the spectacular crashes and explosions very exciting. These movies are from Hong Kong or Hollywood, and have famous actors like Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Cruise

playing in them.

62. What do you usually do on weekdays and on weekends? (5 - 6)

On weekdays I go to school. On weekends I like to go out with my friends. For example, we will go and visit new shopping malls in the city. Then we would browse around all the shops. Sometimes we will sit in a restaurant and have something to drink while we watch the crowds of people go by.

62. What do you usually do on weekdays and on weekends? (5 - 6)

On weekdays I go to school. On weekends I like to stay at home. I can easily spend a weekend watching TV and just relaxing. For example, I like the soap operas like Meteor Garden and so on. I know the different characters well by now, some whom I love, and some whom I hate. I realize that some of the plots are silly and overdramatic, but it is good relaxing entertainment, as one does not have to think very hard to follow the stories.

OUTINGS

63. What do you usually do when you go out? (5 - 6)

I usually go to the nearest net bar with some of my friends. We spend many hours playing games or surfing the net. In addition, net bars are a great place for social gatherings. There we meet other youngsters and just hang around talking, and generally having a good time.

63. What do you usually do when you go out? (5 - 6)

I usually go shopping with my mother. The reason for this is simple. Us ladies usually need a lot of clothes to make us look beautiful, so we love to go shopping. Often we don't actually buy anything, but just browse around looking at all the clothes and comparing prices and quality.

63. What do you usually do when you go out? (7 - 8)

One of the aspects I could tell you about regarding this topic is that I usually go to watch a football game with some of my friends. We go to one of the local stadiums where our favorite team will be playing. I love the excitement and suspense. It seems that I often lose my identity in such a large crowd, and go crazy about the smallest of things.

Part 5-preferences (reading)

64. Do you like reading? (5 - 6)

No I don't like reading. I do not have the patience. For example, I have never been able to read a book from start to finish. Maybe the books I have tried were not interesting enough.

64. Do you like reading? (7 - 8)

Yes. I like reading very much. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I believe that all of us should read a lot. For example, when you read you acquire new knowledge, which in turn will broaden your views on important matters. In addition I also like reading Crazy English. The topics are interesting and short, and the translations ensure that I don't waste time looking up unfamiliar words.

65. What kinds of books do you like best? (5 - 6)

I like cartoons. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I believe cartoons are a special form of art. For example, the Japanese cartoons that are common in China, have excellent illustrations.

65. What kinds of books do you like best? (7 - 8)

I like novels. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I like to read a storyline that is full of intrigue and suspense. For example, many love stories have characters who are involved in all sorts of conflicts amongst them. The most common one known all over the world since ancient times is the so-called love triangle.

66. Describe a book that you have read recently. (5 - 6)

I have read a book about the life of Michael Jordan. I am sorry, but I have forgotten the name of the book. I also like to read Japanese cartoons.

66. Describe a book that you have read recently. (7 - 8)

I have recently read a book about the history of South Africa. It is called The Covenant, and was written by a famous American author called James Mitchener. It describes the history from the very first days, up to the present. It covers all aspects of the country, but focuses on the people of the country. For example, he looks at the political situation over the past fifty years, which was based on racial discrimination and had become known to the world as apartheid.

67. Do you often read the newspapers? (5 - 6)

No, I never read a newspaper. I watch TV if I want to know what is happening in China and the world. Newspapers take too much time to read. For example, the news on TV is short and to the point, and that's all I want to know.

67. Do you often read the newspapers? (7 - 8)

No. Allow me to explain the reasons by shortly mentioning the following points: Firstly, I use the Internet these days if I want to know what's happening in region and the world. For example, websites like CNN contain all the latest news on world events. Secondly, I like to read about stories in depth, and this I cannot find in newspapers. For example, I often would like to know the history behind a story. On the Internet I can do some research right away, and so gain a broader perspective on the subject at hand.

Part 5-preferences (hobbies)

68. Do you have a hobby? (5 - 8)

Yes. My hobby is stamp collecting. I have been collecting stamps for the past two years now. That is to say, for two years I have chosen stamp collecting to be my only hobby. I regularly spend time working on my collection. I guess I spend about two hours every week on my hobby. This is mainly over weekends, as I do not have time during the week.

69. Why have you chosen this hobby? (5 - 6)

That's an interesting question. Allow me to explain myself/my personal views by shortly mentioning the following points: First of all, it's a very interesting hobby. For example, the stamps from other countries often say something about that country and its people.

69. Why have you chosen this hobby? (7 - 8)

First of all, when you collect stamps, you are able to learn more about the world, and you will not be bored easily. What I mean to say is that you can get stamps from every country in the world, and the stamps often say something about that country and its people. Secondly, you are able to meet new friends through your hobby. For instance, you have a common interest with someone else, and you can discuss your collections together for many hours. Lastly, the hobby will teach you some self-discipline and how to be very systematic. That is to say, you have to tend to your collection regularly, and you have to sort the stamps according to internationally recognized systems.

70. What are good hobbies, and what are bad hobbies? (5 - 8)

In my opinion, good hobbies are those ones that give you the opportunity to develop a new skill. For example, collecting stamps teaches you to be systematic. Bad hobbies on the other hand may result in you acquiring bad habits. For example, TV and computer games will result in you neglecting your studies.

Part 5-preferences (colors)

71. What color do you like? Why? (5 - 6)

I like red. Please allow me to explain. In my country, red is associated with life and good luck. For example, a bride will wear something red on her wedding day, in the hope that it will bring her and her bridegroom some luck in future.

71. What color do you like? Why? (7 - 8)

If I had to describe my favorite color, I would choose yellow. Many artists are known to use yellow in their paintings. For example, Vincent van Gogh is famous for the yellow sunflowers in some of his paintings. Many countries have yellow in their national flags. For example, South Africa has a broad yellow band in their newly designed flag. This symbolizes the energy and warmth to be found in the nation.

71. What color do you like? Why? (7 - 8)

Yellow is my favorite color. First of all, to me, yellow symbolizes the sun. What I mean to say is that it reminds me of energy and warmth. Secondly, yellow is a bright color as apposed to dull colors like brown and gray. For instance, brown and gray usually make me feel depressed. Lastly, I would like to mention that yellow is a practical color. That is to say, you can wear yellow with almost any color, and it does not get dirty too easily.

72. Do colors have some symbolic meaning in your country? (5 - 8)

Yes, colors certainly have a lot of meaning in my country. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, it is significant that the national flag of my country has a red background. Red is symbolic, for example, of a vibrant life, which we believe are one of the dominant characteristics of the country and its people. It also signifies good luck, so a bride would wear some red on her wedding day. In addition, I think that yellow has a specific meaning to our people. For example, we believe that it symbolizes the energy radiated by the sun, which in turn is the primary source of life. In addition, however, it also signifies the obscene, as apposed to blue in the most of the western cultures. For example, here a blue movie, would be called a yellow movie. Lastly, I think that white has a special meaning to us. To be more specific, in times of sadness and mourning, we use white to express our feelings, as apposed to black in most of the western cultures.

Part 5-preferences (shoppings and movies)

73. Do you like / enjoy shopping? (5 - 6)

Yes, I love shopping. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, I usually buy clothes for myself. I like to go to the shops and see what they have to offer. I browse around and compare the prices before a buy something. Secondly, I do the shopping of all our household needs. I love to find out about any new products on the market and how they can possibly make my life easier.

73. Do you like / enjoy shopping? (7 - 8)

No, I hate shopping. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, shopping is the most basic activity in a capitalistic society. What I mean to say is that somebody has a product which they would like you to buy from them whether you really need it or not. They lure you into their shops and malls by advertising their goods on TV and in the newspapers. They only tell you about the positive aspects of their product, but would never mention the disadvantages. This you have to find out for yourself, usually after you have bought the product.

74. Do you often go to the cinema? (5 - 6)

Yes, I go to the cinema as often as possible. I usually go with some friends to watch the latest action movies or comedies. We have a great time, like for example when our favorite star is playing a lead role in the movie.

74. Do you often go to the cinema? (7 - 8)

Yes, I go to the cinema as often as possible. I believe that films are a wonderful form of art. Please allow me to explain. Firstly, in films there are a wide range of genres ranging from comedy and drama, to horror and science fiction. For example, recently I have seen the drama Titanic, which has been described as the most expensive film ever made. The extent to which the producers attended to the details of the original ship was astounding. Another example would be the thriller with my favorite actor Anthony Hopkins in the lead role called Silence of the lambs. It had me on the edge of my seat for most of the time.

75. Do you often go to the theater? (5 - 8)

No. I have never been to the theater. Firstly, it is too expensive for me. I prefer to go to the cinema. Secondly, I believe that the theater is boring. What I mean to say is that the actors are on the same stage the whole time. I cannot see how that can be as exciting as a good movie.

76. What kinds of movies do you like best? (5 - 8)

I like comedies. First of all, comedies are great fun. What I mean to say is that I have a good laugh while watching. Secondly, comedies seldom contain violent scenes. For instance, you would not easily find murders, shooting, fighting, and so on in a comedy. Lastly, comedies often contain excellent acting by famous stars. For example, Robbie Williams in Mrs. Doubtfire is considered one of the most extraordinary performances ever by an actor.

77. Who is your favorite movie star? Describe him / her. (5 - 8)

My favorite movie star is Jackie Cheng. He is handsome, and very funny. He always has a smile on his face, and never seems to be worried about the situations that he finds himself in. The U.S. President Clinton went to watch one of his movies with him.

Part 5-preferences (music and traveling)

78. Do you like music? (5 - 8)

78. Do you think music is important? (5 - 8)

Yes, I like music very much. That is to say, I cannot imagine what my life would be like without music. Firstly, I believe music plays an important part in peoples lives. For example, we can use it to sooth our minds after a hard day at work, or it can provide us with the rhythm to dance to.

79. What kind of music do you enjoy most? (5 - 8)

I like pop music very much. Allow me to explain. First of all, pop music is lively, and suits me at my age. What I mean to say is that us youngsters like to listen to music

that fits in with the way we feel Secondly, usually has a good rhythm. For instance, it is suitable for us to dance on. Lastly, pop music is simple to understand. That is to say, I like it because it is not difficult to understand, and it helps me to relax after I have been studying hard for some time.

80. How long do you listen to music everyday? (5 - 8)

Oh, let me think a bit. I guess I listen to music for about half an hour every day. I would, for example, listen when I get home from school, or in the evenings before I go to bed. On weekends, however, I listen to music much more. For example, I would invite my best friend over to my place, and we would listen to our favorite CDs for a few hours at a time.

TRAVELLING

81. Do you like traveling? (5 - 6)

Yes, I like traveling. Firstly, I believe that traveling is always educational. What I mean to say is that the people that you meet along the way are usually interesting. Secondly, I wish I were able to travel more. For example, I have not traveled to a foreign country yet.

82. How do you usually travel? (5 - 8)

I like to travel by train. Allow me to explain. Firstly, when I travel by train I am able to see more of my country. In addition, the trains in my country are convenient and comfortable. For example, I can travel to any city, and I am able to sleep on the train. Lastly, traveling on a train is a social event as well. For example, one can chat to the other passengers about where they are going, and why they are traveling.

83. Where have you traveled to lately? (5 - 8)

I traveled to xxx last month. My parents and I traveled there by train. We went to see my grandmother who has been ill lately. I enjoyed the trip as I have not been to xxx before. We did not have the opportunity to sleep on the train, as it takes only six hours to get there.

84. What kind of places do you like to visit? (5 - 8)

I like to visit places where there is a lot of entertainment. For example, I dont like it when we go and visit my grandparents in the country. They live on a farm and dont even have a computer for me to play on. I like to visit the cities where there are movies to watch and nightclubs to visit.

Possible Questions from the Interviewer of the IELTS Test.

1. What is the meaning of your given name?
2. Does your name affect your personality?
3. Tell me something about your hometown.
4. What are the differences in accent between your hometown and Beijing?
5. What is the character of the people like in your hometown?
6. What is people's favourite food in the region where you live?
7. What will you do during the Spring Festival this year?
8. Are there any traditional festivals in your region?
9. Describe a typical Spring Festival for a Chinese family.
10. Tell me something about the Lantern Festival.
11. How have weddings changed in recent years?
12. Tell me something about the Qing Ming Festival.
13. Describe a traditional wedding ceremony.
14. How do Chinese usually celebrate birthdays?
15. Are there any traditions concerning the birth of a baby?
16. How do you like Beijing? Compare it to your hometown.
17. What place do you like best in Beijing?
18. What places in Beijing should a foreigner visit?
19. What places would you recommend a visitor to go to in your region/hometown?
20. If you had the choice, where would you choose to live in China?
21. Which parts of China would you recommend a foreigner to visit?
22. Tell me something about your family.
23. Which is the worst place you've been to in China?
24. Who takes the greatest responsibility for bringing up your child in your family?
25. Which is the best place you've been to in China?
26. Who does most of the household chores in your family?
27. Are the traditional sexual roles within the family changing?
28. Why is the divorce rate increasing so rapidly? Is it a problem?
29. What is your opinion of the one-child policy?
30. How do you discipline your child?
31. Is it acceptable for couples to live together without marrying?
32. If you had the choice, would you have a son or a daughter?
33. Are you going to bring your child up any differently to the way your

parents did?

34. What hopes do you have for your child?
35. Do women still have too heavy a burden in their day to day life?
36. Is the increasing influence of the West largely a positive or negative thing?
37. What, according to you, has been the greatest change in recent years?
38. What, according to you, has been the most problematic change in recent years?
39. What, if you are a lecturer what changes have you seen in education over the past few years?
40. Who should bear the responsibility for payment of tuition fees?
41. What can be done to improve education in rural areas?
42. Have recent changes affected your job in any way?
43. Do you agree with private education?
44. What can be done to close the gap between urban and rural areas?
45. If you had the power, what reforms would you carry out within education?
46. Describe a typical working day for you.
47. How do you see yourself in ten years time?
48. If you had the opportunity to change your job, what would you do instead?
49. If you had one million Yuan, what would you do with it?
50. If you could start your life again, would you do anything differently?
51. Do you have any ambitions?
52. Which country/place would you most like to visit?
53. What changes do you think China will see in the next few years?
54. Will any possible future changes affect your job in any way?
55. How do you think you will cope in Britain?
56. Does anything worry you about going to the UK?
57. Are you looking forward to anything in particular in Britain?
58. What are your plans on your return to China?
59. What do you do in your spare time?
60. What will you do if you fail the IELTS?