Package 1 How we behave is who we are

1. Some behaviors in public places that get on my nerves include people talking loudly on their phones, littering, and not giving up seats for elderly or disabled individuals.
2. Recently, I witnessed a young man helping an elderly woman carry her groceries to her car. This was an example of good manners. On the other hand, I also saw a person cutting in line at a store, which demonstrated bad manners.
3. When I see someone behaving inappropriately in public places, I usually try to ignore it unless it's causing harm to others. In that case, I might speak up or report the behavior to the appropriate authority.

Discussion topic: I agree with the saying "Better good manners than good looks" because good manners reflect one's character and the way they treat others. Good looks are superficial and don't necessarily indicate a person's true nature.

Additional question: A person's behavior can be a reflection of their character, but it's also important to consider the context and external factors that may influence their actions. For example, someone might behave rudely when they are under stress, but that doesn't necessarily mean they have a bad character.

Package 2 Getting older, getting wiser?

1. I consider my grandmother to be wise because she always listens carefully to others and offers thoughtful advice. She has experienced many challenges in life and learned from them, which has contributed to her wisdom.
2. Older people can teach younger people about patience, resilience, and the importance of maintaining relationships. They can also share their life experiences, which can provide valuable lessons for the younger generation.
3. Older people can learn from younger people about new technology, innovative ideas, and staying open-minded to change.

Discussion topic: Wisdom is a combination of factors, including age, experiences, and learning from failures. As people age and accumulate experiences, they have more opportunities to learn and grow, which can contribute to their wisdom.

Additional question: Both "book-smart" and "street-smart" are important for a person to get by in the world. "Book-smart" provides a solid foundation of knowledge, while "street-smart" allows one to navigate real-life situations effectively.

Package 3 Discovering your niche holiday

1. If given a round-trip ticket to any place in the world, I would go to Japan because I am fascinated by its unique culture, history, and natural beauty.
2. My favorite holiday is Christmas because it's a time for family gatherings, delicious food, and exchanging gifts.
3. My best holiday experience was a road trip with friends across the United States, exploring national parks and experiencing diverse landscapes.

Discussion topic: If I could travel in time, I would go to the future to witness the advancements in technology and see how society has progressed.

Additional question: My niche holiday would be a balance between exciting outdoor activities like hiking and exploring new places, and relaxing at home with a good book or movie.

Package 4 Solving problems and seeking happiness

1. My definition of happiness is a sense of contentment and well-being, having strong relationships with family and friends, and pursuing meaningful goals.
2. The relationship between money and happiness is complex. While money can provide a sense of security and enable one to enjoy experiences, it does not guarantee happiness.
3. My latest experience that made me feel genuinely happy was when I successfully completed a challenging project at work and received positive feedback from my colleagues.

Discussion topic: The things that make me happy now are spending time with friends and family, learning new skills, and contributing to my community. In 20 years, my priorities might change, but the importance of relationships and personal growth will likely still be a significant source of happiness.

Additional question: I would choose the job with moderate pay and flexible working hours because it would allow me to have a better work-life balance and pursue other interests.

Package 5 Art expands horizons

1. Some famous painters I know are Leonardo da Vinci, Vincent van Gogh, and Frida Kahlo. They are famous for their unique styles and contributions to art history.
2. The most famous artist in my country is [insert artist name and description of their art].
3. Art is important in our lives because it allows us to express ourselves, connect with others, and appreciate the beauty and diversity of the world.

Discussion topic: Picasso's quote suggests that children have a natural creativity which can be stifled as they grow up. Art education for children helps nurture their creativity and allows them to develop essential skills like problem-solving, communication, and critical thinking.

Additional question: If I could be given the talent to paint, I would paint landscapes that capture the beauty and diversity of nature.

Package 6 Mass media: 24/7 coverage

1. I occasionally read newspapers, and I usually follow news related to politics, science, and technology.
2. The oldest form of mass media is print, such as newspapers and books. Print media is different from other forms of mass media like televisionand radio because it relies on the written word and physical distribution.
3. I prefer online mass media because it's easily accessible, up-to-date, and offers a wider range of perspectives.

Discussion topic: Fake news on social media can be harmful and misleading. To determine and avoid fake news, it's crucial to verify the source, check the credibility of the information, and cross-reference with other reliable sources.

Additional question: Social media has made it easier for people to access and share news instantly. However, it has also led to the spread of misinformation and the potential for echo chambers, where people only engage with like-minded individuals.

Package 7 Trouble in modern times

1. Some examples of social problems include income inequality, climate change, racism, and mental health issues.
2. A fear or phobia that would be most troublesome in daily life is agoraphobia, as it can make it difficult for an individual to leave their home and engage in everyday activities.
3. To relieve stress and improve mental health, I practice mindfulness, exercise regularly, and maintain a balanced lifestyle.

Discussion topic: I agree that doing nothing for a period of time during the day can help relieve stress, as it allows the mind and body to rest and recharge.

Additional question: Joining clubs or organizations, volunteering, and participating in social events are some ways to make friends and get along with others in modern times.

Package 8 Everybody has a story to tell

1. My favorite book is "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee because it addresses important themes such as racism, morality, and empathy through a compelling narrative.
2. Reading "Man's Search for Meaning" by Viktor Frankl changed my perspective on the importance of finding purpose in life and helped me develop a more resilient mindset.
3. When choosing a book to read, I consider factors such as the author's reputation, the book's themes and subject matter, and recommendations from friends or reviews.

Discussion topic: I agree that people who read books can develop more imagination and language skills than those who prefer to watch TV, as reading engages the mind more actively and encourages critical thinking.

Additional question: I have dedicated time each week for out-of-class autonomous reading this semester and found it enriching. If given another opportunity, I would try to explore a wider range of genres and authors.

**Package 1 How we behave is who we are**

1. Loud and obnoxious behavior in public places, like talking loudly on the phone or playing music without headphones, gets on my nerves. It shows a lack of consideration for others.
2. Recently, I witnessed a person holding the door open for a group of people, which I thought was a good manner. On the other hand, I saw someone cut in line at a grocery store, which was a bad manner.
3. When I see someone behave inappropriately in public places, I usually try to ignore it if it's not affecting me directly. However, if the situation requires intervention, I might politely ask the person to be more considerate.

**Discussion topic**: I agree with the saying "Better good manners than good looks." Good manners reflect one's character and show respect for others, while good looks are temporary and superficial.

**Additional question**: A person's behavior is a significant reflection of their character, but it's essential to consider the context and individual circumstances. People may behave differently in different situations, and one's actions may not always align with their true character.

**Package 2 Getting older, getting wiser?**

1. My grandfather is someone I consider wise. He has experienced many hardships and successes in his life, and he always provides insightful advice based on his experiences.
2. Older people can teach younger people about patience, persistence, and the value of hard work. They can also share life lessons they've learned through personal experiences.
3. Older people can learn about new technology and current trends from younger people, as well as different perspectives on social and cultural issues.

**Discussion topic**: Wisdom comes from a combination of factors, including age, experiences, and learning from failures. A person's ability to reflect on their experiences and grow from them is crucial to becoming wiser.

**Additional question**: Being both "book-smart" and "street-smart" is essential to navigate the world effectively. Book-smart individuals may excel in academics, while street-smart individuals have practical knowledge and problem-solving skills that can be beneficial in real-life situations.

**Package 3 Discovering your niche holiday**

1. If given a round-trip ticket, I would go to Japan. I have always been fascinated by its rich history, culture, and natural beauty.
2. My favorite holiday is Christmas because of the festive atmosphere, spending time with family, and the joy of giving and receiving gifts.
3. My best holiday experience was a trip to Italy, where I explored beautiful cities, enjoyed delicious food, and immersed myself in the country's art and history.

**Discussion topic**: If I could travel in time, I would go to the past, specifically the Renaissance period, to witness the flourishing of art, culture, and science firsthand.

**Additional question**: My niche holiday would involve a mix of both outdoor activities and relaxation. I enjoy exploring new places, hiking, and experiencing local culture, but I also value downtime to recharge.

**Package 4 Solving problems and seeking happiness**

1. My definition of happiness is a state of contentment and well-being, achieved through a balance of personal fulfillment, meaningful relationships, and a sense of purpose.
2. Money and happiness are related to a certain extent. Financial stability can relieve stress and provide opportunities for enjoyable experiences, but money alone cannot guarantee happiness.
3. My latest experience that made me genuinely happy was spending a weekend with close friends, enjoying each other's company and creating lasting memories.

**Discussion topic**: The things that make me happy now include strong relationships, personal achievements, and pursuing hobbies. In 20 years, my sources of happiness might shift towards family, career success, and a sense of purpose in life.

**Additional question**: I would choose the job with moderate pay and flexible working hours. Work-life balance is essential for overall happiness and well-being, and having time for personal pursuits and relationships is more valuable to me than a higher salary.

**Package 5 Art expands horizons**

1. Famous painters I know include Vincent van Gogh, known for "Starry Night," and Leonardo da Vinci, known for the "Mona Lisa."
2. The most famous artist in my country is [insert artist's name]. They are known for [insert art form and notable works].
3. Art is important because it allows us to express ourselves, appreciate beauty, and connect with others through shared experiences. Art can make life more colorful by evoking emotions and inspiring creative thinking.

**Discussion topic**: I agree with Picasso's quote. Children are naturally creative, but many lose this artistic inclination as they grow up due to societal expectations and practical concerns. Art education helps children maintain their creativity and develop important skills such as problem-solving and self-expression.

**Additional question**: If I had the talent to paint, I would paint landscapes that capture the beauty of nature and evoke a sense of serenity.

**Package 6 Mass media: 24/7 coverage**

1. I occasionally read newspapers, mainly focusing on world news, technology, and science.
2. The oldest form of mass media is print media, such as newspapers and books. It differs from other mass media in that it is tangible, usually requires more time to consume, and has a longer-lasting impact.
3. I prefer digital mass media because it offers instant access to information, is easily searchable, and can be updated in real-time.

**Discussion topic**: Fake news on social media is a significant concern, as it can lead to misinformation and manipulate public opinion. To avoid fake news, one should verify the credibility of the source, cross-check information with reputable news outlets, and be cautious when sharing unverified content.

**Additional question**: Social media has made news more accessible and shareable, allowing for real-time updates and discussions. However, it has also contributed to the spread of misinformation and made it harder to distinguish between reliable and unreliable sources.

**Package 7 Trouble in modern times**

1. Examples of social problems include inequality, climate change, poverty, and mental health issues.
2. A fear of heights (acrophobia) would be the most troublesome in daily life, as it could limit one's ability to travel, work in certain environments, or participate in specific activities.
3. To relieve stress and improve mental health, I engage in physical exercise, practice mindfulness, and connect with friends and family for support.

**Discussion topic**: I agree with the recommendation to do nothing for a period during the day. Taking time to relax and disconnect from external pressures can help reduce stress and enhance mental well-being.

**Additional question**: Building genuine connections and friendships in modern times can be achieved through joining clubs or organizations, volunteering, attending social events, and actively engaging with others both online and offline.

**Package 8 Everybody has a story to tell**

1. My favorite book is [insert book title]. It is well-written, has engaging characters, and offers valuable insights on [insert theme or topic].
2. [Insert book title] changed me by [explain how the book influenced your perspective or behavior]. This impact was evident when [describe a personal experience related to the book's influence].
3. When choosing a book to read, I consider factors such as the genre, writing style, reviews, and recommendations from friends or trusted sources.

**Discussion topic**: I agree that people who read books can develop more imagination and language skills than those who watch TV. Reading requires active engagement and visualization of the story, which can enhance creative thinking and vocabulary.

**Additional question**: My out-of-class autonomous reading this semester has been [describe your progress and experience]. If given another opportunity, I would [explain what you would do differently or continue to do].