

## TOPIC 1 宠物的好处

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公微信号 Alex\_Dreamers



There ARE a couple of benefits I can think of from keeping pets.

The basic meaning of “a pet” is an animal we keep for emotional rather than economic reasons. A pet animal keeps us company and reduces our stress and loneliness. And pets offer us more than just companionship; they provide us the opportunity to love and be loved. When pets depend on us for food and shelter, they make us feel needed and important.

Keeping a pet around means young kids have access to the more natural world; learning to care for a pet helps a child to grow into a loving adult who feels responsible for those who depend on them and towards the society that needs their contribution, too.

(123)

## TOPIC 2 宠物的坏处

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Keeping pets is just a waste of time, energy and resources.

Pets and children often fight over care and love in the family. It's ridiculous and degrading to see children feeling jealous of pets. And to make things worse, parents are so preoccupied with their own pets that they even neglect caring for their own kids.

Plus, not all that keep pets are responsible. It's not fair when people abandon their pets when they go away on vacations and are not able to take their pets along with them. Along that line, it's a shame that many pets eat much better food than some of us humans do. We could really use that money to improve the lives of impoverished people in underdeveloped countries. (124)

### TOPIC 3

## 得不到高分也要参加最难的课程

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Grades are important, but they're only part of the enjoyment one gets from a class. The reason why a person goes to a class is because he/she wants to be influenced by the professor and fellow students so to improve himself/ herself.

The students that go to the most difficult class are usually ace students in the school, so one can put himself among elite, students of top intelligence. And by being around them, a student get to enhance one's requirement for himself. A subconscious process of transformation and evolution begins.

The professors that teaches the most difficult class is usually the best professor at school. And because only the top students attend such classes, the professor does not hold back in teaching. He will be more ready in challenging the students' intelligence. Being hi this class, one will get the opportunities to dig up his potential. (148)



**TOPIC 4**

**改善教育质量的建议**

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If I were given the opportunity to improve the education quality in my country, I would first diversify our core curriculum.

A fine education should provide students more freedom to choose the subjects they are truly interested in. Since everyone's talents and potentials are different, a good education system should recognize the importance of personalized education. Not everybody needs to be a scientist, not everyone wants to be an engineer. We're also gonna need dancers, artists and philanthropists for the better-being of our community.

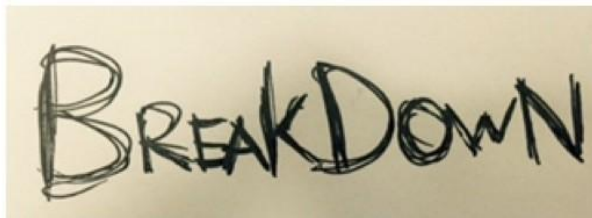
And the second suggestion is to reduce pressure. Right now, many students come to hate learning because the massive load of homework suffocates them. They don't enjoy learning, and instead, they endure it. With lower pressure, students will learn more healthily and sustainably.  
(128)

**TOPIC 5**

**等到最后做项目不好**

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I don't believe it's wise to postpone a project until it's due because, I mean, when the deadline is drawing near, a student can feel devastated and start to panic under pressure. Such stress often disrupts one's inner peace and mess with the productivity. The progress and quality of the project will inevitably be influenced. Trust me, most of the times, pressure often means problem.

A student should start a project early, and take advantage of the abundance of time and design carefully every step of implementing the project. It can simultaneously exercise his time management skill and organizational skill. Besides doing a good job on the project, a student may achieve multiple developments in terms of his personal quality. When there's no rush, the quality of the project is usually insured. (132)

## TOPIC 6

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I believe eating in class does a lot of harm. There's no doubt about that. Some people think that eating in class can help students concentrate better. Are you kidding?

When a student eat, he/she creates a lot of smell and noise. The sound of unwrapping a bag of snack food is disruptive in class. And if one is eating some nacho, other students will be totally annoyed by that unpleasant cheesy smell.

And, I guess when one's full, he/she tends to feel sleepy and eventually doze off in the class. Such sleepiness will distract a student from listening in class.

With such disadvantages to oneself and to other people, who would want to eat in class. Right? (120)



**TOPIC 7**

**学生需要学会记笔记**

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It's absolutely vital for a student to learn to take good notes. If there's one skill that's at the core of a person's learning habit, note-taking is IT.

The meaning of good notes requires no explanation. When a student takes notes in class, he become really serene, really sedate, and begins to develop an organized memory of what's taught in class. Good notes help students follow the train of thoughts of the professor, consolidate students' learning, and provide reference for after class review.

And the skill of note-taking will continue to be important when a person graduates and finds himself sitting in a corporate meeting, as he/she will need to jot down data and compose a memorandum of the meeting. (123)

**TOPIC 8**

**大学生最大的挑战 – 想家**

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I believe that being far away from home and family members is the biggest challenge facing college students right now.

During the first 18-19 years of one's life, a person has always been living with his or her family. So this whole idea of going home for dinner, having someone to look after oneself when a one is sick, and having someone always wake one up in the morning has been the creature comfort that one's used to.

But going to college is a major leap one has to take towards true independence, after one takes that critical step, home sickness kicks in and makes a person really upset. We all miss our families. Even though we're often reluctant to admit, that IS true. (125 words)



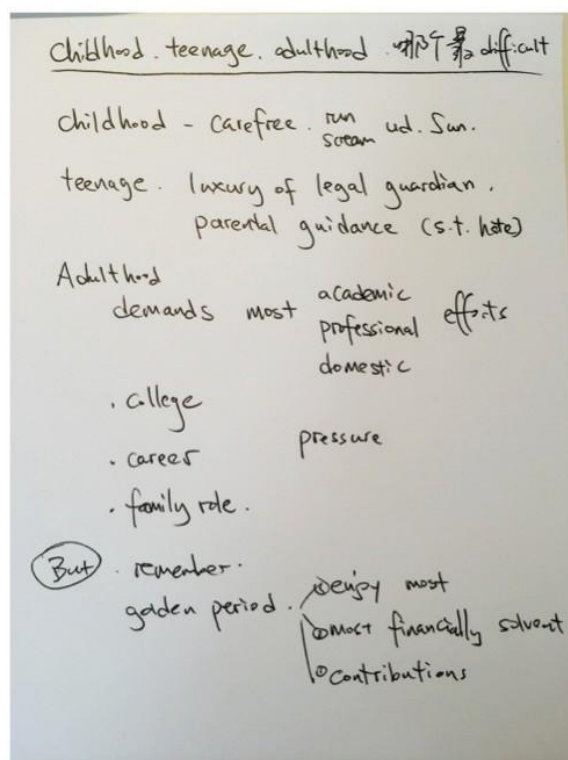
## TOPIC 9 和童年，青少年时期相比，成人生活最困难

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Comparing to the carefree childhood when kids can run and scream under the sun, and the luxury of legal guardian and the availability of parental guidance in one's adolescence, adulthood is the most challenging period in one's life since it demands most academic, professional and domestic efforts from an grown-up. A mature adult has to experience pressure from college, career and, later on, his/her family role. But I don't want to leave an impression that all is lost. Remember, adulthood is also the golden period when an individual enjoy the most, is most financially solvent and makes the most contribution to the world. (105)



## TOPIC 10

### 旅行 – 吃什么最重要

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吃什么最重要

Among the three factors, I tend to believe that what to eat adds the most to one's overall pleasure of traveling. I'm saying this because, one, eating is arguably one of the most satisfying things to do on planet earth, and two by going to a local restaurant, a traveler can gain insights into the local culinary culture and lifestyle of the people. After all, you're what you eat, right?

I remember when I went to Shanghai not long ago for a short break from my routine life, my best buddy and his wife were tagging along with me. And being food fanatics, we made it our top priority to sample the best food Shanghai has to offer. We went to Japanese Sushi Restaurant, ate Italian cooking in a 5-star restaurant and joined local residents in some famous diners in a back alley. By looking at the pictures of us and the food, I realized how happy we were. I don't know about other people, but what to eat decides where to go for me.

**TOPIC 11**

**人多的地方学习效果好**

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**B. 人多的地方好**

Choosing between the two places, I would say learning in a place with other people around benefits me more.

I mean, when a person goes on independent learning, it's very easy to quit and let one's mind wander, but if he or she looks around and finds everyone totally concentrated on their own academic tasks, this person will be more motivated to learn. Plus, he gets the opportunities of discussing academic problems with others and making new study partners.

I get that some people believe learning in a quiet place with no one around can push a person's learning efficiency. But don't ever underestimate the power of loneliness and isolation. This person may feel like a forgotten orphan. And such negative feeling reduces learning motivation.



## TOPIC 12

### 家长可以让孩子生活更健康

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There ARE a couple of things parents can do to safeguard healthy lifestyles of their children.

Parents can encourage their children to get up early and go to bed early, pay attention to personal hygiene, *like taking a shower everyday, brushing teeth before bedtime and cutting one's nails every now and then*, and of course engage in more outdoor sports. This way, children often follow suits and become physically healthy.

Also, parents should foster a healthy psychological atmosphere under which their children can grow up. By offering trust and expressing the willingness to always be there, parents can usually get their children to communicate and share with them the pains and gains in their young life. As result, the children can be psychologically healthy.

## TOPIC 13

### 团队项目对学生有益

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#### Group Project

A group project is the most beneficial. No doubt.

Because a student often gets **opportunities** to share ideas, materials and resources with others, and then different ideas begin to **forge into** a master plan and design. Any student can benefit from this process.

Also, when the **synergy** and **dedication** of the group results in a Grade A, the joy and **satisfaction** for every group member is **inexplicable** for people who has never been involved in a similar process of overcoming difficulties and **rushing** together **towards a deadline**.

Sometimes, a **consensus** may be hard to reach. But **the beauty of this** is that it provides a student the chance to **negotiate** and **coordinate**. Such skills are important too. (117)

## TOPIC 14

### 关于提升课程成绩的建议

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Improving one's score in a class is always a hard nut to crack, but I believe if my friend listens to my advice, he'll succeed in doing it.

First, he needs to examine in details the requirements set forward by the professor for this class and put in the hard work to meet them. This may include participating more in class, by asking questions and answering questions, perhaps, finishing assignment at higher quality, and performing better in every quiz, mid-term, and, of course, final. He can also take up some extra-credit work just to make sure that the professor will allow him a higher score. Since the rules of the game is designed by the professor, in order to win, my friend should at least play the game.

Also, he needs to get the professor's attention and let the professor notice that he's working this hard. He should stop being anonymous in the class and, put himself on the professor's radar. (163)





## TOPIC 15

### 买新书 vs 买便宜的旧书

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First, I want to make it clear that I feel empathetic with those people who enjoy the fragrance of a new book and take pleasure in the elaborate design and binding of a fine publication.

But buying old and cheap books is just a much better economic policy. Let's face it, old or new, the content of a book stays the same. So if what you pay attention to is the substance of the book instead of the form it comes in, buying second-hand books can be much more cost-effective.

Also, an old book often contains marks left by the previous reader. While some people consider it an eye-sore, I see it as an opportunity. Because these marks gives the new reader pointers about what's important, so he or she can read straight to the point. And the new reader can communicate with the former reader in a sense and form a bond for the common reading experience. (161)

## TOPIC 16

### 带来积极影响的人 – 妈妈

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#### 带来积极影响的人-妈妈

Of all people, my mother exerted the strongest influence on my life because she encourages and inspires me.

My mother encourages me, for example, I am now working in America as an au pair, and au pair is like a baby-sitter who lives with the American family. At first, I did not want to come to America and leave all my friends in Southern China. But my mother said it would be a great experience and a great way to develop my English. She was right, my English has been so much better.

Also, when I was growing up, my mother was a high school teacher. This was strange because all my friends' mothers were housewives. But my mother wanted to work. She always told me to just follow my heart. I remember these words whenever I have problem in America. And they give me strength. I hope when I have a daughter, I could encourage and inspire her.

**TOPIC 17 独处的意义**

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Based on my personality, I guess I would spend some time alone doing civilized recreational activities, such as reading a book, writing a prose, or thinking about what happens to me and around me. Because the problem of spending time with my friends is that when people come and go, it creates a lot of noise, the place gets messy and chaotic, and I feel crowded. That would normally add more exhaustion to my already busy life.

But when I spent my time alone, nobody rushes me, nobody distracts me and interferes with whatever I do. And I can really concentrate on my reading and my thinking. I guess ^um^ spending some quality time a day with oneself is important to keep oneself from going crazy. Maybe just 15 minutes a day over a cup of coffee, one will feel refreshed and renewed.



**TOPIC 18**

**和朋友一起相处的好处**

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**Answer b**

Given that, I am a very outgoing person, so my natural preference would be to try to spend some time with my friends. Because I have a lot of friends, and I guess “The more, the merrier.” is my philosophy. When friends come to my house and we begin a party, I guess the fun is just multiplied, right?

But the problem is sometimes your friends will get your place really dirty, and you have to do the cleaning afterwards. That’s not pleasant.

But I still believe it’s better than spending time alone. I mean life is too short to be wasted on solitude. Plus being really lonely, you are gonna be alienating friends, it’s possible that after a while nobody will call you again.

**TOPIC 19**

**印象深刻的庆祝 – 生日**

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**印象深刻的 celebration 或者 moment**

A memorable moment for me,...., would be my 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Well, after I received college admission, my birthday was about to come, and my mom and dad wanted to throw me a big party because I was going to go away from my hometown. So that birthday was important. So all my friends came to my house, and um, there was a huge cake. They lit a candle and I made a wish. And secretly, I wished for good health for my mom and dad. And they provided me gifts and I ate longevity noodles, *you know.*

Then, two revelations suddenly dawned on me.

I was no longer a teenager, but a young adult. And I should shoulder some of the responsibility of providing for my family. In a sense, it was more like a rite of passage into adulthood.

Also, all my high school friends were about to go different ways to different universities. That could be the last time all of us were together. My parents took a lot of pictures. Looking at them, I can remember very vividly what happened that day. I am grateful that I had a party like that.

## TOPIC 20

### 网上购物好于实体店购物

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If I had said that shopping on-line was better than shopping in a real store 10 years ago, people would've thought that I was out of my mind. But today, most people will nod along with me when I say Internet shopping is better than shopping in an actual shop.

Shopping online frees consumers of travel problem. Often when one goes shopping, one has to drive or take the subway to the shopping mall. The crowded subway train and the lack of enough parking spaces often makes an otherwise pleasant experience painful. Shopping online, on the other hand, doesn't cause that much anxiety and fatigue, because instead of walking store to store on foot, what's traveling is only one's mouse.

Another advantage of on-line shopping is the possibility of buying things that are no longer available in a store. Most products are only sold season by season, and when the season is over, they're taken off shelf. Internet shopping is not hindered much by this.

And when we compare the price of products on-line and that of products in actual stores, we often find it much cheaper on on-line auction sites, like Amazon or E-Bay. Shopping online doesn't just provide a person convenience, it's also a better economic policy.



**TOPIC 21**

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大一新生应该跟高年级学生当室友

I believe if a first year students gets a senior for roommate, he or she will receive great benefits in that the older student may offer experience and share resources.

The fact that the senior has been on campus at this university longer makes it possible for him to give constructive suggestions and first-hand experience to the newcomer, in light of the best cafeteria, the least crowded gym, and the most helpful professor. When the freshman encounters a problem, he can turn to this person for help, asking for advice, *you know*.

Also, the older student can open new doors for this new kid to campus by introducing alumni circles, interviews and internship opportunities and possibly some student clubs. This is why I think having a senior roommate for freshman is really good. (148)

**TOPIC 22**

**将来的人会读更多的书**

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## 将来的人会读更多的书

Will people read fewer books in the future??? I mean this statement is absurd.

My generation and my younger generation are probably by far the best educated youth. And for a person like me, I love reading books, and the news is, I am not the only one. There is an increasing majority of the younger population who love books right now. If you doubt this, just check the local coffee shop or pay attention to the reading population on a subway train.

And I think in the future there will be more literary works produced by younger writers, especially when a Chinese author Moyan has won the Nobel Prize for literature. This will surely inspire better works in the future so more people who love reading will read more books.

## Morning Read-out

Gradual solid efforts lead to record beating scores.

### TOPIC 23

### 交新朋友的方式／上课的好处

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I think a really good way for people to make new friends is by attending classes.

People who go to the same session may have the same values and goals in life. And their interests, hobbies, and taste might also be quite similar. This compatibility provides a good foundation for friendship to emerge.

Also, of course, when students are in class, they can't always share information and talk to each other, because, *Hello!~*, that will drive the professor crazy, but after class, classmates can catch a movie together, hang out in a coffee house, or shoot some hoop together. So going to a class provides people the opportunities to really get to know each other. (115)



**TOPIC 24**

**家长应该参与到孩子的（大学）选择**

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- ❖ I believe parents should be involved in the college decision of their child because even though sometimes I hate to admit it, parents do know better.
- ❖ More experienced, parents know better what universities or colleges may work out for the benefits of their child. And this include helping the child to choose the right major field with their extensive work experience and assisting the child to decide on the right campus with their life wisdom.
- ❖ Also, parents understand their child better than does the child. They can often take an unbiased perspective on their own kid. It is in this sense that parents advice in college application and decision is paramount for the child's, and of course the family's well-being.
- ❖ Still, I am saying parents should be a part of the process, their roles should be to facilitate, not to dominate.

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## Morning Read-out

Gradual solid efforts lead to record beating scores.

### TOPIC 25

#### 学生16岁之前应该上学

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Before students are 16, they often suffer from immaturity and lack of discipline in learning, so it's definitely necessary to require them to go to school because the professors and assistants can help them form good habits of learning and lay a solid knowledge foundation for successful life. Under a school system, students learn to calculate, to read and write, and to find out about nature. Such information constitutes the common sense of a person and is best presented systematically in a school system.

When students go to school, they meet their peers. They will have the opportunity to get along with each other and learn to share. By joining clubs and organizing events, students get to develop parts of their being which are untouched at home.

Going to school is so much more efficient than home-schooling, which is why I believe such requirement is necessary.

**TOPIC 26**

**工作环境最重要的是领导**

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3. What do you think is the most important quality of a working environment: good leaders, good colleagues, or flexible time?

Choosing among the three, an effective leader is of course the most important quality of a working environment.

A leader often decides the direction a company should follow and provide consistent guidance to keep every department in that company well coordinated and synchronized. By keeping all employee on the same page, a good boss boosts morale and enhances productivity.

Also, in a sense, the office atmosphere and corporate culture is dependent on the quality of a leader. A hypercritical leader may create a feeling of fear and control, where everybody in the office may engage in witch hunt and office politics. On the contrary, an understanding and charismatic leader may help every employee to feel supported. That's a very healthy office psychological profile.

**TOPIC 27**

想更多了解的人

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Leonardo Da Vinci is the person that I want to find out more about.

He's a renaissance artist, and is considered a man of mystery by the world.

Besides the famous masterpiece of painting, Mona Lisa, Da Vinci's work also went into the technological, philosophical and even astronomical fields.

If I had the chance, I would like to know about his unbelievable passion. I want to know what drove him to engage in so many fields. And since he accomplished so much, I want to ask him how he managed his time.

Obviously, the best way to find out about those information is by sitting down with Da Vinci in person, face to face. But since that's impossible, I would probably have to read some books.