Unit

Personality



Listening, Understanding and Speaking

Listening I

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Interviewer: Angela, you were born in South Korea but you've been living in

Canada for a long time, haven't you?

Angela: Yes, I was 10 years old when my parents immigrated to Canada

and I've been living here for 20 years now.

Interviewer: Do you think that belonging to two different cultures has

affected your personality?

Angela: Yes, definitely. There are times when I think that I have two

personalities, depending on where I am and who I'm with, I'm

Korean or I'm Canadian.

Interviewer: That sounds complicated. Could you explain what you mean?

Angela: Well, for example, living in Canada when I was going to high

school, I was known as Angela to the outside world, and as Sun-Kyung at home. I would wave hello to my teachers, but bow to my parents' Korean friends when they visited our home.

Interviewer: Do different cultures have different ideas as to what is polite?

Angela: Yes, definitely. In high school, I was expected to look straight

> into the eyes of my teachers and to talk openly with them. But when Koreans spoke to me, I was expected to look at my feet

and to be shy and silent.

Interviewer: Do you think that having two personalities makes you a richer

person?

Yes, but sometimes I don't know who I am. Angela:

Word tips

Angela 安杰拉(人名) South Korea 韩国 immigrate (从外国)移 入定居 Sun-Kyung 仙景(人名) bow 鞠躬

1 Listen to an interview about culture's influence on personality and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1 Ar	ngela	immigrated	from	Canada to	South Korea.	
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2 Angela is about 20 years old now.

3 Angela agrees that culture affects personality.

4 Angela had two different personalities, one at school and the other at home. <u>T</u>

5 Sun-Kyung is Angela's friend at school.

6 Being exposed to two different cultures is sometimes confusing.

2

Unit 1

F

T

<u>F</u>

T

2 Listen to the interview again and complete the following table with the information you get.

	In the Canadian Culture	In the Korean Culture
Personal Identity	I was known as Angela to the 1) outside world.	I was known as Sun-Kyung 2) <u>at home</u> .
Greeting	I would 3) wave hello to my teachers.	I would 4) <u>bow</u> to my parents' Korean friends when they visited our home.
Expected Manners	I was expected to 5) <u>look straight into the eyes</u> of my teachers and to talk 6) <u>openly</u> with them.	I was expected to 7) <u>look</u> <u>at</u> <u>my</u> <u>feet</u> and to be 8) <u>shy</u> <u>and</u> <u>silent</u> .

3 Work in groups to discuss the following questions.

- 1 To what extent do you think culture affects personality? Give some examples to support your view.
- 2 What personality traits do you think are associated with Chinese culture?

SAMPLE

- 1 Since most scientists agree that personality is shaped both by heredity and by social surroundings, it is obvious that culture plays quite an important role in shaping one's personality. Different cultures value different personality traits, so we tend to behave in a certain way because that is what is expected and accepted by a certain culture. In China, children are usually not allowed to interrupt while adults are chatting or discussing something. Similarly, subordinates will be frowned upon if they voice their opinions without being invited when their authorities are speaking. This culture might make the Chinese reluctant to share their opinions at meetings with foreign friends. However, people from the same culture does not necessarily behave in exactly the same way. We should not forget that some personality traits are inherited.
- Personality traits associated with Chinese culture: hard-working, honest, well-organized, careful, intelligent, determined, realistic, conservative, sensitive, friendly, generous, hospitable, courageous, patient, polite, modest, not very outgoing...

Listening II

SCRIPT

I am a very sensitive person, and that's good to a point. I feel everyone should be able to feel or understand what others are going through. But when you suffer and cry for people you don't know, or over a movie that's only a story, then I think that's a little too sensitive. That's the way I am.

I am also a very independent person. I must do things by myself. I don't like people doing things for me, or helping me, or giving me things. It's not that I don't appreciate it. I just feel that when someone does something for you, you owe them, and if there is one thing I don't like to feel, it's that I owe anyone anything.

I think I would be a good friend. I would do almost anything for someone I like; and I would share or give anything I have. I'm very caring and understanding. People trust me with their secrets, and they're right for doing so because I never tell others any secret that is told to me. I'm always there to help in any way that I can. All you have to do is ask.

I enjoy life and people, which makes me feel good. I find fun in almost everything I do (except housework). I like to watch people, talk to them, and be around them. It makes no difference whether I agree or disagree with what they feel or how they live or what they look like, or what age they are. I just enjoy learning and being aware of everything and everyone around me.

Word tips

go through 经历 caring 关心照顾人的 understanding 善解人 意的

- 1 Listen to a passage about a man's self-introduction and complete the following sentences with the information you get.
 - 1 The man is a very sensitive and independent person.
 - 2 He also thinks he would be a good friend.
 - 3 He enjoys life and people, which makes him feel good.
 - 4 He enjoys <u>learning</u> and <u>being aware</u> of everything and everyone around him.
- 2 Listen to the passage again and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.
 - 1 What is good in the man's opinion? **B**
 - A To go through a lot of things.
 - **B** To be a bit sensitive.
 - **C** To cry for people you don't know.
 - **D** To be a bit selfish.
 - 2 Why doesn't the man like others to do things for him? C
 - A Because he is not satisfied with what others do.
 - **B** Because he knows he is not an appreciative person.
 - **C** Because he doesn't want to owe others anything.
 - **D** Because he doesn't enjoy help from strangers.

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- 3 Why does the man say he can be a good friend? A
 - A Because he can keep his friends' secrets.
 - **B** Because he trusts all his friends.
 - **C** Because he will tell his friends anything he knows.
 - D Because he will help his friends even when he's not asked to.
- 4 What is the thing the man doesn't like to do? D
 - A To be around other people. B To he
 - **B** To hear different opinions.
 - **C** To talk to people.
- **D** To do housework.
- 5 What kind of person is the man according to the passage? B
 - A Cold.

- **B** Sociable.
- C Hard-working.
- D Creative.
- 3 Work in pairs to discuss whether you would like to make friends with such a person and explain why.

SAMPLE

- I don't want to make friends with this kind of person. He is too sensitive and not manly enough. I don't think this kind of person would be easygoing. He will be easily annoyed without your realizing why. Moreover, he doesn't want help from others, which is an undesirable trait. In my mind, it's commonplace to receive help from friends or offer help to them. However, to be friends with this kind of person, I wouldn't know whether I should help him or not. If I offered to help him, and he rejected, that would make me very embarrassed. If I didn't offer to help him, I would feel guilty, for it's not my style not to help those in need.
- It's hard to say. But on the whole, I wouldn't object to making friends with him. Just as he says, he is independent, caring and understanding. What's more, he says he can be a good friend. He also enjoys life and people and this makes him feel good. He doesn't enjoy help from others, but he is ready to help others and would do so when asked. So as his friend, I would seek help from him. Wouldn't that be nice? Also we have one thing in common, that is, I am a bit sensitive, too.

Listening III

Tom: Hey, Bill. Do you have any plans for this weekend?

Bill: Yeah, Tom. Cindy and I are going ice-skating on Saturday.

Tom: Oh.

Bill: Why do you ask?

Tom: Well, I thought you might want to come over and study for next week's

chemistry test.

SCRIPT

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Bill: Study?! No way. Hey, what if I try to fix you up with Cindy's sister, Kristi? We could double-date. She's really outgoing, bright, and funny too.

Tom: Hey, I still remember the girl you fixed me up with last time. She was very moody and self-centered. She couldn't stop talking about how great she was. I'm not sure if I can trust you, "Mr. Matchmaker".

Bill: Oh come on. So I made a mistake last time. Cindy's sister is really different.

Tom: Well, what does she look like?

Bill: Ah. Looks aren't important. She has a wonderful personality.

Tom: Right.

Bill: OK. She has long wavy blond hair and blue eyes. She's of medium height, just a little shorter than you are.

Tom: Go on.

Bill: She has a great figure, a nice complexion, and she has a sexy voice. Oh, and she has a tattoo of an eagle on her arm.

Tom: A what?

Bill: No, just kidding. By the way, she was the runner-up in the Miss California Beauty Contest two years ago. Well, you're probably not interested.

Tom: No, wait!

Bill: Ah, just forget I ever mentioned it.

Tom: No, I'm interested!

Word tips

Cindy 辛迪 (人名) fix sb. up with 为 (某人) 找个约会伴侣 Kristi 克里斯蒂 (人名) double-date 两对男女一起约会 moody 喜怒无常的 self-centered 自我中心的 matchmaker 媒人 wavy 波 (浪) 形的 blond 金发的 complexion 面色; 肤色 tattoo 文身 runner-up 亚军

1 Listen to a conversation between Tom and Bill and complete the following sentences with the information you get.

- 1 Bill and Cindy are going ice-skating on Saturday.
- 2 Tom thought that Bill might want to come over and study for next week's chemistry test.
- 3 Bill thinks Cindy's sister, Kristi, is **outgoing**, **bright**, and **funny**.
- 4 According to Tom, the first girl Bill introduced to him was moody and self-centered.
- 5 Kristi has long wavy **blond** hair and blue eyes. She's of **medium height**.
- 6 Kristi was the **runner-up** in the Miss California Beauty Contest.

2 Listen to the conversation again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 It can be inferred that Tom works harder than Bill. T
- 2 Tom didn't like the first girl introduced by Bill because that girl was not pretty.
 F
- 3 Even though Tom agrees that looks are not important, he is still interested in knowing what Kristi looks like. T
 - Kristi has a tattoo of an eagle on her arm. $\underline{\underline{F}}$

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- 5 Tom is not interested in dating Kristi after listening to Bill's introduction of her. F
- 3 Work in pairs to role-play the conversation. You may also add your own ideas or create your own story of "matchmaking". You may start with "Hey, I have got a date for you".

SAMPLE

- A: Hey, I have got a date for you.
- **B:** Oh, really?
- **A:** Are you interested?
- **B:** Maybe. What is she like?
- A: She's got a great personality.
- **B:** Uh. That means she's fat and ugly.
- A: She's cute.
- B: OK, so she's not ugly; she's just fat.
- A: She weighs 98 pounds.
- **B:** OK, she's not fat. So what's the problem with her?
- **A:** Who said there is a problem with her?
- **B:** The problem is she has no problems—she's too good for me!

Listening IV

David: Barbara, before you go, could you tell me about these students that are coming into my class?

Barbara: Oh yes. Now, let me think, well there's... er... Paul. He's the tall, slim lad with fair hair. Very friendly face, lovely smile... He's particularly good with group activities, and he's a very helpful person to have

good with group activities, and he's a very helpful person to have in the class and very helpful with the other students. He speaks fluently—but does make a lot of mistakes! He doesn't seem to mind making mistakes. He asks a lot of questions... er... he tends to speak first and think later. But he's got lots of interesting ideas.

David: Good.

Barbara: Ah... Susan... Susan. Now, she's very lively, quick, and very bright. She talks all the time but not always in English.

David: What, is she difficult or anything?

Barbara: No... She's quite young but she does behave in quite a grown-up

way really for her age. It can be a bit difficult to actually shut her up

sometimes and make her listen to you.

David: Ah, right.

Barbara: She's very nice. She has dark hair, and dark eyes. **David:** Right, well... are there any other girls in the class?

Barbara: Yes, there is Maria, that's Susan's sister.

David: Yes.

SCRIPT

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Barbara: Actually it's quite difficult to tell them apart although... er... Maria is slightly older. She's a bit plumper and has longer hair than Susan. She's not quite as bright as her sister and I think that makes her feel a bit inferior really. Well, you know, she sulks a bit when she gets things wrong or she misunderstands you. But on the whole, a very sensible girl.

David: OK.

Barbara: And then there's Peter, who's older than the others. He's got a sort of

moustache, spectacles and wavy dark brown hair. He usually wears a jacket and sometimes a suit. He's very smart and takes notes all the time. He's also very serious and determined to learn as much as possible. He asks quite difficult questions but he doesn't mean to be

nasty.

David: Well, thanks, Barbara. It's all up to me now, isn't it? Have a good

holiday, won't you?

Barbara: Thanks.David: Bye.

Word tips

Barbara 芭芭拉 (人名) lad 小伙子;少年 fair (头发) 金色的 plump 丰满的 sulk 生闷气 sensible 明理的 spectacles 眼镜 nasty 烦人的

1 Listen to a conversation about an introduction to some students and answer the following questions.

- 1 How many students are mentioned in the conversation? Four.
- 2 What is the probable relationship between the two speakers? **Colleagues.**
- What is the two speakers' occupation? Teacher. / Teaching.
- 4 Who's smarter, Maria or Susan? Susan.
- 5 What is Barbara going to do? To go on holiday.

2 Listen to the conversation again and match the people with the correct descriptions.

1 Paul §2 Susan

3 Maria4 Peter

A has moustache and wears glasses

B has dark hair and dark eyes

C feels inferior to Susan

D speaks first and thinks later

E has a friendly face and a lovely smile

F does not always speak in English

G is determined to learn, and takes notes all the time

H has longer hair, and is plumper than Susan

I asks quite difficult questions, but doesn't mean to be nasty

J has lots of interesting ideas

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3 Work in groups to describe an interesting teacher (including appearance and personality) you have had.

Words and expressions you may use

plump skinny accent near-sighted contact lens stylish slim talkative stern (严厉的,严格的)

have one's hair dyed wear heavy make-up bad-tempered

SAMPLE

When I was in high school, I had an English teacher named Mary who came from America. She was very intelligent and enjoyed thinking and asking questions. For example, she could speak only a few words of Mandarin Chinese, but once she asked us a very interesting question about a Chinese phrase. She asked: "Why do you say *mashanglai* (马上来)? You should say *feijilai* (飞机来), because a *feiji* (airplane) is much faster than a *ma* (horse)". We were amused by her question. We had never thought about it. Then we came up with a possible explanation and replied: "In ancient times, we had no airplanes; we only had horses which were the fastest means of transportation at that time." She seemed satisfied with our explanation.

She was tall and thin, with big blue eyes. She was near-sighted and always wore contact lenses. Once when we were having class, we saw something very strange. She was looking on the floor for something, and then she seemed to have found it. She held it to her lips and licked it! Later, she said it was a contact lens. It had fallen out when she was yawning because she had tears in her eyes!

She was strict with us in class and encouraged us to speak as much English as we could. When we failed to say something correctly, she was always very patient and never criticized us. She was very creative in teaching. She encouraged us to ask her questions in order to make us talk. In summary, we all enjoyed her classes and liked her very much.

Teaching tips

This conversation is about an introduction to some students and this activity asks students to describe an interesting teacher. Teachers can offer students some words and expressions describing one's personality traits.

Some positive traits:

honest, selfless, dedicated, committed, intelligent, self-confident, conscientious, patient, adaptable, humorous, responsive, responsible, insightful, gentle, understanding, hard-working, punctual, careful, dutiful, self-motivated, success-oriented, detail-oriented, well-organized, enthusiastic, persuasive, outgoing, cooperative, goal-driven, effective, precise, methodical, rational, studious, ambitious, down-to-earth, cheerful, excellent communicator, negotiator, decision maker, quick learner, team player, natural leader, capable to cope with failures, capable to learn from past mistakes, able to prioritize, determined to succeed, effective interpersonal communication skills, planning skills, learning agility

Some negative traits:

sensitive, undisciplined, emotional, opinionated, judgmental, picky, dull, inactive, obstinate, selfish, lazy, impatient, arrogant, self-centered, spoiled, wayward, nervy, inarticulate

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PART 2

Viewing, Understanding and Speaking

Topic

Can Star Signs Tell Our Personality Traits?

Characters

Mike (boy)

Ted (boy)

Sam (boy)

Simon (boy)

Lilly (girl)

Setting

In a dorm

(Mike is browsing on the Internet, and happens to find some star signs. Then the students start talking about their own signs, their own personality and whether it is possible to improve one's personality.)









SCRIPT

Mike: Hey, guys. Come and look. I've found an interesting website on star

signs.

(The others come close to the computer and look at the star signs on

the screen.)

Ted: Hey, that's interesting! What's your sign, Sam?

Sam: I'm a Scorpio. What's yours, Ted?

Ted: I have no idea. I've never really thought about that. Let's have a

look. I was born on September 5. Oh, I'm a Virgo.

Simon: And I'm a Libra.

Sam: What do they say about Libra, Simon?

Simon: (He reads.) You're a sociable, charming person. You go out of your

way to avoid confrontation and do everything in your power to make your life an easy one. Although you're generally likeable, you can be changeable, superficial and critical. But you manage to hide those

traits most of the time.

Mike: Do you agree with that? Are you that type of person?

Simon: What do you think? I think there is something in what it says. I

am social and outgoing. But I'm not changeable, am I? What's your

sign, Mike?

Mike: I'm a Taurus. Ah, what's yours, Lilly?

Lilly: I'm a Cancer.

Ted: Now let's look at Taurus. (He reads.) You're a patient, practical

type. Good points include your affectionate, kind nature, your trustworthiness and strength of character. Bad points include your possessiveness, self-indulgence and stubbornness. Do you think your

character fits well?

Mike: No, not at all. I'm not patient, and I'm not practical either. I am kind

of quick-tempered, and ambitious. That's definitely not me! But one

thing is right, I AM stubborn.

Simon: Sam, let me read yours. (He reads.) You are secretive, and sexy. You

have the worst reputation in the zodiac. Scorpio has a dark side, which includes revengeful and destructive traits. Yet despite this, you can be the wittiest, kindest and most entertaining of all the

signs.

Sam: Oh, that can't be true! Are you sure you were reading Scorpio?

Simon: Yes, of course! Look for yourself.

Sam: But that's unfair! I have the worst reputation in the zodiac?!

(They all laugh and say) Ha ha... Poor Sam!

Sam: Who could believe such silly things! Really, I think I'm intelligent,

humorous, and kind-hearted.

Mike: Yes, but those are just your good traits. Don't forget your bad ones!

Sam: Come on! Oh, Lilly, we haven't looked at your sign yet. Eh, you are

a Cancer, right? You want me to read yours?

Lilly: No, thanks. I'm afraid you'll distort what is written there. Let me

read it myself. (She reads.) To some people, you appear tough and determined, but that's just a "front" you put up to protect the real you, which is rather more sensitive and softer. You can be moody, touchy and irritable, but you make up for those negative traits with your kindness, great intuition and protective nature. That's

not bad, is it?

Simon: No. But what counts is not what it says, but how you really are, what

you are actually like.

Lilly: (She's a bit defensive.) What do you mean? What are you trying to

say about me?

Simon: I think you are much nicer than what it describes.

(Lilly smiles.)

Sam: Oh, Simon.

Mike: Don't sweet-talk her!

Ted: We know what you are thinking.

Ted: Hey, I haven't seen mine yet. Now it's my turn.

Mike: Go ahead, Ted! Be our guest!

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Ted: It says: Virgo people like order in all things and are neat, clean

and precise in their habits. Virgo people are perfectionists and they sometimes can be critical. They do not like to draw attention to themselves. Virgo people are modest, and careful about what they eat

or drink.

Sam: Do you have any objections to that?

Ted: I think the description matches me quite well. I AM a perfectionist.

I like things to be in order. Erm, I... I'm careful about what I eat

and drink. But it doesn't mention my weak points.

Lilly: Oh! And what are those?

Ted: Well, sometimes I'm so careful, I tend to waste a lot of time. I'm not

very sociable, and I don't have many friends.

Sam: I think everyone has some undesirable personality traits that

could be improved. Don't you think we all could improve our

personalities?

Mike: I think we can. For example, my little sister was the youngest girl in

our family. My parents loved her very much, but they spoiled her by giving her too much. She was at that time self-centered, selfish, aggressive, bad-tempered, and rude. Her personality didn't change any until she entered primary school. In school, she first acted as she did at home, and she couldn't make a single good friend. For a time, she was even isolated by her classmates. She complained to us, and finally understood her problem. From then on, she made every effort to get rid of her undesirable characteristics both at home and in school. Now she's in middle school and has turned

into a popular girl.

Lilly: In my opinion, our personalities are partly inherited and partly

shaped by our home environment. As we all know, scientists have found that parents' personality traits can be seen in their children.

Most children have some of their parents' personality traits.

Mike: That's right. And our early home and school environment also has

a big influence on the shaping of our personality. For instance, I've noticed that many children growing up in rich families may become wasteful, lazy, arrogant or cold. On the other hand, I've noticed that many children raised in poor families are hard working, carring

many children raised in poor families are hard-working, caring,

sympathetic, and helpful.

Sam: Does that mean you think we have to choose our parents wisely?

(The others laugh.)

Word tips

(star) sign n. any of the 12 divisions of the year represented by groups of stars 星座 e.g. —"What's your star sign?" — "I'm a Leo (生于狮子〈星〉座时段的人)."

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Scorpio *n*. the eighth sign of the zodiac, represented by a scorpion. A Scorpio is someone born between October 23 and November 21. 天蝎(星)座; 生于天蝎(星)座时段的人

Virgo *n*. the sixth sign of the zodiac, represented by a young woman. A Virgo is someone born between August 23 and September 22. 处女(星)座;生于处女(星)座时段的人

Libra n. the seventh sign of the zodiac, represented by a pair of scales. A Libra or a Libran is someone born between September 23 and October 22. 天秤 (星)座; 生于天秤 (星)座时段的人

confrontation n. a situation in which there is a lot of angry disagreement between two people or group 冲突,对抗

e.g. Even a limited confrontation can develop into a major war.

superficial *adj.* (used to show disapproval) having no depth of character, feeling or commitment 肤浅的,缺乏深度的

e.g. You are too superficial to appreciate great literature like this.

Taurus n. the second sign of the zodiac, represented by a bull. A Taurus or a Taurean is someone born between April 21 and May 22. 金牛(星)座; 生于金牛(星)座时段的人

Cancer n. the fourth sign of the zodiac, represented by a crab. A Cancer or a Cancerian is someone born between June 22 and July 22. 巨蟹 (星) 座; 生于巨蟹 (星) 座时段的人

affectionate adj. showing love or fondness 有爱心的 e.g. He is very affectionate toward his children.

trustworthiness *n*. the quality of being reliable 值得信任

e.g. The banker had a very good reputation because of his trustworthiness.

possessiveness n. the desire to own things and an unwillingness to share what you have 占有欲

e.g. The child's possessiveness with toys made him unpopular in the preschool class.

self-indulgence *n*. the practice of allowing yourself to have or do sth. special that you enjoy very much, often sth. you should not have or do 自我放纵

e.g. Going to the movies in the afternoon is one of my big self-indulgences.

quick-tempered adj. easily becoming angry 易怒的, 性情急躁的

e.g. Our young men were quick-tempered and likely to do rash things.

zodiac n. 黄道带(指太阳、月亮及行星所构成的假想带)

revengeful *adj.* feeling or showing a desire for punishing sb. who has harmed you 报 复的,充满仇恨的

e.g. She felt bitter and revengeful after he stole her money.

touchy adj. easily becoming offended or annoyed 易怒的; 过于敏感的

e.g. He's a little touchy about how you pronounce his name.

intuition n. the power of understanding things immediately, without the need for conscious reasoning or study 直觉

e.g. If you think there's something wrong about the situation, you should trust your intuition.

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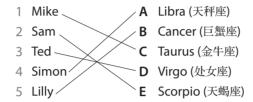
perfectionist n. a person who refuses to do or accept anything that is not as good as it could possibly be 完美主义者

e.g. Jane is such a perfectionist that nothing I do can please her.

undesirable adj. not welcome or wanted 不受欢迎的;讨厌的

e.g. Long delays are undesirable side effect, but sometimes unavoidable.

1 Watch a video in which a group of students are talking about star signs and their personality traits and match them with their signs.



2 Watch the video again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Star Signs	Personality Traits		
Libra	You're a sociable, charming person. You go out of your way to 1) <u>avoid confrontation</u> and do everything in your power to make your life an easy one. Although you're 2) <u>generally likeable</u> , you can be changeable, superficial and critical. But you manage to 3) <u>hide those traits</u> most of the time.		
Taurus	You're a patient, practical type. Good points include your 4) <u>affectionate</u> , <u>kind nature</u> , your trustworthiness and strength of character. Bad points include your possessiveness, self-indulgence and 5) <u>stubbornness</u> .		
Scorpio	You are secretive, and sexy. You have the 6) worst reputation in the zodiac. Scorpio has a dark side, which includes 7) revengeful and destructive traits. Yet despite this, you can be the wittiest, kindest and most 8) entertaining of all the signs.		
Cancer	To some people, you appear 9) tough and determined, but that's just a "front" you put up to protect the real you, which is rather more sensitive and softer. You can be moody, touchy and irritable, but you make up for those negative traits with your kindness, great 10) intuition and protective nature.		
Virgo	Virgo people like order in all things and are neat, clean and precise in their habits. Virgo people are 11) <u>perfectionists</u> and they sometimes can be critical. They do not like to 12) <u>draw attention</u> to themselves. Virgo people are modest, and careful about what they eat or drink.		

- 3 Repeat a few important lines and try to imitate the speakers' pronunciation and intonation.
 - 1 I've found an interesting website on star signs.
 - 2 I am kind of quick-tempered, and ambitious.
 - But what counts is not what it says, but how you really are, what you are actually like.
 - 4 Virgo people are modest, and careful about what they eat or drink.
 - 5 My parents loved her very much, but they spoiled her by giving her too
 - 6 Her personality didn't change any until she entered primary school.
 - 7 Now she's in middle school and has turned into a popular girl.
 - 8 In my opinion, our personalities are partly inherited and partly shaped by our home environment.
 - 9 Most children have some of their parents' personality traits.
 - 10 I've noticed that many children raised in poor families are hard-working, caring, sympathetic, and helpful.
- 4 You have been given some personality traits of the speakers in the video. Work in groups to take turns to describe YOUR OWN personality traits, and tell whether you are more influenced by your father or mother. Be sure to give examples.

SAMPLE

I'm a Scorpio. I am a very passionate and moody girl. I usually speak very rapidly, especially when I am nervous. To strangers, I may seem to be cold, quiet, and arrogant. But, my friends think I am outgoing, talkative, and friendly. I am a bit quick-tempered and bossy. In this respect, I take after my mother. I am always on time. I don't like people who are always late.

I think I have piercing eyes, and I am good at evaluating a situation or a person. So, on many occasions, I can make good decisions. For instance, when in high school, I had to make a choice: to study science or art? My parents suggested me studying science which was the choice of most students around me. Actually my performance in science and art did not differ much, but I am fascinated by the magic power of language, attracted by various exotic cultures and interested in the ups and downs of human beings. Given this, I chose art, against my parents' expectation because I believe interest and enthusiasm plays a crucial role in my career development. In the rest time of my high school, I made great progress thanks to my passionate love for art and finally was recruited by this university. Moreover, I am an optimistic person. I always believe things will turn out fine if I keep trying and work hard.

PART 3

Video Appreciation and Singing for Fun

Video Appreciation



About the video clip:

The Chinese Zodiac (生肖) consists of a 12-year cycle; each year of the cycle is named after a different animal that gives different and distinct characteristics to it. The 12 animals are: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig (boar). For example, Rat people encompass anyone born in the following years: 1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008. According to the popular Chinese belief, the year of a person's birth is the primary factor in determining that person's personality traits, physical and mental attributes, abilities and degree of success and happiness throughout their lifetime. The video clip introduces the personality traits of six animals: rat, dragon, monkey, ox, snake and rooster.



Welcome to watch mojo.com! I'm Rochelle! In order to determine your personality, one great way to do it is through the Chinese Zodiac. What is the Chinese Zodiac? It's a bit different from the Western Zodiac which goes according to the solar calendar. The Chinese Zodiac goes according to the lunar calendar. There's a total of 12 signs, each pertaining to a different animal. And in order to determine what sign you are, it goes according to your year of birth.

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The first trine of the Chinese Zodiac is the rat, dragon, and monkey. These are all signs known to be very powerful. Now as a rat, you are very charming, and you're also a perfectionist. However, this is known to bring you a lot of success. You're also someone who is very good with money, but when it comes to family, you are very generous. And you're also someone who is easily angered. If you're a dragon, you're one of the most powerful signs. You display the utmost amount of energy. On the outside, you could be quite hot-tempered and confident, but on the inside, you could be very warmhearted. You're the sign that has the longest life and good fortune. And you're most compatible with the rat and the monkey. If you're a monkey, you're mischievous and adventurous. You're also someone with quick wit and you know how to influence others, which is exactly what brings you success. You are sometimes hot-tempered, but you have great common sense.

The second trine of the Chinese Zodiac consists of the ox, the snake, and the rooster. These are all known to have great endurance. As an ox, you are someone who is patient and inspires leadership in others. Your endurance will also bring you great success. Also you're someone who is easily angered. You're most compatible with the snake and the rooster. As a snake, you are very seductive and charming, and you also possess a wonderful wisdom. You're also someone who is very calm on the outside, but intense on the inside. As well, you should beware of your good looks, 'cause it could sometimes create vanity. If you're a rooster, you're deep-thinking and very talented. You're also someone who is quite eccentric, but at the same time, interesting and brave. You're also someone who doesn't have too many friends. You may be a bit of a loner, but you care very deeply for the friends you do have.

Word tips

solar calendar n. 阳历

e.g. Today is her birthday according to the solar calendar.

lunar calendar n. 阴历

e.g. May 5 of the Chinese lunar calendar is the Dragon Boat Festival.

pertain ν. be connected with 有关, 涉及

e.g. The inspector was interested in everything pertaining to the school.

trine n. (占星术用语)三分一对座

utmost adj. greatest 最大的

e.g. All equipment should be handled with the utmost care.

compatible adj. able to exist together, live together, or be used together 合得来的;适合的

e.g. The couple separated because they were not compatible.

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mischievous adj. naughtily or annoyingly playful 顽皮的,捣蛋的 e.g. He is as mischievous as a monkey!

rooster n. adult male chicken 公鸡

e.g. The rooster's crow woke me up.

endurance n. state or power of enduring 忍耐力

e.g. He showed remarkable endurance during his illness.

seductive adj. tempting and attractive 富有魅力的

e.g. She tempted him with a seductive dance.

vanity n. excessive pride in or admiration of one's appearance or achievements 自负, 虚荣

e.g. His admiration can only feed into her vanity.

eccentric adj. (of people, behavior) unusual, peculiar 古怪的

e.g. If you go to the palace in tennis shoes, they'll think you are rather eccentric.

loner $\it n.$ a person who prefers not to associate with others $\it ext{ ext{ ext}}$ 喜欢独处的人

e.g. She's been a loner all her life.

1 Watch a video clip about the Chinese Zodiac and answer the following questions.

- 1 What kind of calendar does the Chinese Zodiac follow? The lunar calendar.
- 2 How many trines of the Chinese Zodiac are mentioned? Two trines.
- 3 How many trines should there be in order to include all the Chinese Zodiac? Four trines.

2 Watch the video clip again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Animals	Personalities
Rat	You are very charming, and you're also a perfectionist. However, this is known to bring you a lot of success. You're also someone 1) who is very good with money, but when it comes to family, you are very generous. And you're also someone 2) who is easily angered.
Dragon	You're one of the most powerful signs. You 3) <u>display the utmost</u> <u>amount of energy</u> . On the outside, you could be quite hot-tempered and confident, but on the inside, you could be very warm-hearted. You're the sign that has the 4) <u>longest life and good fortune</u> .
Monkey	You're mischievous and adventurous. You're also someone 5) with quick wit and you know how to influence others, which is exactly what brings you success. You are sometimes hot-tempered, but you have 6) great common sense.

(to be continued)

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(continued)

Animals	Personalities
Ox	You are someone who is patient and 7) <u>inspires leadership in others</u> . Your endurance will also bring you great success. Also you're someone who is easily angered.
Snake	You are very 8) <u>seductive</u> <u>and</u> <u>charming</u> , and you also possess a wonderful wisdom. You're also someone who is very calm on the outside, but intense on the inside. As well, you should beware of your good looks, 'cause it could sometimes create vanity.
Rooster	You're 9) <u>deep-thinking and very talented</u> . You're also someone who is quite eccentric, but at the same time, 10) <u>interesting and brave</u> . You're also someone who doesn't have too many friends. You may be a bit of a loner, but you care very deeply for the friends you do have.

3 Work in groups to do the following activities.

Read the following descriptions of personality traits of the other six animals.

The tiger is courageous and aggressive, but is also sensitive when it comes to loved ones. They are known for their playful personality, and they are most compatible with the horse and the dog.

As a horse, you are cheerful, popular, and you love the party. You come across as a warm individual, but sometimes you could be impatient. You are independent and you are also very skilled with money.

As a dog, you are charismatic (有魅力的) and a natural-born leader. However, you could sometimes be a bit stubborn. You are very honest and you know how to keep a secret. When it comes to money, it doesn't play much importance in your life.

The rabbit is articulate (善于表达的) and talented, and is known for their wonderful manners and is admired by many. The rabbit is also very trustworthy which will lead you to success in business.

As a sheep, you strive for tranquility (安静) and harmony. And you are also very kind-spirited. When it comes to leadership, you could be quite timid. However, you always lead a very comfortable life.

As a pig, you are very studious (勤学的), and have tremendous inner-strength. You always go after your goals. You are quiet, however always well-informed. When it comes to your friends, you choose few. However, you are very trustworthy with the ones you do have.

Step ONE

(to be continued)

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(continued)

Based on all these descriptions, discuss whether you think they tell a person's real personality, or just have entertainment value. State your own viewpoints by talking about either yourself or someone you know. Be sure to include details and examples.

SAMPLE

My viewpoint on the descriptions above is kind of complicated. On one hand, I think there is something in the descriptions of the personality traits according to one's birth year. For example, I was born in the year of snake, and I do think some of the descriptions such as "very calm on the outside, but intense on the inside" match my personality. If you compare those people born in the same animal year, you are bound to find some similarities in personality among them. But on the other hand, there are billions of people in the world, and it's simply impossible or absurd to categorize so many people into 12 groups of personality. There must be some differences and peculiarities. So it's better to regard the descriptions as something just for fun or for reference instead of something scientific or rational.

Singing for Fun

About the song:



"When You Believe" is an Academy Award-winning song by Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston. The song was written and composed by Stephen Schwartz for the 1998 DreamWorks (梦工厂) animated feature *The Prince of Egypt*. It was described as a big ballad, with meaningful and inspirational lyrics, describing the ability each person has to achieve miracles when they reach out to God and believe.

Listen to the song "When You Believe" and learn to sing it.

LYRICS

When You Believe

Many nights we prayed
With no proof anyone could hear
In our hearts a hope for a song
We barely understood
Now we are not afraid
Although we know there's much to fear
We were moving mountains long
Before we knew we could

There can be miracles
When you believe

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Though hope is frail

It's hard to kill

Who knows what miracles

You can achieve

When you believe

Somehow you will

You will when you believe

And this time of fear

When prayer so often proves in vain

Hope seems like the summer birds

Too swiftly flown away

Yet now I'm standing here

My heart's so full I can't explain

Seeking faith and speaking words

I never thought I'd say

There can be miracles

When you believe (when you believe)

Though hope is frail

It's hard to kill

Who knows what miracles

You can achieve (you can achieve)

When you believe

Somehow you will

You will when you believe

They don't always happen when you ask

And it's easy to give in to your fear

But when you're blinded by your pain

Can't see your way safe through the rain

A small but still, resilient voice

Says love is very near

(There can be miracles) miracles

(When you believe) when you believe

Though hope is frail

It's hard to kill

Who knows what miracles

You can achieve (you can achieve)

When you believe

Somehow you will

You will when you believe

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You will when you believe You will when you believe Just believe Just believe You will when you believe



Further Speaking and Listening

Further Speaking

Work in groups to do the following activities.

Employers often use tests and other selection methods to screen job applicants. Personality tests (PTs) are one of these methods used by some companies to determine your type of personality, your values, interests and your skills. Read the following sample questions of a PT and choose the option that you feel best describes yourself.

Step ∩NI□

the option that you reel best describes yourself.						
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	I have never told a lie.					
2	I'm the type of employee who always arrives on time.					
3	Work is the most important thing in my life.					
4	I would be interested in learning how people handle stress at work.					
5	I often argue with my friends.					
6	I enjoy playing competitive sports.					

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(continued)

Divide the group into two subgroups A and B and debate "Should employers use a personality test to screen job candidates?".

Suppose those belonging to Subgroup A are employers, and those belonging to Subgroup B job candidates. Subgroup A should argue for the use of a personality test while Subgroup B against its use. They may have two minutes to prepare before they start the debate. The following are ideas about PT for your reference.

For	Against
can reveal what a person is like;	unreliable, too arbitrary;
corporate use of pre-employment screening PTs has increased 300 percent in the last five years;	success can be achieved with different personality types, but personality requirements are different for different jobs;
an efficient way of determining which applicants are most qualified for a particular job;	not ethical to use PTs;
there is nothing else out there to evaluate job applicants;	diligence, intelligence, responsibility, dedication, etc. can be more important;
bad hiring decisions can cost employers a lot of resources (time and money);	violate employees' privacy;
can help employers make better judgments about an applicant's qualities;	screening out some employees is sometimes a kind of prejudice;

Step TVVC

After the debate within small groups, the teacher chooses three students from Subgroup A and other three from Subgroup B. Ask them to debate with the whole class as audience. The audience should take notes on content and language. Then vote for the side they support.

Step THREE

SAMPLE

For:

As an employer, I want to use the most efficient way to find the most suitable employee. It's no doubt that a PT can help me achieve my purpose. It's reported that corporate use of pre-employment screening PTs has increased 300 percent in the last five years. Also about 30 percent of American companies use PTs to pre-select job applicants. It is an efficient way of determining which applicants

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are most qualified for a particular job. It can help employers make better judgment about an applicant's honesty, predict the likelihood that an applicant engages in certain conducts (e.g. theft, absenteeism) and forecast whether applicants are likely to engage in substance abuse or sexual harassment. And more importantly, PTs are supposed to help employers identify the traits that indicate whether applicants are suitable for a particular position. Besides, nowadays, there are so many job applicants, the use of PTs can help employers save a lot of time and money.

Against:

It's ridiculous to use PTs to screen job applicants. As we all know, there is no standard or universally acceptable personality test used by employers, so employers have used a variety of personality tests. These tests might not be valid or reliable at all. Also, one can learn how to skillfully answer the questions in PTs, which means the results of PTs are even less reliable. For example, for the first question in the sample PT: "I have never told a lie", a person who has not received any training might choose "Strongly Agree" or "Agree". But in fact, the "right" answer is "Disagree". Ironically, this will tell the employer that you're actually a very honest person for answering the question truthfully. Moreover, they only measure people's attitudes toward something in general, and people's attitude toward something in general cannot be used to predict how they react to certain business situations. Finally, PTs cannot predict people's behavior because behavior is context sensitive and people act differently in different situation.

Further Listening Listening I



One day, when Mr. Smith came home from work he found his wife very upset about something. Mr. Smith always thought that he was more sensible than his wife, so he started to give her a lecture on the importance of always remaining calm.

Finally he said, "It's a waste of your strength to get excited about small things. Train yourself to be patient, like me. Now, look at the fly that has just landed on my nose. Am I getting excited or annoyed? Am I swearing or waving my arms around? No. I'm not. I'm perfectly calm."

Just as he had said this Mr. Smith started shouting. He jumped up and began to wave his arms around wildly and swear terribly. He couldn't speak for some time, but at last he was able to tell his wife: The thing on his nose was not a fly, but a bee.

1 Listen to a joke between a wife and a husband and complete the following passage with the information you get.

One day, when Mr. Smith came home from work he found his wife very 1) <u>upset</u> about something. Mr. Smith always thought that he was more 2) <u>sensible</u> than his wife, so he started to give her a 3) <u>lecture</u> on the importance of always remaining 4) <u>calm</u>.

Finally he said, "It's a waste of your 5) <u>strength</u> to get excited about small things. Train yourself to be patient, like me. Now, look at the fly that has just 6) <u>landed</u> on my nose. Am I getting excited or annoyed? Am I 7) <u>swearing</u> or waving my arms around? No. I'm not. I'm 8) <u>perfectly calm."</u>

Just as he had said this Mr. Smith started shouting. He jumped up and began to wave his arms around 9) wildly and swear terribly. He couldn't speak for some time, but at last he was able to tell his wife: The thing on his nose was not a fly, but a 10) bee.

Listening II

Tom: Oh, that Mr. Taylor. He is so boring!

Mother: What do you mean?

Tom: His lessons put me to sleep. And he's so quick-tempered, Mom.

Mother: Quick-tempered? Mr. Taylor? Are you sure, darling?

Tom: Yes, he gets angry very quickly.

Mother: That doesn't sound like Mr. Taylor at all!

Tom: And do you know, he spends all the time looking at his reflection in

the window, admiring himself.

Mother: Really? Why does he do that?

Tom: Because he's vain. That's why! And conceited! He thinks he knows

everything.

Mother: Oh, Tom. Be reasonable. I'm sure you're exaggerating. Mr. Taylor

seems such a nice and kind man.

Tom: Well, he isn't. He is mean and cruel.

Mother: Cruel? How can a history teacher be cruel?

Tom: Because he only gave me two out of ten points in my history test.

Mothers: Oh novy I understand. Tom: I think you'd better get on with you

Mother: Oh, now I understand. Tom, I think you'd better get on with your

homework!

1 Listen to a conversation talking about a history teacher and choose the best answer to each question you hear on the recording.

1 What is the possible relationship between the two speakers? **B**

A Classmates.

B Mother and son.

C Brother and sister.

D Teacher and student.

Word tips

reflection 影像 conceited 自负的 exaggerate 夸张; 夸 大其词

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- 2 What does the boy say about his history teacher? D
 - A He knows everything.
 - **B** He thinks the boy should work harder.
 - C He doesn't allow the students to fall asleep in class.
 - **D** He spends a lot of time admiring himself in the window.
- 3 What kind of person is the history teacher in Tom's eyes? A
 - A He is vain.
 - B He is unfair.
 - C He is admirable.
 - **D** He is very strict.
- 4 How does the woman respond to the boy's remarks? $\underline{\mathbf{A}}$
 - A She is doubtful.
 - **B** She believes what he says.
 - **C** She is glad to hear what he says.
 - **D** She pretends not to understand what he says.
- 5 What is Mr. Taylor like in the woman's eyes? C
 - A He is old-fashioned.
 - **B** He seems vain and conceited.
 - **C** He seems a nice and kind man.
 - D He is boring and quick-tempered.
- 6 What does the woman mean when she finally says: "Oh, now I understand."? C
 - A She understands the history teacher better.
 - **B** She understands the reason why the boy is poor at history.
 - C She understands the reason why the boy dislikes Mr. Taylor.
 - **D** She understands what the boy says at last.
- 7 What do we know about the boy's study of history? D
 - A He gets very good scores.
 - **B** He does better than average students.
 - C He works very hard but receives low scores.
 - **D** He is not good at it because he doesn't work hard enough.
- 8 What can we infer from the passage? C
 - A Male students usually like female teachers better.
 - **B** Students tend to spend more time on subjects such as Math and English.
 - C Whether students like a certain teacher relates to their performance in that subject.
 - **D** History teachers are usually not respected by students because they are boring.

Listening III

Pedro sleeps only six hours a night. He goes to school full-time and works part-time in the afternoons. At night he plays soccer or basketball. He's seldom tired and his favorite way to relax is to jog two or three miles.

SCRIPT

What kind of person is Pedro?

2 Mr. Miller was teaching his fourth-grade class how to divide. The students didn't understand. He had to repeat his lesson and explain the idea more slowly. Over the next few days he explained and explained until almost the whole class understood and knew how to divide.

What kind of teacher is Mr. Miller?

3 People in the High Street neighborhood don't buy fruits and vegetables in the supermarket. They buy them from Mr. Smith's truck. You can trust Mr. Smith. He never tries to sell any bad or unripe fruit. His prices are fair.

What kind of person is Mr. Smith?

4 Jake and Charles ran into the classroom. Each one saw the chair he wanted to sit in. Unfortunately, it was the same chair. They both sat down at the same time. Each of them had half a chair. Charles said he was there first and tried to push Jake off the chair. Jake said he was there first. Both boys refused to move.

"All right, boys," said the teacher. "If you won't move, then you can sit like that for the whole period." Jake and Charles sat like that for the whole period until the bell rang. When they stood up they were stiff and sore.

"I don't care," said Jake. "I was there first."

What kind of person is Jake?

5 Room 46A at Travis High School was always the dirtiest room in the school. Many of the students threw papers on the floor. One day, Mrs. Duke had an idea. She fastened a basketball hoop over the wastebasket. Now the students love to practice throwing their papers into the basket. When they miss, they pick the paper up and try again. And that was the end of the problem.

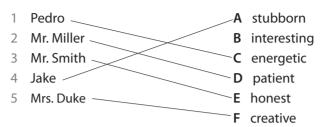
What kind of person is Mrs. Duke?

Word tips

jog 慢跑 (尤指作为健身 锻炼) stiff (肌肉) 疼痛的,僵 硬的

hoop 篮圈

1 Listen to five short talks that describe people's personality traits. Match each person with the right adjective. One adjective is redundant.



- 2 Listen to the talks again and complete the following sentences with the information you get.
 - 1 Pedro is seldom tired and his <u>favorite</u> <u>way to relax</u> is to jog two or three miles.
 - 2 Mr. Miller used many different ideas and words until almost the whole class understood and knew **how to divide**.
 - 3 Mr. Smith never tries to sell any bad or unripe fruit.
 - 4 When Jake and Charles stood up they were stiff and sore.
 - 5 Mrs. Duke managed to solve the problem by <u>fastening a basketball hoop</u> over the wastebasket.

Listening IV



A number of visitors to the U.K., who had traveled throughout the British Isles, were asked by a newspaper reporter what their impressions of the British people were. Here's a brief summary of what they thought.

There were many different opinions among those interviewed: Some were very flattering, others very critical. The distinction between the English and the British wasn't always understood; but, on the whole, it seems that the Scots were very popular with visitors. They were thought to be very friendly, even though one Dutch visitor confessed she'd found it hard to understand their English.

A great number found the British generally reserved, particularly the English, although one Australian visitor called the English "the friendliest people in the world—and most hospitable". But she did admit that speaking the same language was a great help.

Some Asian businessmen, who had traveled widely throughout England, said quite openly that they found people in the North "much nicer" than people in the South. When asked what exactly they meant by "much nicer", one of them said, with a playful smile on his face: "By 'much nicer' I mean much more like us!"

A few Continentals praised "English courtesy", but the majority found it dishonest and dull. "You're forever saying 'please' and 'sorry' when you don't

feel pleased or sorry," one explained.

A young student from South Africa had no views on the matter. He hadn't met any Englishmen, he said. The country appeared to be full of foreigners like himself.

- 1 Listen to a passage about visitors' impressions of British people and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).
 - 1 It is easy to tell the English from the British.
 - 2 Speaking the same language helped one Australian visitor a lot. <u>T</u>
 - 3 By "much nicer" one of the visitors meant that the British people are more friendly than people of other countries.
 - 4 The majority of Continentals think highly of English manners. F
 - 5 To the young student from South Africa, Britain seemed to have a lot of foreign visitors.
- 2 Listen to the passage again and complete the following table with the information you get.

Visitors	Opinions
A Dutch visitor	It was hard to 1) <u>understand</u> the <u>Scots' English</u> .
One Australian visitor	The English were 2) the friendliest people in the world and most hospitable.
Some Asian businessmen	People in the North were 3) <u>much</u> <u>nicer</u> <u>than</u> people in the South.
A few Continentals	They praised 4) English courtesy.
A young student from South Africa	He had 5) <u>no views on the matter</u> .

Word tips

 \mathbf{F}

the British Isles 不列 颠群岛 flattering 奉承的, 讨 好的 distinction 差别, 不同 confess 承认 reserved 拘谨缄默的 hospitable 好客的; 热 情友好的 Continental 欧洲大陆 人 courtesy 谦恭有礼