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刘薇雅思口语

Part 1

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2017-02-23



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刘薇雅思口语听力讲义



Part One

【全新题目】

1. Mirror

✧ Do you often look in the mirror?

Well, frankly speaking, yes, I do, though in our culture to look in the mirror very often doesn't sound so masculine/sounds quite vain. I somehow need to reassure myself that I maintain a good appearance.

✧ Do you use mirror before buying a piece of clothes?

Probably yes. Looking in the mirror helps to confirm that the clothes fits me. But there are also exceptions, you see, as online shopping becomes prevalent, I can't try the clothes on and look in the mirror before I make the order.

✧ Do you often buy mirrors?

No, not really. I love shopping for delicate stuff though, I don't buy mirrors quite often. There's some superstitious belief that having too many mirrors at home would break the balance and put Fengshui in disorder.

✧ Will you carry a mirror when you go out?

Yes, I will. I keep a vanity case in my bag, in which there's a small mirror. I usually do a makeup in the afternoon with the mirror, or before I meet some important people. It helps me to maintain my confidence.

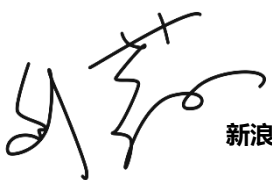
✧ Can mirrors serve as room decorations?

I guess so. And mirrors are literally used not only at private homes but in public places like pubs and shopping malls to create better sense of space and improving the lighting.

2. Robots

✧ Are you interested in robots? Why?

Yes, definitely. Robots are getting smarter and smarter, therefore they are



naturally becoming popular helping hands at both home and work. Even children can have a good time with the robot toys. And quite surprisingly, there are auto-piloted cars, which are basically robots, too. I believe they can be a great cure for headache in traffic congestions.

✧ Have you ever used a robot?

No, not yet. I've been interested and curious about using a robot, be it a sweeping robot or an auto-pilot. But I guess the technology of artificial intelligence still has a long way to go before I can give my safety into a robot's hand. Maybe in the near future, I'll have a try.

✧ Do you want robots to work at your home?

Absolutely yes. You see, young people in China are under great pressure, and every day we have crazily tight schedules. There's literally no time for us to do the housework, even if given enough energy. It would be fantastic to have a smart hand doing all the tidying and cleaning job for me at home. All I need to do is to click on a button on my iPhone.

✧ Will you use robots as baby sitters?

That would be a terribly hard decision for me. I mean I do have to struggle over that issue. On the one hand, taking care of babies demand extraordinary patience, and sometimes extreme tolerance, think about changing the diapers. To have a robot baby sitter can definitely liberate us from the troubles. On the other hand, however, it's our instinct to breed and comfort our own offsprings. In that aspect, I can't give up my rights to Wall-E or AlphaGo.

✧ Do you want to take a car of which robot is the driver?

That really depends on where and when I'm travelling. While having a self-driving tour, or having a race on the track, I'll definitely step on the throttle and grab the wheel by myself, since that undoubtedly brings a lot of fun. However, in the rush hour in metropolises like Beijing and Shanghai, please, give me a break. I'd love to have whoever that can drive to take the driving job. I'd rather have a rest in the back seat.

✧ Do you like movies about robots?

Yes, for most of the sci-fi movies featuring robots, I love them. They can generally provide a divergent view of the future of science and technology, which is having a predominantly influence on our lives. Some of them are optimistic, while others obstinately looks at the empty half of the bottle. Either way, the artistic creations can lead us to have a more profound thinking over the robot issue.



✧ What are the possible impacts of robots on people's life?

I guess the most evident impacts robots have on our life is that efficiency can be improved, since they can help us out of the repetitious no brainer works. But a prevailing concern is that robots would probably bring about some unknown threats to people's safety. After all, artificial intelligence is not moral enough.

✧ What will robots be like in the future?

Analogically judging from the previous experiences, robots would undoubtedly be equipped with better intelligence, which means quicker in mind and broader in knowledge. Quite naturally, with these probabilities, robots would take more jobs for human beings and solve more problems for us. And our lives would be better and easier.

3. Going out

✧ What do you bring when going out?

It really depends on where I go and who I'm with. If I go to work, I just bring some necessities such as keys, wallet, smart phone, napkin and lipstick. But if I take my son to the outside, no matter what the destination is, I seem to bring a huge bunch of things like diapers, nursing bottle, baby formula, his own tableware and some changing clothes I have to prepare just in case.

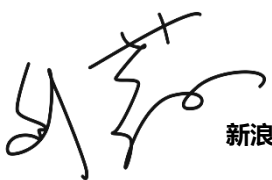
✧ What is the difference between what you carry during the day and what you carry during the night?

Well, from my own perspective, I don't see there is any difference about the things I carry during the day and night. The most important reason is that I seldom go out after work. Even when I have a date with my friends, we'd just have dinner together and then head home. But if we take safety into consideration, with the increasing rate of sexual harassments reported, I think it's better for women to bring some gadgets like pepper spray just in case when they walk alone in the street at night, especially in those places where there are no CCTV supervision.

✧ Will you bring different things when you go to different places?

Yeah, like I said earlier, the destination is a main factor to decide what I will bring.

For instance, when my family or friends go to the suburbs for a spring outing to enjoy fresh air and nature sightseeing, we would bring various snacks to have a picnic. Another example is that when I go to the gym, I usually bring my sneakers, sport outfit, towel and some toiletries.



✧ Have you forgotten to bring something when going out?

Yeah, of course, I have to admit that I have a loose/poor memory. I've left my mobile phone at home for several times and as you know, in this day and age, smart phones have penetrated into every aspect of our life. I would feel something missing if I didn't bring my phone. But that's not the worst scenario. I once forgot to bring my ID card when I caught a flight. I really need to develop a good habit of checking all the necessary things before heading out.

4. Watch

✧ What kinds of watches do you like to wear?

That's definitely the mechanical watch. Technologically, mechanical watches are not so slim as the quartz ones, but the rotors in the automatic winding watches can elegantly provide a better sense of quality. Though smart watches like the iWatch are getting popular, I'd rather save them for sports occasions.

✧ Have you ever received a watch as a gift?

Yes, I have. Watches are decent gifts between close friends and family members here in China. But my favourite one was a gift from myself. I bought a very exquisite and fancy watch on my xxx birthday when I was travelling in America. The moment I saw the watch, I bought it. I liked it so much, although it was neither expensive nor world renowned. Literally, I am purely crazy about buying watches, especially when I travel in other countries. As you know the price is relatively lower for some global brands and there are some limited editions exclusively released in certain regions/countries.

✧ What was your first watch like?

As far as I can remember, it's an electronic watch in the shape of a Mickey Mouse. I received that as my 8th birthday gift from my father. He told me to make wise use of my time.

✧ Did you often wear watches when you were a child?

Yeah, I did. And this question does remind me of those days when I begged my mom to buy a very cute and colourful watch. I can still remember at that time the watches used to have patterns of popular cartoon figures, which attracted so many girls/boys to wear them.



✧ Why do some people like to buy expensive watches?

The main reason why people like wearing luxury watches is closely related to flaunting wealth and social status, in simple words, vanity. For example, lots of celebrities prefer leading an extravagant lifestyle such as wearing expensive watches. I think by wearing brand-named watches people can greatly satisfy their vanity. And also for business men, they tend to wear specific-brand watches such as Omega and Rolex, so that they may leave a high profile impression to their clients or competitors in the negotiation.

✧ Is wearing watches popular in your country now?

Yes, it is. Watches can be a fancy accessory to make people stylish or elegant. Some watches today can be quite smart and functional, which makes them necessary equipments not only for timing but also for the trend. Anyway, it's cool to have a glimmering gadget around the wrist.

5. Dream

✧ Do you remember your dream when you wake up?

No, not every dream, but some special ones like nightmares or sweet dreams. But I want to stress out one strange thing that I did go to some places in real life where I had been to in my dreams and I couldn't even tell/distinguish whether I was in the dream or in reality at that moment. I feel that so mysterious and even a little bit scary.

✧ Do you like hearing others' dreams?

Yes, I guess so. And in particular, I'd like to hear some special dreams. For example, I used to hear about bizarre stories like someone was going to take a flight the next day and had a nightmare of an air crash, that's why he/she called off the flight after waking up. The most mysterious part was the plane did crash. That's almost supernatural.

✧ Do you think dreams will affect life?

Of course they will. Take myself as an example, after having a sweet dream when I wake up in the morning, I feel uplifted and energetic. The good mood will last for the whole day. In contrast, nightmares make me worry that something unfortunate would probably happen to me.

✧ Do you want to learn more about dreams?

Yeah, I do. Dreams are full of mysterious theories and sometimes what happened in the dreams might happen in the foreseeable future. That is so



amazing! Especially when I have some peculiar dreams, I really want to own oneirocritical ability to explain that.

✧ Will you wake up every morning thinking about your dream?

Not every day, but I do recall some peculiar dreams when I wake up in the morning. For example, some dreams were closely related to the real life that I couldn't even distinguish them from the reality and I had to take even hours to confirm whether they literally happened or not. I know it sounds a little bit ridiculous.

6. Instruments

➤ Have you ever learned how to play a musical instrument?

No, I haven't yet. When I was a little girl, I did dream to be a pianist. But my parent were struggling to bring bread on the table, they couldn't afford a piano or even the course. So in my heart, being able to play the piano is one of the most desirable things in my life to pursuit.

➤ Which instrument would you prefer to study, the piano or the violin?

I'll one hundred percent go for piano. My biggest dream was to be a pianist since I was a little girl/boy. The reason is that I used to have a very charming music teacher in my primary school, I enjoyed watching her sitting in front of a piano playing the touching music. She looked so charming and graceful.

➤ Do you think it's important for children to learn (to play) a musical instrument?

Yes, being able to play a musical instrument is far more important than we could have thought. Not only can it cultivate some skills for young children but it also helps children to get a better understanding of art, which will benefit them in a lifelong time. In modern society, more parents are keen on sending their children to learn music instruments from a very early age.

【旧题回库】

01. Swimming

✧ Where can you swim near your home?



I usually go to a natatorium in a fancy hotel in my neighbourhood, it's within 5 minutes walking distance. Because of its convenience, residents living around this area are likely to go swimming there. Particularly in the summer, the pool is almost packed out by/with those who want to enjoy a pleasantly cooler environment.

✧ What advantages can swimming bring? [Why?]

Swimming is one of the few sports that exercises the entire body, from head to toe. It can improve endurance and stamina simultaneously and enable people to regulate their breathing. Furthermore, being in water cleanses the body, making people feel relaxed and refreshed, particularly after a tough day of working.

✧ Is swimming a popular sport? [Why/Why not?]

Yes. Swimming is a popular sport in China because people of all ages can participate in it. Young people learn swimming as a survival skill whereas older people tend to do it as a form of recreation. During major international events, famous swimmers who represent China can motivate people to go swimming in order to keep fit.

02. Sports

✧ What sports do you like best?

I like walking fast to keep fit, I mean, brisk walking. This type of exercise has gained growing popularity in cities because of the flexibility in terms of time and space. That is to say, I usually do this exercise during the commuting time. It won't take up my leisure time and since I've chosen this lifestyle, I don't necessarily drive my car to the office/take the subway to school.

✧ Do you have a favourite sports star?

Yeah, Mabry is my idol. He joined CBA, the China Basketball Association several years ago and he was in the team of Beijing Capital Steel. He became unprecedentedly famous in our city since Beijing was the winner in the Basketball League. It would be an impossible task without his efforts. Frankly speaking, I'm inspired by his sport spirit. He devotes himself into this sport and he would never give up even though he was suffering great pain during the matches.

✧ What's the most popular sport in China?

Since table tennis has brought our country great fame and the Pingpong



players seem to be invincible during every match, I think this sport is one of the most popular ones in our country. As we can see, table tennis tables are the basic facility in lots of neighbourhoods. People are enthusiastic in this sport.

✧ Have you tried any dangerous sports?

Yeah, last year when I was travelling in New Zealand, I had an amazing experience by trying the sky-diving. In fact, I kind of pride myself on doing it. Extreme sports are never my cup of tea and I have to admit that I would not have the gut to take part in sky diving without my friends' encouragement. But that was the most awesome experience in my life and I won't forget the first scene when I jumped out of the plane.

03. Leisure time

✧ What activities do you usually do in your spare time?

My favourite pass time for when I finish my chores is to listen to music. It has always relaxed me and, recently, I developed a new obsession. I found a music artist to follow, and I am researching and listening to all of his songs.

✧ Is taking a break important?

Yeah, that's almost for sure. Each individual should take a break now and then, which enables people to let off the steam. Overwork or study under great pressure would cause detrimental effect on one's mental and physical health. On the contrary, having breaks can help people to be in a state of mind, which allows people to be more productive.

✧ When you finish your homework, what do you do?

I'd like to take a shower first, after which I usually throw myself into bed to watch movies or read books. Sometimes, I would listen to some light or classic music as well as having a glass of wine.

✧ Do you do some housework?

I don't do chores on a daily basis. As my office building/campus is quite far from my apartment and it takes me around one and a half hour for the single commute. I feel exhausted when I get home. However, I always do housework on weekends to keep everything in order.



04. Housework

✧ Do you often do housework at home? [Why/Why not?]

No, I don't. I'm usually occupied by the heavy workload/schoolwork. And since I had this job/attended the university, I've been so busy that I hardly have time to do the chores. But that doesn't mean I can live in a messy environment. I force myself to tidy up the flat at least once every two weeks. Tough I'm not a perfectionist like the Virgos, I like to keep everything in order.

✧ Do you like doing housework? What housework do you like?

Well, I don't like doing housework honestly speaking, because I'm kind of impatient and I think doing housework needs much patience. The only thing I'm into is to prepare meals for my family/parents, by doing which I can always get a strong sense of achievement, especially when my family enjoy the food cooked by me.

✧ Do you think it's important for children to do some housework?

Yes, I do think it's of absolute significance for young children to do some simple chores like washing dishes, sweeping floors or taking out trash. In modern society, parents tend to spoil their children, that's why the children might end up being lazy and irresponsible. By doing some chores, not only do they have a better understanding of the value of labour work but they can also get a sense of responsibility.

✧ Did you do housework when you were young?

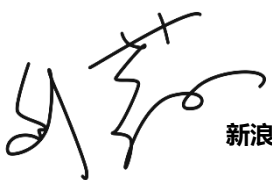
Yes, I did a lot such as washing the dishes, cooking simple meals, taking out the trash and doing laundry for myself. I thought it's a very meaningful experience because it did help me to pick up some skills and gain a sense of responsibility. I remember the first time I cooked for my parents, they were so touched and my mother even burst into tears.

✧ Do you think it is good if robots do housework for human beings?

That's a tough question to answer. On one hand, I really want someone to do housework for me, which can liberate myself from the housework and enjoy more leisure time. On the other hand, I think it's a little bit scary if I let a robot do everything, I might become very lazy and reluctant to do anything.

05. Toy

✧ Why do children play with toys?



Coz being a child generally means to be needy and active, toys can best satisfy children's need to be accompanied and let off the energy. Toys can also be the kind of company they need in terms of love and security. Besides, maybe it is just a child's nature, after all, almost every little kid love dolls and action figures.

✧ What toys did you like to play with when you were a child?

I still remember I got a Tetrix game machine when I was 10 yrs. old. That was my birthday gift from my grandpa. It was pretty cool to have a tiny portable game machine at that time. And Tetris could be the first video game I learned and the only one I can play well.

✧ What is the most important toy for you?

Like I said, it is the game machine which means a lot for me. Coz when I was a child, I spent the whole vacation staying with my grandparents. I still have a great relationship with them and that's what I feel is most important.

✧ What toys do girls like?

Not like boys, girls mostly are fond of dolls, particularly the Barbie dolls. They enjoy playing house and pretending to be a mother, taking care of their toy-babies, which could be a primary sign of femininity.

06. Shoes

✧ Do you prefer fashionable or comfortable shoes? [Why?]

This question really makes me struggle. On one hand, I admire ladies who are wearing stylish high heels. They look so attractive in those fancy shoes but I couldn't even stand up when I wear them. On the other hand, I like walking fast during the commute time, so a pair of sneakers will be the best choice and I do like wearing comfortable shoes. (for girls)

I'll definitely go for fashionable shoes, be they sneakers or formal leather shoes. On one hand, shoes are a part of my appearance, and some Chinese people consider shoes as a symbol of one's quality of life. Therefore I was brought up being taught that I need to keep my shoes fashionable and tidy. On the other hand, as a boy, I've hardly had any shoes that are fashionable but uncomfortable. I mean fashion and comfort don't necessarily conflict against each other. (for boys)



✧ Where do you shop for shoes? [Why?]

I used to buy all of my shoes in the shopping mall because I can try them on and feel them in person. But in these years, since online shopping has unstopably penetrated into our daily life, I get used to buying some of my shoes on the Internet. As you can see, more and more brands like Nike, Adidas have established their e-shops selling the same products as in their brick-and-mortar stores. Plus, I can usually get a better deal online.

✧ Do you buy shoes online? [Why?]

Yes, definitely. More and more famous brands are establishing their e-shops on the internet and prices there are usually lower than in their physical stores. That's why what I usually do is to go to the brick-and-mortar stores to try them on and make a deal online. It does save me lots of bucks/a huge budget. (答案与上一问题统一准备)

✧ What kinds of shoes do you like? [Why?]

Ballet flats are my first choice, primarily because they can magically accentuate my leg length and make me look slimmer and taller. Another reason is I can wear them in three seasons except for the winter and I can walk a long distance in them. They also fit in many occasions, be it formal or casual. I usually buy different colours to match my clothes. (for girls)

Sneakers, specifically basketball boots, must be my most adored kind of shoes. They are impeccably comfortable to wear and matches perfectly with almost all my clothes, be it the sports clothes or the fashionable slim suit. Not to mention that I'm a big fan of basketball and I can play my favourite sport wearing the shoes. (for boys)

✧ Do you have a favourite pair of shoes? Describe them.

Yes, one of my favourite ones are not very expensive but they do look very fancy. It's a pair of black Chelsea boots which enables me to walk a long distance. I mean, it's very comfortable. They are made of suede without any decoration. But they literally make my legs look longer and slimmer, which is the most significant reason why they are my favourite./But the literally make my look quite stylish, like a yuppie, which is the most significant reason why they are my favourite.



07. Birthday

✧ How do children celebrate birthdays in your country?

Children are big fans of throwing parties and unpacking lovely gifts. Moreover, getting together with friends and having a banquet have never fallen out of the top list of birthday must-dos for children.

✧ How did you celebrate your last birthday?

It's in a bistro that I celebrated my last birthday. My best friends were invited to the party. We had a birthday cake before singing and dancing together. More impressively, I came home with loads of lovely gifts.

✧ What kinds of birthday gifts do you like to receive?

Intellectual gifts have hardly failed to fascinate me, be they electronic dictionaries, laptops or robot toys. I invariably find them extraordinarily creative and incomparably considerate.

✧ Is there a difference between the way you celebrated your birthday in the past and at present?

Definitely yes. I believe there's apparently a significant difference between the two. When I was a child, my parents inevitably prepared birthday parties for me, and we would sing birthday songs and have the birthday cake cheerfully. Nevertheless, now I seldom celebrate my birthdays and sometimes I even forget it, which I could probably blame on my crazily tight working schedule.

08. Music

✧ Do you like music?

Yes, and my favourite type of melody belongs to the pop genre. I just love the messages and rhythms of prestigious artists like Madonna and Michael Jackson. I could dance to their lyrics all night long at a club or with my friends at home!

✧ When do you listen to music?

The cherry on the cake every day is early morning because I wake up and tune into my favourite artists. I turn the volume to max and start my routine. I can do everything better if I can dance on it!

✧ How much time do you spend listening to music every day?

I barely have time for my favourite artists. I am very busy, so I get to enjoy



maybe about a song of 4 or 6 minutes every day. The rest of the time, I am completely concentrated on more productive activities, like reading or researching.

✧ What kinds of music do you like to listen to?

I have always been interested in pop/rock/ethnic/folk music. It seems that this is the most present genre in my playlist because the artists can express themselves freely and the public can unwind to the rhythm of the songs during concert.

✧ Have you ever been to a concert before?

Yes and I have to say I love the performance atmosphere: the sound, the smell of smoke and also the bright lights coming from the main stage. I am glad to be able to share my love of a band with other like-minded fans.

✧ When did you start listening to this type of music?

I began to appreciate pop/rap/rock when I was in my more tumultuous teenage years. I was 16 when I wanted to act like a crazy person and dye my hair blue. I still resonate with the innovative nature of several genres of pop/rap/rock.

✧ Where do you listen to it?

I love playing my favourite CDs in my room because I can relax there, I can dance and act crazy. It is my secret spot, filled with all my favourite refrains! I feel like a recluse, and my only connection to the outside world is through music!

✧ How do you feel when you listen to this music?

It has been proven that acoustic frequencies can change our moods. Depending on the songs we hear, they can signal refuge, or despair to the brain. Whenever I am sad, I will play my favourite soundtracks and feel better instantly.

09. Television

✧ Do you watch TV quite often?

Yeah, I think it's a good way to let off the steam. As in contrast to the old days when scarce entertaining resources were provided by TV, nowadays there are a wide range of TV programmes such as talk shows, variety shows, reality shows and so on. They can satisfy people of all ages with different



preferences.

✧ Do you like to watch TV alone or with friends?

That really depends on what kinds of programmes I'm watching. On one hand, variety shows always invite celebrities and I prefer watching them with my friends. All of us are interested in the private life of famous people. So we can have a gossip about them as well as watching the shows. On the other hand, I prefer watching chick-flicks alone while having some snacks.

✧ What kind of TV programmes do you like to watch?

I love watching sci-fi programmes and movies of the same theme. Chick-flicks used to be my favourite when I was a teenager, but I became a big fan of science fictions since I'd visited the universal studio in Los Angeles. I had an amazing experience there and those fictional scenarios from movies like Transformation, Water World and The War of The Worlds totally intrigued me and I checked all of those movies immediately after I went back. I just want to say they definitely are the works of art.

✧ Do children watch TV a lot?

Yeah, I think so. Many irresponsible parents tend to use the television as a babysitter. We can see that an increasing number of children are pathetically getting near-sighted at an earlier age. Moreover, many tragedies happened among children because of the imitation of dangerous behaviours from the cartoon. Parents really need to take responsibility to limit the screen time of their children.

10. Video Games

✧ What types of video games do you like to play?

Talking about games, I have to say that I literally like a lot of them. I used to spend my vacations playing video games, be they action games, shooting games or the most exciting racing games. However, as computers get inevitably into every aspect of our life, video games have largely been replaced by online PC games, which would be more fun provided they are played with a group of people.

✧ How often do you play video games?

When I was a child, to be more specific, when I was a pupil, I used to be extremely passionate about video games, so that I could keep sitting in front



of TV playing Contra Spirits(魂斗罗) on a Nintendo(任天堂) every day for the whole summer vacation. However, now I'm tamely occupied by the school work and seldom have the time to enjoy the fun.

✧ Do young people like to play video games?

Well, I believe yes. Video games can effortlessly take young people to a world of imagination and experience some adventures without getting them injured. While playing, young people could usually have an adrenaline rush, which is why they love playing the games.

11. Friend

✧ When was the first time you met your best friend?

It was a long time ago, when I was in high school. To be honest, I kind of disliked her when I first met her. I thought she was a little bit arrogant and she seemed not interested in interacting with others. The turn was happened on a sport meeting when I passed out during the match. Out of the blue, she was the one who sent me to the school clinic and took great care of me. Since then, we got to know each other better and I realized that she's a very nice and smart girl.

✧ What did you do together?

During the high school years, the most things we did together was to study. We supported and encouraged each other and I was not sure whether I'd get through without her. After graduation, we were so crazy in that summer. We had similar tastes in fashion and both of us were a big fun of romantic novels. We used to go shopping and then spend time in McDonald to read novels.

✧ Do you like to have a lot of friends or just several close friends?

Of course just a few close friends. I'm not an extroverted person and sometimes I'd prefer spending time alone. I think that dealing with so many people makes me tired but I do like hanging out with some best friends. By talking to them can really relax me and make me feel comfortable.

12. Indoor Games

✧ What indoor games did you do when you were a kid?



I have to admit that the major part of my childhood was miserably spent indoors, since I didn't enjoy many chances to have fun outdoors with my parents. What makes that even worse was that I didn't have many choices as indoor games. Those that really served as sources of fun for me were simply card games, the Rubik cube and TV games. And I also used to make some handicrafts under the guidance of my parents and teachers.

✧ What games do you like?

Indoor activities do not just shelter us from some extreme weathers like freezing winter and rainiest summer in all seasons, which would be pretty disappointing to hang out, as our young folks would rather looks decent for self-shot sometime, but also build up our family bond, instead of frolicking on our own, games like disco dance or jigsaw puzzle are some good ways to really show your willingness to play a part in a family.

✧ Is it good for young people to play games?

Yes, indeed. Indoor activities do not just shelter us from some extreme weathers like freezing winter and rainy summer, but also build up our family bond, instead of frolicking on our own, games like disco dance or jigsaw puzzle are some good ways to really show the willingness to play a part in the family.(与前一问题统一准备)

13. Holiday

✧ Should more holidays be added?

Yeah, I think so. If working adults have more holidays, they would have adequate time to get rest or spend time with their families, which is conducive to their well-beings and the maintenance of family bonding.

✧ What do you usually do in holidays?

I tend to sleep more hours in holidays if it is a vacation of only two or three days. Such short vacations are more of an occasion to rest than to go outside and play. Otherwise, one might get tired of walking here and there and watching large numbers of people instead of scenic spots. But for long holidays of about five or six days, I will have a journey with families/friends to Hong Kong or Japan to do some shopping.

✧ Does your country have many public holidays?

No, we have New Year Days, Tomb-sweeping Days, Dragon boat Days,



International Labour Day, National Day, Mid-autumn Day and Spring Festival. I really think more public holidays should be added because our country has a long history with vast continent which entails enormous cultural identities and heritages. For example, the Lantern's Day means family reunion and The Double Ninth Festival means the best day to admire the scenery in the fall. People should celebrate these days and those traditions can be kept for our future generations.

✧ Which one do you like best?

Both Spring Festival and National Holiday are my favourites and the reason is simply that I can enjoy a longer vacation compared to other holidays.

Traditionally speaking, I like the former more and I used to look forward to this festival when I was little, as I could get lots of lucky money and new clothes.

14. Museum

✧ Do you like visiting museums and art galleries? [Why/Why not?]

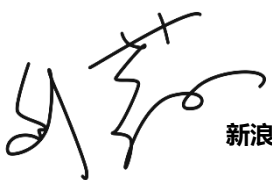
I have had the opportunity to go to a few museums and art galleries in my life, mostly when I was younger. I don't willingly to go to museums and art galleries nowadays since they are not considered forms of entertainment for me. In fact, I feel it is too tiresome to walk around and view exhibits.

✧ What can you learn from visiting museums or art galleries?

I believe museums and art galleries can be fascinating since they have exhibits from ancient societies. For instance, museums that display bones of dinosaurs or early humans are quite intriguing because they show how the world was several hundred or thousand years ago. Art galleries can also allow visitors to learn more about history and exercise their imaginations.

✧ Do you think schools should take children to visit museums and art galleries? [Why/Why not?]

It would be an educational experience for children if they were able to go to museums and art galleries. In museums, they could learn about the history of civilisation and art galleries may encourage their creative abilities. Moreover, they would have the opportunity to visit these places with their classmates, making the journey more enriching and pleasant.



【重点旧题】

01. Work & Study

✧ Are you a student or do you have a job?

I'm studying as a freshman at xxx university and my major is yyy.

I'm working as a xxx manager/supervisor/assistant in the yyy industry.

✧ Which subject are you specialised in?

My major is in Arts. I consider that aestheticism is an important field because every day we are bombarded with attempts at expressing beauty through many different channels. This area can enrich my perception of the world in ways that others cannot!

✧ Why did you choose to study that subject/ those subjects?

I have always been passionate about the arts. This is why I decided to study this in college. I know many people don't see the gain in studying the history of arts but for me, it is the most enriching experience I have ever had.

✧ Do you prefer to study in the morning or at afternoon? Why?

I have always had the best results by doing my schoolwork before regular school hours. I can concentrate better in the morning because I rested the night before. After I wake up, I feel ready to tackle any problem that may arise.

✧ Why did you choose your current job?

I chose the occupation out of pure love and passion. When I graduated from high school, I knew exactly where I belonged that was to help people look better and build up their confidence in terms of appearance, so I spent next four years totally immersed in the theory and practice of matching and cutting. I enjoy seeing how people look themselves in mirrors after putting on the clothes that I design.

02. Hometown

✧ Where do you come from?

I'm a local person. I mean, I was born and raised in Beijing. The capital of China. I think our city became worldwide known because it hosted the



Summer Olympic Games in 2008 and I quite pride on this event. Besides, this metropolis entails rich cultural heritage like the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace, which attracts thousands of tourists all over the world.

✧ Do you like your hometown?

Yeah, of course, I do love this city and I've witnessed huge changes here. For example, many old-fashioned residences have been converted into modernized communities and skyscrapers have formed an amazing landscape in the city. However, I'm a very nostalgic person and I do miss the days when I was little, I used to live in the Hutong where several families lived in a big yard. Neighbours seemed closer than nowadays.

✧ What is your favourite part in your hometown?

The public transportation is so convenient in Beijing, particularly the underground system. As you know, our city is packed with cars and has been suffering the traffic congestion. Compared to other first tier cities, Beijing has much larger area and nowadays, because of the astounding expansion for the subway network, subway stations almost can be available everywhere.

✧ Do you want to settle in your hometown or change a city?

At present, I don't plan to migrate to other places and the reason is that all of my beloved families and friends live here. But as you know, the air pollution is way more serious than before, so I do concern it would cause damage to health. Maybe I'd resettle in the places with fresh air.

03. Accommodation

✧ Do you live in house or apartment?

I live in a flat with three bedrooms and one living room. I want to highlight that my room has a small balcony. It's not an open-air area but I lay a fancy coffee table with a swing chair there. Besides, several dedicated bonsais are laid at the corners. I like reading novels with a cup of coffee in a lazy afternoon and I spend most of relaxing time over there at home.

✧ What can you see from the window of your room?

Well, the scene through my room's window is kind of a chaos. I mean, our neighbourhood was built at the beginning of this century, the facilities are kind of old-fashioned with limited public spaces. Car parking lots are limited as well(either). Therefore, car owners park their vehicles randomly, which makes the environment even worse.



✧ Is the transportation near your home convenient?

Yeah, I think the easy access to the public transportation is the only merit of my apartment. Our community is located in the centre of the city, the nearest subway station is only five to ten minutes walking distance and there are bus stops, which are leading to all the four directions that located right outside the community's gate.

✧ Will you live there for long?

Not really. I've been living in this community for a decade. Actually I want to move to a modern and well-equipped house with sufficient greenery someday. While the skyrocketing housing price makes me struggled, I mean, it's not realistic for me to afford the dream house I mentioned here. But after retirement, I'd resettle in other cities where I can afford this type of house.

04. Colours

✧ What is your favourite colour?

My favourite colour is mauve because it reminds me of the smell of lavender and soothes me. Beige can be counted as another favourite colour because it goes well with all the other colours, so it is an indispensable fashion item. What's more, I also like turquoise or Tiffany blue because the colour represents pure and eternal love and I hope to use it as the fundamental key of my wedding ceremony.

✧ What was your favourite colour when you were a child?

I used to wear bright coloured tops and pants a lot when I was a little kid. Sometimes I wished that I could have enough accessories to hold seven rainbow colours at one time. I guess it was probably because children want to catch the attention of peers and adults by wearing these bright colours.

✧ Will you paint your house with the colour you like?

Definitely yes, as I have mentioned, mauve soothes me, so it would be the first choice for my bedroom. Beige would be used to paint my kitchen since it is not too strong or intense, so I can avoid overeating and have a good mood preparing meals. Turquoise or Tiffany blue is the colour for my study because it is refreshing and calming and my mind works better in this circumstance. Finally, for dressing room, I would like to choose light pink.

✧ What's the most popular colour in China?

Red is the number one choice in China. It is the colour of our national flag and



for many, it symbolises the authority and power of the country. It has been so since ancient times as it has been associated with good luck and prosperity.

05. Newspaper & Magazine

✧ Do you often read newspapers or magazines?

No, neither of them. But back to two decades ago, I preferred reading magazines and it's very trendy for youngsters to read vogue magazines. I remember one periodical called "Ray", which introduced the most stylish clothes, accessories, make-ups and so on. It was so popular among female classmates and I'd use up my pocket money to buy it as soon as the latest edition had been published.

✧ Which do you prefer reading, magazines or newspapers?

I guess I'd go for magazines. In my mind reading is kind of a relaxing activity. Abundant and diverse contents can be found in periodicals. I mean, I prefer reading something more interesting and less serious in my spare time. While articles in newspaper normally is closely related to current events, which I could hardly get immersed.

✧ How old were you when you first started to read newspapers?

That was a long time ago, well, if my memory serves me right, I was ten when I started to read newspapers because our English teacher asked us to read an English journal called China Daily as a supplemental teaching material to sharpen our reading skills. Honestly speaking, it was totally a headache for me because I had little interest in current affairs which are the main coverage in China Daily.

✧ Do you think it's important to read newspapers?

No, I don't think reading newspapers today is as important as in our parents or grandparents' generations. I do not deny that the accuracy and reliance provided by papers. However, information can be fast disseminated and people can get up-to-the-minute news around the world. Maybe in modern society the only reason to read papers is related to nostalgia.



06. Outdoor Activities

✧ What games did you play when you were young?

When I was younger, I lived in the Shikumen, which was the house with stone- ringed door. At that time, the material condition was not high enough for me to go far away to enjoy so many outdoor sports, so usually I would just invite some little companions to play folk games such as eagle-catches-children, handkerchief throwing, hide-and-seek, and rubber band skipping. Though our family was not that wealthy, I did have a happy childhood.

✧ What types of outdoor games are popular?

Popular outdoor games involve water, mountain and air sports, including diving, surfing, rock climbing, skiing, bungee jumping and countless ones. They are especially welcome in the younger generation because the adrenalin rush and dopamine secretion let them feel alive and young.

✧ What kinds of outdoor activities will you make your future children do?

I will make my future kids have some safer outdoor games. Flying a kite would be a good choice since it enables children not only to have fresh air in open spaces but also to run as they please. In addition, playing a swing twenty minutes, according to research, can increase the secretions of dopamine by as much as eighty percent. Parents acting as pusher and protector let the child relate with parents more intimately. Finally, I guess when my child reaches a certain age, I will let him or her learn fishing because that could cultivate the patience and concentration ability in them, which prepare them for future study and work.

✧ Do you think it is necessary for a town to have public parks for children to play?

Yes, it is totally necessary for a city to have adequate public parks for kids to play which is beneficial for the physical and mental development of children. The green lawn of the park facilitates the vision growth and the fresh air purifies lungs. Also, the open spaces allow the children to have more exercises so as to improve their immunity and develop their skeletons and muscles.

07. Transportation

✧ Do you like travelling?

No, I don't. The reason for the dislike is that I feel exhausted and tired rather than refreshed and lifted after having a long journey. So, it usually takes me



quite a while to recover and focus on studies and works. Also, when I go to a strange city, it is hard for me to be accustomed to the completely different humidity and temperature as well as the culture and lifestyle of another region.

✧ What is the appropriate length for travelling time?

I guess seven days is an appropriate length for a tour because less than seven days is not long enough for people to unwind and enjoy themselves. If it is too short, then they will not forget daily routines and immerse themselves in the new culture and customs of another city. On the contrary, if the journey time is more than seven days, they may be worn out by walking to various destinations, taking pictures and sleeping in various hotels.

✧ Do you like travelling by train, by car or by air? Why?

I love taking an airplane above all the other transportation because I can watch a free film show and sip champagne on some services. Besides, I can also soar effortlessly over high mountains and deep valleys and really see the shape of the land or enjoy the extraordinary sight of unbroken cloud plains that stretch out for miles. Most importantly, it enables me to arrive at destination fresh and uncrumpled with no need to spend the next few days recovering from a long and arduous journey.

✧ Do you think there are too many cars on the road?

Yes, I do think there are too many cars on the road. For example, at rush hours in Shanghai, it takes me more than fifty minutes to go to work by taxi while it takes me only thirty minutes to travel the same distance by metro. One can hear drivers impatiently honking the horn in vain under a terrible traffic block and can see the electronic screen showing the long congested sections of red.

08. Hats

✧ What kinds of hats do you have?

I have a collection of different kinds of hats and I wear them according to the weather and occasion. In the winter, a woven hat with a cute fur ball on the top is my priority, not only can it keep my head warm, but also makes me look fashionable. In other seasons, I have preference in wearing baseball caps because I like wearing sport outfits. If I travel in the coastal area, straw hat would be an useful item to prevent the strong ultraviolet.

✧ Do you like to wear hats?

Yeah, I do like wear different kinds of hats throughout the year. In the summer,



I prefer wearing a cap while in the winter, I'd like to go for wool hats which can keep me warm. When I enjoy my holiday on the beach, straw hat is a necessity. Not only can it prevent the strong ultraviolet, but also makes me look fashionable.

✧ Where do you like to buy hats?

I like wearing different styles of hats to match my clothes. I buy most of my hats online where I can find them at a dirt-cheap price with high quality. I mean, the products I bought online could represent the best value of the money. As you know, most e-shops use beautified pictures to exhibit their products. In order to avoid being ripped off by the shop owners, I usually review all the comments from other buyers before making a deal.

✧ Is wearing hats popular in your country?

I don't think so. The growing popularity of different kinds of hats do enable people to have more choices. But as opposed to the ancient China when most people wanted to show off their social status by wearing different kinds of hats, modern people usually wear hats in certain occasions. For example, wearing straw hats can avoid the strong ultraviolet when people spend time near the sea. While some young people wear unique hats to express their personalities.

09. Families

✧ How much time do you spend with your families?

Currently, I will come back to my parents' house only on weekends, with Monday to Friday living on my own. Most of my time is spent on working and studying, so I just have Saturday and Sunday to accompany my mum and dad to watch television, films, and talk over coffee about what has happened during the past week.

✧ Which family member are you most alike ?

My father and I are most alike, to be more specific, I am a chip off the old block. We are both hot-tempered and if we are not understood or misunderstood, we might immediately quarrel with others and straightforwardly tell them what we think. Apart from this bad gene, I guess I inherit persistence from him. When we love, we commit and that enables us to accomplish what others cannot achieve.

✧ Which family member is the closest to you?

My mum is the closest family member to me because she is gentle enough for me to be comfortable and easy. For example, if I do poor at an examination, I



often dare not tell my dad about that because he is not calm and is not patient to find out the real reason behind the bad score. Also, my mum and I have much quality time together since we all fancy going shopping, watching films, talking over coffee and staying in the library.

✧ Do you think families have a huge impact on people's life?

Yes, families have far-reaching impacts on a person. At birth, one cannot have access to the outside world except his parents, so the critical stage of development is almost entirely decided by the parents alone. If, at the very significant moment, the parents cannot feed the baby well, this might cause skeletal dysplasia. Similarly, if a child suffers violence from very early stage, he or she might develop some mental diseases such as social difficulties and academic problems.

10. Celebrity

✧ Do you have idols?

Yeah, Jeff Zhang who is regarded as the prince of love song has been my favourite singer since I was in primary school. If my memory serves me right, when I was 9, I happened to listen to his song from my desk mate. I was immediately attracted by his magnetic voice and I bought all of his albums. Now, I have a whole collection.

✧ Have you seen the stars that you admire?

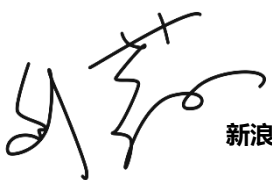
Yeah, I did go to a concert of Jeff Zhang several year ago. Unfortunately, I haven't had chances to talk to him face-to-face. There was one time when I almost had an opportunity to ask for his signature in person but the scene was chaotic because of his crazy followers. That's a pity.

✧ Would you want to be a celebrity in the future?

In fact, I'd rather be a common person as we place great value on my privacy. Being a famous person sounds appealing to everyone as it will bring fame and wealth, but at the same time, those public figures have to sacrifice their private life. Rumours and scandals would do harm to themselves or even their families.

✧ How do celebrities influence their fans in China?

There are a variety of means for famous people to exert influences on their followers. For example, the most typical way is through traditional advertisements. Celebrities will endorse a product and their fans then buy the product to show their loyalty and enthusiasm. Besides, emerging new media



such as Weibo, the Chinese version of Twitter, also enable the noted to call attention from not only their fans but also the general public to social phenomenon such as the lack of education among remote regions as well as discrimination against a particular population of patients.

11. Sunny Days

✧ Do you like sunny days? [Why/Why not?]

Yeah, definitely. I'm somehow in a happy mood when I see the sunshine pouring into my room in the morning. Especially when I don't need to go to work during the daytime, sunny days allow me to do more outdoor activities.

✧ What are the benefits/downsides of sunshine? [Why?]

As far as I know, being exposed in the sunshine frequently can improve the calcium absorption. Increasing the pace of the metabolism is another advantage. Both of the merits can keep people healthy. The only drawback I could refer to the sunshine is that the strong ultraviolet ray may cause burn on the skin.

✧ Do you mind traveling in places with little sunshine? [Why/Why not?]

Yes, I guess so. In fact, I love places which are full of sunshine all year round, however, I also like exploring different cultures. I mean, as long as the destinations have lots of history heritages or scenic spots. I'd rather choose sightseeing over weather.

✧ Where is the hottest place you have ever been?

The hottest place I've been to was Las Vegas where the temperature would hit over 40 Celsius degree during the daytime in the summer. When I was there, I spent most of my precious time in the hotel and I would be dizzy and pass out as soon as I went outdoors.

✧ Do you like going outside on sunny days? [Why/Why not?]

Yeah, I love going for fun on sunny days so much except in the summer. I'm worried that the heat would cause sun stroke and the strong ultraviolet ray may cause burn on my skin.



12. Photographs

✧ Do you like taking photos?

Yeah, I guess so. Particularly when I travel in other places. I'd like to take thousands of pictures of the exotic architecture and landscape. My smart phone would be almost packed with pictures. I wanted to capture every valuable moment to commemorate in the future. In fact, I rarely photograph in daily life.

✧ How do you take photographs?

Digital cameras used to be my priority when I wanted to shoot something interesting. At present, because smart phone has become an indispensable part in our life and the quality of the pictures taken by phones is almost as good as photographed by some cameras. I prefer using my Iphone6 to photograph.

✧ Do you take photographs with mobile phone?

Yeah. I'd like to photograph every valuable moment by using my iphone6. It's very convenient for me to catch some special moments. I don't have to carry around a camera every day. In addition, there are abundant apps that can be stalled in smart phones, which enables us to edit the picture on the spot. I mean, I can beautify the pictures or even put several pictures together right after I take photos.

✧ Which one is better, to take photos with a camera or a mobile phone?

I think it'd be better for photographers to use cutting-edge cameras to shoot pictures. As these professionals have expertise in how to take perfect photos, cameras are more appropriate for them. While amateurs or ordinary people can use their mobile phones to photograph, as the pixel of pictures taken by phones can be compared with some of the photos taken by some cameras.

13. Gifts

✧ What kind of gifts do you prefer to receive? Why?

My priority/preference will go for perfumes. But honestly speaking, I'm not attracted by the fragrance. Instead, I simply like collecting the perfume bottles, which are very cute and exquisite. I have a small-scale display in my flat and most of them are either sent by my friends or bought in other regions. I mean, they are full of memories and I feel so satisfied when I admire them.

✧ Do you like to send gifts to others?

Yes, I like sending presents to people I care about, and I always try to pick the



perfect gifts. I mean, not only can the present leave a deep impression on the recipients but it also has practical use. So, I have to say though picking gifts is a very tiresome procedure, I can get a strong sense of fulfilment when I see the satisfied smiles on the receivers' faces.

✧ What do you usually give to others as gifts?

That really depends on the recipients' preferences. If I buy my mom a birthday present I'd choose some cashmere products and I'd give healthy products to my father. But when it comes to sending gifts to my friends, I would make a choice according to the situation. For example, I may just give fortune envelopes to the new couples on their wedding ceremonies.

14. Visitors

✧ How often do visitors come to your house?

Our family has a tight bonding with each other so relatives like my aunts usually pay a visit in my apartment on a regular basis. Besides, from time to time some close friends of mine might visit my house to catch up with me or have dinner together.

✧ How do you treat these visitors?

Some families and close friends of mine would visit from time to time and I usually go to groceries to pick out the snacks and fruits according to their preferences. I like preparing meals for relatives in person because they like the atmosphere of eating at home. While I'd like to order take outs online for my friends, by doing which we can have more time to catch up or play board role-playing games.

✧ What do you usually prepare for these guests? Who are they?

Some families and close friends of mine would visit from time to time and I usually go to groceries to pick out the snacks and fruits according to their preferences. I like preparing meals for relatives in person because they like the atmosphere of eating at home. While I'd like to order take outs online when my friends are at my home, by doing which we can have more time to catch up or play board role-playing games.

✧ Do you like to visit other people's houses?

That really depends on whose house I visit. I don't like visiting people whom I'm not familiar with. That is to say, it's so weird to stay in a stranger's house and I have to pay attention to my behaviours. While I do like to have some fun in my best friend's smart house. She's a tech-savvy and I'm always amazed by the cutting-edge home appliances at her apartment.



15. Teacher

✧ Who is your favourite teacher?

My English teacher in the middle school has played a huge role in my academic attainment. Actually, I was a little bit rebellious when I was an adolescence. I mean, I was reluctant to study and this teacher guided me patiently on how to improve my academic performance and took great care of me during the three years. I appreciate her so much,

✧ What have you learnt from this teacher?

Not only did she impart me the abundant academic knowledge, but also told me how to behave properly and become a straightforward person. I regard her as my mentor in my life. Like I said earlier, I was not obedient at that time and my parents were occupied with works, they didn't have sufficient time to give me appropriate supervision. I might have gone astray without her company and guidance..

16. Water activity

✧ What do you want to do near water?

There are numerous entertainment activities that can be available by the waterside, such as surfing, scuba diving and rafting. All of them sound very fascinating. However, none of these is my cup of tea, but I do enjoy lying on the beach, enjoying a sunbath to have a perfect tan. What's more, both the blue sky and the gentle sea breeze are amazing things that I can hardly have in BJ.

✧ What are the places near water?

Many regions feature spectacular waters and I've been to some of those places. There is a place that impressed me most called the Interlake, which is located between 2 other larger lakes in Switzerland. The village, the lake and the world renowned mountain formed a breath-taking picturesque landscape. I felt so comfortable/amazed when I was admiring the sightseeing there.

✧ Should children learn swimming or not?

That really depends on the kids' interests. I don't/can't deny/it can't be denied that huge benefits could be brought by swimming and it can also be a survival skill. But I want to stress out one thing that some children are afraid of water naturally, I mean, they're born to be hydrophobic. And under this circumstance, it's not appropriate for them to learn this sport.

17. Handwriting

✧ Which one do you prefer, writing by hand or using computer?



Actually, I'd prefer writing by hand because people may forget the spelling of words if they are not be written by hand for hundreds of times, and a charming handwriting will definitely leave a deep impression on others to show your cultural deposits.

✧ How often do you write by hand?

Franking speaking, I seldom write by hand at present since there are a variety of apps in computer or mobile phone in which I can type all the information in English or Chinese. It's quite convenient instead of writing in paper word by word.

✧ How do you feel about handwriting?

Well, I believe handwriting is a kind of art. A delicate writing style shows a gentle image at the first sight and a rough-and-ready style may indicate a crude characteristic. As for me, handwriting is a reflection of cultural deposit.

✧ Do you like handwriting greeting cards?

Not really, since greeting cards make use of a lot of paper, which produces solid pollutants to the earth. We know our environment is deteriorating without precedent, therefor it's everyone's responsibility to make a contribution to the environment.

18. Chocolate

✧ Do you eat chocolate?

Yeah, I have a sweet tooth. I love eating different kinds of chocolate especially the dark chocolate. When I'm in a bad mood, I'd eat some and then I somehow feel better. I think it's a good way to let off the steam. In addition, I also like drinking hot chocolate and eating Brownies. One of the most relaxing moments is when I sit in a cafe to have a cup of coffee with a slice of Black Forest Cake.

✧ Have you ever received chocolate?

Yeah, quite often. Some colleagues of mine always have business trips to our head quarter in Italy. They would bring us different kinds of chocolates as gifts. Besides, when some friends of mine came back from their trip, especially in other countries, they would give me chocolates as presents. I do receive lots of chocolates.

✧ Why do friends send each other chocolate?

I think the biggest reason is that people want to send some decent presents which can also represent the best value for money. Chocolate is neither too expensive nor too shabby and it's kind of suitable for people of all ages.



✧ Do people send chocolate as gifts ?

Yeah, I think so. Like I said earlier, I've received chocolates both from my friends and workmates. Last year I was travelling in Brussels which is the home of the best chocolates. It's an ideal destination for chocolate lovers. I can see the famous chocolate shops like Godiva which could be spotted in each block. When I looked around in there, I was amazed by the different flavours of chocolates with fancy packages. I bought my friends and families exquisite chocolates as gifts.

19. Bags

✧ What types of bags do you like?

Women and girls are crazy about various bags and I am no exception. I have a collection of bags including shoulder bags, hobo bags and drawstring bags as well as tote bags. Apart from these, I also have once bought an expensive and exquisite box bag. Also, my parents last year sent me a satchel bag as my birthday gift. Finally, a fanny pack is the best choice for travelling.

✧ Do you usually carry a bag when you go out?

Yes, I usually carry a carpet bag when I am going to work or meet some clients because the bag with two handles and the size is normally big enough to suit business documents. On the other hand, if I am going to gym, I would choose a duffel bag because the cylindrical bag with symmetrical handles and a shoulder strap allows me to put in the gym suits and shoes.

✧ Do you have different bags for different occasions?

Yeah, of course. I think I have a collection of different kinds of bags and I'm crazy about buying bags. If I'm on a trip, backpacks would be the top priority for me as it has larger capacity and it's comfortable for me to carry around. When I go shopping with friends, I need nothing more than a credit card and my smart phone. A cute envelope clutch is a perfect choice.

✧ What do you put in these bags?

As smart phone has become an indispensable part in my daily life, it's always in my bag. Besides, a small makeup bag including lipstick and liquid foundation allows me to be in a perfect situation.

20. Books

✧ Do you like reading books?

Yeah, definitely. The thing I want to stress out is that I like reading paper books even in this digital age when everything can be easily accessed



through the Internet. I'm a nostalgic person, I like the scent of the paper as well as the feeling when I touch the paper book.

✧ What kinds of books do you usually read? Why?

That really depends on the specific situation. I hold preference in reading romantic novels. When I'm staying alone, I'd choose this type of book. Even I've got married and my son is two, I can still immerse in the love story. While if I spend time with my boy, I'd choose fairy tales for him to read, which can attract him more.

✧ Have you ever read the same book twice?

Yeah, of course. I'd read some fantastic books three to four times if the story lines are attracting. *Pride and prejudice* is one of my favourite books which I read five times. I simply regarded this novel as a love story when I first read it. While after reading more times, I realized that the real purpose of the author was to reflect the complex relationship between social class and marriage.

✧ Did you read much when you were a child?

Yeah, reading books is one of my hobbies since I was literate. Grimm's fairy tales was the first book I read which was my birthday gift from my parents when I was 7. I read it often after school. The stories were so fascinating that I couldn't get myself out of them.

21. Advertisement

✧ How do you feel about ads?

In my view, some ads can be annoying while others are humorous and amusing. On the one hand, during a TV show or movie, ads can be really bothersome and disruptive. However, they could light up my mood if they are delightful and funny.

✧ Do you like advertisements on TV or in magazines?

I don't often read magazines and most of the ads that I see are on TV. I feel that TV ads are becoming more and more innovative and creative and I sincerely hope to see more fascinating ones in the future.

✧ Do ads influence your choice on what to buy? How?

Ads sometimes have an impact on the choices I make on what to purchase. For example, if I see an attractive commercial of a product on TV, it could lead me to buy it, even though I don't actually need the product. For instance, when I see the ads of McDonald's or Pizza Hut on TV, I have the urge to go there to eat at once, even though I didn't think about it before.



✧ Which kind of advertisements is the most popular one in your country?
Based on my experience, ads for cars are the most popular one in my country. Whenever I watch TV or read a magazine, it is common to see ads for vehicles. They usually show the features of the cars and try to persuade consumers to purchase their cars. For instance, an ad for a car designed by Honda is frequently seen on the screen now.

✧ What do you think is the purpose of ads?
The main purpose of ads is to inform customers of the products that are being sold by companies. For example, they can show people the features and uses of their goods. Additionally, they can tell viewers about the benefits of using their products and their prices. Ads can also make people become familiar with different companies and their products because they appear on TV screens again and again.

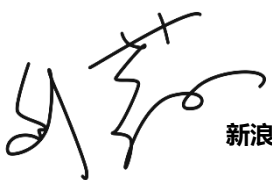
✧ Do you think advertising plays an important role in today's society?
Certainly, advertising plays an essential role in society because it is everywhere. Wherever we look, be it newspapers, magazines, television, the Internet or even public transportation, advertisements are there. Additionally, we live in a consumer-based society and people need to purchase goods to keep the economy growing. Therefore, advertising is a way to promote economic development and ensure that there is appropriate competition between firms.

✧ Will advertisements trigger shopping desires?
Well, it will depend on whether the advertisement is successful or not. I mean successful and creative ads would absolutely attract the customers and viewers to buy their products, thus trigger shopping desires, while mundane ones will do nothing but to distract customers and fail to stimulate desires.

✧ How do you feel about advertisements?
Well, I think advertisements play a very important role in triggering customers' shopping behaviour and desire. Advertisements are acted as a crucial channel, through which consumers will begin to know about the product. What is more, the production of ads itself will foster the innovation ability, which is a key quality that each individual should acquire.

22. Art

✧ Do you like painting?
Yes. My passion has always been graphite! I have always loved the way the crayon and the charcoal feel on the page. The grey colour soothed me and my subjects always seemed very realistic. I couldn't get the same effect from using



coloured paints, so I gave up on it!

✧ How often do you visit art galleries?

I have always been passionate about refinement and aesthetics, and this is why I stay in touch with this field by going to painting shows at least once a month. In this way, I go through the mundane of the world and focus on what is truly important in life: beauty.

✧ What kinds of things do you like to draw?

When doodling, I am passionate about nature. Spectacular places intrigue me, and I try to work on big mediums using charcoal and pencil. The most challenging subject I have ever had is an erupting volcano, just looking at it made the adrenaline rush into my veins.

✧ Is it easy to learn how to draw?

I had studied the art of doodling when I was a child, and I don't consider it to be a hard thing to do. When I reached high school, I perfected my skill because I wanted to depict my favourite game characters. I have spent about 30 minutes a day trying to do that, and I finally achieved it!

23. Weekend

✧ What do you usually do on weekends?

Shopping is my favourite thing to do. I usually do it during the weekends because that is when I have spare time. I enjoy buying clothes and food, and I love to experiment different cuisines from around the world.

✧ What are you going to (planning to) do next weekend?

I can't wait for the end of next week because I am going hiking with my friends. We planned this trip for a long time, and we bought special equipment for it as well. I am anxious to get there!

24. Weather

✧ What kind of weather do you like?

I love sunny days to death. It'd be even greater with the gentle breeze blowing on my cheeks. The thing I want to stress out is that as a local person, I can enjoy this kind of weather most in the fall and I have to say this so-called golden season here is so short that people even fail to be aware of its arrival.

✧ Have you been to some sunny places?

Yeah, I've been to lots of places that are full of sunshine. In fact, this question reminds me of the visit paid to Los Angeles. What impressed me most was



when we were driving along the coast of California Highway 1st, I was astounded by the crystal and blue sea water, the spectacular sightseeing under the sunshine made me fascinated.

25. Parents

✧ Should parents be strict to their children?

I think so and indulging children may end up making them become irresponsible, self-centred and insensitive to others. I mean, successful parenting is way more important than good teaching as parents are the first teachers in children's life and by giving appropriate supervisions enable young kids to develop a sense of self-discipline.

✧ What's the most valuable thing parents can give to their children?

In my mind, accompanying is one of the most valuable things given by parents. As we can see juvenile delinquency is closely related to the negligence of parents. I mean, parents should take the responsibility to give appropriate guidance and supervisions, by doing which adolescences can be prevented from going astray.

✧ Are parents the best teachers for children?

Yeah, definitely, no one but parents would influence children most. They are the first people children can learn from. And most of the time before school age would be spent in the family with parents. That's the time when a person began to develop the most valuable habits. That's why parents are the best candidates as the teachers for their own children.

✧ Do your parents teach you lots of things that cannot be learnt at school?

Yeah, of course. I've learnt far more from my parents than from school. Good habits and some personalities are normally formed at an early age and partly by imitating adults' activities. I mean, my parents used to tell me the importance of sharing and offering. In fact, how they behaved taught me how to become a straightforward person.

26. Tree

✧ What kind of trees are planted in the place you live in?

Alamos are planted in the neighbourhood where I live. The catkins make people who have allergies suffer a lot in the spring. But those trees do provide shades for residents to relax in the summer. Besides, planting these trees can produce more oxygen and reduce the noise to some extent, which enables people to have a better living environment.



✧ What kind of trees do you like?

I love coconut trees most. It reminds me of the visits I paid in the coastal areas which are the home of coconut tree. The tree's surrounding temperature is normally very high because of its tropical climate. Coconut juice can be an ideal beverage for me to cool off, I miss that taste so much!

✧ What kind of trees are famous in China?

Weeping willows are well-known in China because they are praised in the poems of many writers. For example, in the poem Ode to the Willow, a line goes "thousands of twigs droop like fringes of jade". That depicts the beauty of the long branches of weeping willows.

27. Food

✧ What kind of food do you like best?

I love eating seafood. Unfortunately, Beijing is not an ideal place to eat them because of its geographic position. That is to say, fresh seafood can be quite available for people who live in coastal areas. While Beijing is an inland city. I have to admit that I'm a foodie and whenever I choose a destination for travelling, I'd go for places which have abundant seafood.

✧ How often do you eat it?

Not very often. Like I said earlier, Beijing is an inland city and we can't have many chances to eat fresh seafood such as mussels, oysters and crabs unless we're willing to pay extra bucks. But fish like weevs and salmons can be bought in the supermarket and I do eat them very often. I think it's very conducive to our health because these fish contain rich protein.

✧ Do you usually cook?

Yeah, cooking is one of my hobbies. I do like preparing meals for the whole family. Because my commuting time is pretty long, I mean, I don't have sufficient time to cook dinner every day. While as long as I can get home early or I'm at home on weekends, I'd cook by myself. I get a strong sense of accomplishment when my families or friends praise my cooking skills.