

趴趴雅思 2023.1-4 月口语题库高分参考答案

说明：目前题库已经大致稳定，此题库适用于 1-4 月考试，可能还有少量变化，建议宝宝添加微信小助手或者购买 vip 版口语素材第一时间获取最新答案。趴趴根据 1 月口试的情况，整理出了雅思口语考试完整版的题库，P1 一共有 13 道新题和 17 道保留题，Part 2&3 一共有 25 道新题和 26 道保留题。

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多年的一线教学，也让趴趴沉淀出了自身独特教学体系，并编有专业书籍在册，备受雅思考生追捧。

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那么现在，就和趴趴一起开始高效备考之旅吧~



趴趴雅思 2023.1-4 月口语题库高分参考答案 1

P1 新题 9

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P1 新题

1. Stay up

1) Do you often stay up late?

Not really. You know, being a night owl could take a toll on our body function and even work efficiency. If I can get a good night's sleep every day, it helps me to have a clear and alert brain, which allows me to focus, learn and remember information and be creative.

2) What did you do when you were staying up late?

Well, I am not a night person. If I had to burn the midnight oil, it would probably be the case that I would finish pending office work, binge-watch a TV series or program that I find irresistible, or talk to a friend over the phone.

3) Did you stay up late when you were a kid?

Seldom. Pulling an all-nighter was strictly forbidden when I was a kid. My parents would regulate my timetable and I had to go to bed before 10 pm because they believe that enough sleep is conducive to the growth of my brain. But now, when I have to catch up on the deadline of my work or study, I have to stay up late because you know there is not enough time in one day.

4) What does it feel like the next morning if you stay up late?

If I continued to stay up for more than 3 days, I would wake up tired, yawn during conversations, and nearly fall asleep during the day. And it may also lead to bigger and bigger dark circles under the eyes and acne on the face which will make others have a bad first impression of me.

2. Jewelry

1) Do you often wear jewelry?

Once in a while, especially when there is a special event like a romantic date, a birthday party, or an important festival activity. On such occasions, I often have my bracelet or necklace on to adorn myself so that I can feel more confident about myself.

2) What type of jewelry do you like to buy?

If I were to choose, I'd opt for a gold necklace or bracelet. The reason behind this is that they are eye-catching and I would look gorgeous with some accessories on such body parts. For me, any piece of jewelry has its own beauty, and they can vary from luxurious ones such as silver, gold, and diamond to more affordable and street-style ones like artificial stones, copper, or other metals.

3) Why do you think some people wear a piece of jewelry for a long time?

Well, in most cases, if people get attached to a certain piece of jewelry, there might be a story behind it. It could be a family heirloom that has been passed down from generation to generation so it has a special meaning to the owner. Or it may belong to someone they hold dear such as their spouse or soul mate. Another reason is that they keep wearing the same jewel just out of habit, you know they get accustomed to it.

4) Do you usually buy jewelry?

Not really. Jewelry is usually very expensive, and I can't afford to buy new pieces of jewelry frequently. But I really love fashion and want to make myself look stylish. So I usually buy small accessories. They're cool and not that expensive.

3. Outer space and stars

1) Have you ever learned about outer space and stars?

Yes, I had some science classes back in primary school. And my mom used to take me to the planetarium when I was a kid. But as time went by, my memories are blurry now. However, I do pick up some interesting stuff every time when I watch sci-fi films.

2) Are you interested in films concerning outer space and stars?

Yeah. I am a big fan of sci-fi films. And I am so interested in alien civilization and space exploration. Among them, my favorite one is *Star Trek*. It is not only about the space dream but also explains the four principles that explorers must abide by: curiosity, open mind, respect for local culture, and stopping evil deeds.

3) Do you want to go into outer space in the future?

Definitely yes. I would say that it has been my dream to explore something unknown in outer space. And I've also heard that some millionaires like Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos have actually signed up to go into the lower regions of space in space crafts or orbit the earth. Although the current technology is not mature, I hope someday my dream can come true and people can colonize space to survive.

4) Do you want to know more about outer space?

Sure, especially after covid, because I've been through a long time of lockdown and travel regulations. I think the whole country is craving traveling and going to outer spaces these days. You can tell from the flight tickets, as they are getting super expensive, like twice the pre-covid prices.

4. Small business

1) Do you know many small businesses where you live?

I know some small businesses. For example, my mom is a small business owner who offers a variety of curtain products to the local community. To effectively run the curtain business, my mom is conversant with many important aspects of this business such as sewing, window treatments, and interior decoration, among other things.

2) Do you prefer buying things in big companies or small businesses?

For my part, I prefer to buy things from big companies because companies can produce products more efficiently when operating at scale. Moreover, their size sometimes enables them to design higher quality products and to improve them faster and more efficiently. In these cases, products and services get better and cheaper when provided by large companies, to the benefit of consumers like me.

3) Have you ever worked in small businesses?

Not really. I have only worked in international companies, and they are all on the list of Fortune 500. But after all these years working in similar environments, I'd love to make some changes and try something new in smaller industries or businesses.

4) Have you ever thought about starting your own business?

Not really. I'm quite conservative, so starting one's own company is risky. It is possible that you can be successful and earn a lot of money, but at the same time, you can also get broken. And I think this fact has been tested when we see so many small businesses closing down during covid.

5. Chocolate

1) Do you like eating chocolate? Why/why not?

I like eating chocolate very much. Chocolate has a unique flavor. It's bitter, but it's a deep, rich bitterness. I love chocolates because they can lift my mood no matter where I am or what I am doing. Moreover, eating chocolate reminded me of happy memories of having warm chocolate chip cookies as a kid with my grandma.

2) What's your favorite flavor?

I love dark chocolates because when it gives satisfaction to my taste buds a freshness to my mind. Whenever I'm sad it makes me feel better. Also, dark chocolates are close to what actual cocoa tastes like. The other chocolates have cocoa with sugar where the taste of sugar is more dominating. Frankly speaking, dark chocolate with a good cup of black coffee is the best combination, in my opinion.

3) Do you think it is good to use chocolate as gifts to others?

Yes, I think it is good to use chocolate as a gift to others. In fact, it goes without saying that giving chocolate as a gift is a great idea for Valentine's Day. When people think of Valentine's Day gifts and special anniversary surprises, they automatically think of chocolate, flowers, and love hearts.

4) How often do you eat chocolate?

I don't eat dark chocolate as often as I was a kid, however, I find the taste is better than other snacks. In other words, it's a grownup chocolate for me. I would say I eat dark chocolate once a month or twice a month depending on how my mood is and if dark chocolate is available to me.

5) Did you often eat chocolate when you were a kid?

When I was a kid, I would eat milk chocolate once or twice a week. Every time my family went to the supermarket, I would ask my mom to buy chocolate for me. In retrospect, I think the reason why I used to be attracted to milk chocolate as a kid was that sugary product is something my body attracts to.

6) Why do you think chocolate is popular around the world?

I think chocolate is popular around the world because, first of all, chocolate is very simple to make delicious with easily obtained items. Add varying amounts of milk and sugar, and one can get deliciousness no matter what degrees one uses them. Second, chocolate has so many stimulating chemicals in it that almost nothing compares. That's why women are portrayed as eating it so much when depressed.

6. Schools

1) Do you go to a good school?

Yes, I have always been going to good schools because my parents attach great importance to education as a means of enhancing a person's worth and career. In their eyes, a school is good when it uses every resource, advantage, gift, and opportunity it has to grow students and tends to see more resources, and opportunities than lower-performing schools.

2) What changes would you like to see in your school?

I would like to see the curriculum in my school adapt to the skill sets of the 21 century. For example, the Board of Schools can have a group of successful professionals document the 10 most important things they know, and the 10 most important skills, then compare and contrast them with national academic standards to create the most efficient curriculum for every major.

3) Where do you go to school?

I went to Beijing for higher education because Beijing is China's capital city. Going to school there places me in the hustle and bustle of city life. What's more, there are more

people to meet and network with, which can also help me make valuable connections and jumpstart my future career.

4) Do you like your current learning atmosphere?

Yes. I think I am satisfied with the learning environment, where I don't need to worry about competition with peers and just focus on what I am interested in. For a long period of time back in high school, I was told to pay attention to the rankings and test scores. Now, I just borrow books from libraries and select courses to my interests, which is quite pleasant for me.

5) What are the difference between your school and other schools?

Compared to other schools, my school is relatively small in size. We are more targeted at social science, so we don't have fancy labs for you to do some medical experiments. Also, there are fewer students and thus a smaller campus.

6) Is there anything you want to change about your school?

If possible, I would like to expand the library. Our library is not big enough, which makes it difficult to find a place during the final weeks since students just crowd in the library to prepare for the test. So, I think it would be better if we have a larger library.

7. Music

1) What music do you like?

I enjoy country music a lot. The biggest reason for my preference is that my childhood idol is Taylor Swift. She was a typical singer of country music, and Love Story was a great work done by her. The relaxed and tender rhythm of it really impresses me and will always do.

2) Do you often listen to one type of music?

Well, I think I do, because people sometimes are in a particular mood. When I feel down, I wanna listen to some jazz music, or maybe blues. When I feel joyful, kpop music becomes my first choice I could replay it over and over again.

3) What music do your friends like? Do you enjoy the same type of music?

One of my closest friends prefers rock music, and she would go to a lot of band's live concerts where the voice of the drum is super loud, and sometimes the bass player is so devoted to the music itself that he would kneel on the ground. To be honest, I don't share her passion for rock music, because I think it's noisy and insane.

4) What's the most popular type of music where you live?

Well, in China, I would say R&B, for rhythm and blues. You know, quite a number of young people leave their hometowns and live in big cities alone, therefore, they need such peaceful music so that they can resonate with its melancholy lyrics. And for your information, nowadays, musicians like to add some rap lines to it. I think they might wanna switch the tempo a little bit.

5) Which singer or musician would you like to see in person?

I will definitely choose Avril Lavigne. Her songs Girlfriend and Complicated were the first two songs I started to learn back to junior high, so I would say she is the reflection of my adolescence. And I like her not only because of the lyric of her word, but also for the attitude she wanted to deliver through her songs, in which girls can be as independent and strong as boys.

6) What music do you dislike?

If I have to choose one, I will go with rock music, because it's too maniac for me. But dislike doesn't mean despise, right? Although I might show little interest in such music, I would not say anything bad about it, because I know music doesn't have a hierarchy, and people are fond of it for a reason.

8. Weekends

1) Do you like weekends?

Definitely, I love weekends, because only at weekends can I be totally free from work and study. I work in a foreign business company. Sometimes, you know, my workload is pretty high, which is so stressful. Therefore, I could really use my time at weekends to do something that I am fond of.

2) What did you do last weekend?

Last weekend, I spent my time learning how to play the guitar on my own. I searched for a series of guitar teaching short videos, watching them for like two or three hours. The result of my hard work was that I can play several complete songs. Besides, I also went out with my friends to play basketball. Physical exercises are crucial to my health, to which I always pay attention.

3) What do you usually do on weekends? Do you study or work?

It really depends. I would schedule my weekends based on how tired I am. If I had so much work to do that week, I would use one day of that weekend for rest. Or else I would usually go out and have some fun with my friends. Basketball, tennis, and pool, you name it, we usually pick different sports for different weekends.

4) Do you make plans for your weekends?

Like I said before, I would not make a very specific plan for weekends due to my workload. I usually decide what I would do on weekends on Friday nights when I got home from work. In my opinion, making plans for weekends is unnecessary. I already feel stressed after a week of work, so I don't think that I would have a mind making plans. Just do what I want to do at weekends, and that's the true meaning of weekends. Don't you think so?

9. Keys

1) Do you always bring a lot of keys with you?

Well, now, of course, not. We are living in a world with well-developed technology, so tangible lock is replaced by electronic lock. Therefore, bringing a key sometimes becomes unnecessary, because you can enter most places only with a password or fingerprint. Why bother to have keys?

2) Have you ever lost your keys?

In my childhood, I have lost the key to my home once. At that time, my parent both were outside at work, so I have to call a locksmith to help me get in. Oh, and I also lost the key to my diary book because it was so small and hard to notice. So it is quite disappointing that I haven't been able to open my diary till now.

3) Do you often forget the keys and lock yourself out?

Not really. I'm a very careful person, and I usually check four things before I go out: my phone, my ID card, my charger, and my key. These are my going-out essentials. But sometimes if I'm really in a hurry and get hasty, it's possible to miss one or two items.

4) Do you think it's a good idea to leave your keys with a neighbor?

I'd rather not. I grew up living in the city, and our relationships with neighbors are not that close. Most of the time, we just take good care of ourselves and don't wanna bother other people for small favors. Also, it could be quite complicated if your house got robbed, and

the neighbor has the key. So, I don't think it's a good idea for the neighbor to have my backup key.

10. T-shirt

1) Do you like wearing T-shirts?

T-shirts are very popular among young people. I like wearing T-shirts so much that I wear them very often, especially in summer. The reason why I like wearing T-shirts is that they are comfortable and I could even wear them to do sports. Another reason is that T-shirts go with everything, I don't need to spend time considering what to wear every day.

2) Do you like T-shirts with pictures or prints?

I do like T-shirts with some well-designed pictures or prints. As you may know, many brands are selling T-shirts with very exquisite Chinese classic prints or intarsia that make T-shirts look fashionable and unique. My favorite T-shirt is designed with a traditional Chinese knot knitted right in the front center. I think those prints or pictures make T-shirts vivid and fashionable.

3) Do you think older people who wear T-shirts are fashionable?

As far as I am concerned, most older people who wear T-shirts usually prioritize comfort. T-shirts are easy to wear and match, which makes them the first choice for people of all ages. However, some older people like wearing T-shirts with unique prints or patterns. I think they are fashionable enough. But all in all, whether you are fashionable or not is not that important, there is a famous saying that fashion passes while style remains.

4) How often do you wear T-shirts?

I wear T-shirts in summer about every day. And I especially love white T-shirts. For some reason, I feel very comfortable in the white T-shirts. Depending on the cutting of the T-shirt, it can be casual or formal. So I wear it in casual occasions as well as in workplace.

5) Would you buy T-shirts as souvenirs on vacation?

Not really. I am indeed a big traveler, but to be honest, I don't like to shop souvenirs on the tourist sites, including T-shirts. You know, souvenirs are often sold at an absurd price. In another word, it's obvious cheating. So I don't really do T-shirt shopping on vacations.

11. Happy

1) What made you happy when you were little?

The definition of happiness varies from person to person, but I believe little kids have something in common in terms of this topic. When I was little, I was extremely happy to go to the amusement park, besides, I also got excited upon receiving gifts on my birthday or other important events. All in all, when I was little, I was curious about the world, and new things often made me happy. I still hope I could maintain such curiosity now.

2) What do you think will make you feel happy in the future?

I find that what makes me happy always brings me a sense of satisfaction. For example, I felt pleased when I got the scholarship after working hard. I am applying

for the master degree these days, before which I have been preparing for the test for about a year. If I could pass the exam, I would be extremely happy. However, I also find that once I spare no effort to do something, the result is also better than expected.

3) Is there anything that has made you feel happy lately?

I visited my parents last weekend and we had a great dinner together. I was glad to learn that my father got a big promotion at his work. And he was going to buy me a big gift to celebrate the promotion! That made me very happy.

4) When do you feel happy at work? Why?

To be honest, I feel the happiest when I am about to finish work. Well, you know, work can be stressful, especially when I have to deal with difficult people sometimes. It exhausts me. When the day is about to finish, I just feel that I can finally relax and enjoy myself for the evening.

5) Do you feel happy when buying new things?

Absolutely! Shopping makes me happy. I'm not saying that I'm a shopaholic, but to me, shopping is healing and relaxing. When I am in the shopping mall, I like to take away the items that I like. It's a moment when I feel a sense of control over my life.

6) Do you think people are happy when buying new things?

I guess so. New things often brings people a sense of satisfaction. In another word, people pay for things that they are fond of. When they get to own something that they like, of course they would feel happy and satisfied.

12. Library

1) Do you often go to library?

Honestly, I go to the library less often than in the past. I hardly go to the library now because online reading is available at any time. When I was a student, I went to the library quite often because it provided me with a peaceful and quiet place to read and learn. Now our life is filled with all kinds of information, I do think going to the library is a better choice, so in the future, I would go to the library to read more often.

2) Did you go to library when you were a kid?

When I was a kid, I always went to the library with my friends. I got the habit of reading in primary school when we were required to read a book every month and everyone was required to make a presentation about a book review each semester. So my friends and I often went to the library to read because there were books of all kinds and we could find everything that we needed.

3) Do Chinese kids often go to library?

With more and more Chinese people attaching importance to reading, the library becomes a good choice for parents. Many parents take their kids to the library to read every weekend. Compared with online reading, reading in the library is beneficial for kids because they could learn more by deep reading.

4) What do you usually do in the library?

Well, I read in the library of course. I read magazines, newspapers and books in the library. But sometimes I would bring my laptop to write essays in the library, or watch online

videos. You know, the Wifi is quite strong in my school library. I never need to worry about losing Internet connection.

13. Art

1) Do you like art?

Not really. I am never quite into art and when I was a kid, I hated going to art classes. In fact, I don't really understand why some people have such a huge passion for art. To me, art is a waste of time.

2) Do you like visiting art galleries?

I can't say I like going to art galleries, but occasionally I spend my weekend with a couple of friends in art galleries. For me, the purpose was never to appreciate the art works there, though. It's mainly about hanging out with friends.

3) Do you want to be an artist?

Oh no, definitely not. One is that I notice lots of artists are destitute. They can't even support their basic living. And the other thing is, I don't have the talent to create art works that are worth people's attention. So why would I bother?

4) Do you like modern art or traditional art?

Well, if I have to say, I'm more into traditional art, especially Chinese traditional art. I suppose that's because in most Chinese traditional paintings, I can find a sense of harmony and peace. That gives me a sense of comfort and security. That's also something that modern art can't offer.

P2&3 新题

1. 历史时期

Describe a historical period you would like to know more

You should say:

When it happened

What you are interested in

What you know about it

And why you would like to know more

When it comes to the most interesting historical period for me, I would like to talk about **the first industrial revolution (第一次工业革命)** which started in the **1760s and ends in the 1840s**. I first learned it in a history class when I was a middle school student. I would like to learn more about it for many reasons.

First of all, it is of great significance for the UK as it improved **production efficiency (生产效率)**. In that period, the traditional handcraft industry was getting replaced, while the machine industry became an **integral part (不可分割的部分)** of society. As a result, after the industrial revolution, the UK becomes the first **industrial country (工业国家)** in the world. **Secondly, it is also meaningful for the development of human beings because it also has a great impact on our lives today**. For example, In the past, people could only get to their destinations on foot,

or by bicycle. However, with the introduction of the **steam engine** (蒸汽机), trains and cars were invented to help us save time, money, and even labor.

In conclusion, I would like to have deeper insights into the first industrial revolution in order to **find the key to development based on the experience of the UK, try to put the knowledge into practice, and then stimulate the development of our country.**

Part 3

1. Should everyone know history?

Definitely yes. I think learning history is very important for individual development and the well-being of society. For individuals, studying history helps us understand how events in the past made things the way they are today. And for society as a whole, by learning from past lessons, we can develop the ability to avoid mistakes and create better paths for our societies. For instance, Chinese students can learn about the history of the Qing dynasty in history textbooks, which was a period of humiliation and invasion. I think this hard lesson still works today to motivate Chinese young people to strive for the betterment of society. So I think we should all get familiar with our past by reading history so that we can build self-identification and make our homeland a better place.

2. In what ways can children learn history?

I think learning history is not limited to in-class lectures. One great alternative to history textbooks is museum. Many museums nowadays offer interactive activities to better present historical events to the viewers with avant-garde VR technology. Last week, I went to a local museum where children lined up for a VR game to explore ancient antiques. In this entertaining process, children also learned about the artifacts and their features in ancient times. Apart from this, museums offer a very detailed introduction to history based on different topics, including wars, clothes, paintings, and so on. *Therefore, children can grasp a more comprehensive picture of the past.*

2. 常用网站

Describe a website you often visit

You should say:

How you found out about it

What it is about

How often you visit it

And explain why you often visit it

When speaking the website I use most frequently, would be Weibo. I first knew it **on the recommendation of my best friend** (在好朋友的推荐下) **several years ago when I was a middle school student.** After that time, I gradually fell in love with it and **as long as I have some spare time**, I would open it to browse some interesting pictures and videos. I am **partial to it** (偏爱) for many reasons.

First of all, it is the best website for me to get close to my idols. By following idols on Weibo, I could get information about him or her the first time. What's more,

when browsing the vlogs and pictures posted by some fashion idols on Weibo, I could get deeper insights into **daily mixing and matching** (日常穿搭), **delicacies** (美食), and **even healthcare** (医疗保健), which is beneficial for me to form my own fashion style. **Secondly, it is an ideal place to find out what is going on in the world.** Every day, instead of reading newspapers or watching a new program on TV, only by surfing my Weibo, I could know the breaking news anytime and anywhere, which is significant for me to satisfy my curiosity.

In conclusion, Weibo has already become **an integral part** (不可分割的一部分) of my life, and without Weibo, I would be suffering.

Part 3

1. What are the most popular and least popular apps in China?

Currently, social media apps like WeChat and TikTok have gone viral in China. These different apps aim to help people form and sustain their social networks. Based on my observation, almost everyone around me have these apps on their phones and some even spent more than ten hours every day on these apps to chat with peers or consume short videos on cooking, body shaping, or any topics you can think of. By contrast, apps that focus on a specific field may be less popular, though I'm not sure if they are least popular since I'm not a phone-addicted user. That's large because they narrow the targeted user to a specific group of people, for instance, keeping only for fitness. And they need to face fierce competition from bigger social media apps like TikTok, where there are plenty of free fitness videos for people to follow.

2. What's the difference between the Internet and television?

While both are mediated communication platforms, the Internet allows mutual conversation between senders and receivers and television is one-way communication from TV broadcasters to the audience. Apart from their different working mechanism, the Internet also differs from television in that Internet allows more mobility. For TV users, watching television is usually fixed to their homes where they lie on in the sofa. However, the internet allows its users to get information from almost anywhere – a moving subway, a classroom, or a restaurant – as long as there's wifi and a digital device like a cell phone or Ipad. So it's more convenient to get access to the internet for places where internet infrastructure is well-built. However, in some places where only cable television is available, TV is still the main source of information for the public.

3. 科技产品

Describe a piece of technology that you feel difficult to use

You should say:

When you got it

What you got it for

How often you use it

And explain how you feel about it

When speaking of the technology most difficult to use, the first thing that pops into my mind is **the smart watch I bought last year.** I was attracted when I saw it at first sight since It used the materials like **crystal glass** (水晶玻璃), and **stainless steel**

(不锈钢), and it is advertised that it is an **all-in-one** (全能的) device with functions like music, texting, photographing and so on. So I decided to buy it without any hesitation. However, although its appearance is **classy** (上档次的) and **sleek** (圆润的), it is really hard to use, and **now I don't use it at all.**

First of all, it has poor reception. For example, when I was phoning, the signal is always bad and phone calls are always interrupted consequently. What's more, the loading of pictures and videos always takes me a long time, which is **bothering** (烦人的) and suffering as well. **Secondly, the touch-screen controller (触摸屏) is not practical** as it is too small and not sensitive at all. As a result, I always couldn't open the apps on my smartwatch with my fingers which is undoubtedly a waste of time.

Recently, I decided to refund (退款), and it is the worst shopping experience in my life as the smartwatch is the device that is most difficult to use without any doubt.

Part 3

1. What technology do people currently use?

Well, I guess almost everyone now uses the technology of artificial intelligence, either intentionally or unintentionally. Artificial intelligence helps app designers collect personal information such as your age, your name, and other preferences, and then apps like TikTok will tailor content for you. That's why some scholars criticize the mechanism of social media apps as creators of information silos. Artificial intelligence does the screening job for us without acknowledging its targeted users. Apart from these unnoticed applications, artificial intelligence is also entering our life as we use machine translation, talk to virtual salespersons during online shopping, or take an autonomous taxi. As a result, I think artificial intelligence is a very important and promising technology that many people are using nowadays.

2. Why do big companies introduce new products frequently?

For profit-driven companies, introducing new products help boost consumption and thus brings more income. Once a new product is launched, companies also allocate their marketing team to devise various kinds of advertisements to persuade purchase. They will brand the new product as cutting-edge to lure consumers. For instance, many people crowded in front of the Apple store to get the newly released iPhone and showcase the latest product on their social media platforms. This yearning for newness is thus capitalized on by companies to generate revenues by frequent introduction of new products. Apart from this reason, frequent new product release also helps build brand image. Every time Apple introduces its latest iPhone or iPad, the public will pay attention to its updates and discuss them online. This is also beneficiary to the company.

4.他城的短暂停留

Describe another city you would like to stay for a short time.

You should say:

Where the city is

Why you want to go there

Whom you will go there with

What you will do there

And explain why you will stay there just for a short time

I'm thinking of a short visit to Las Vegas. It locates in the state of Nevada, America. I went to Las Vegas once in 2018 before the epidemic (疫情) because of its beautiful scenery and prosperity, staying there for a week. I really enjoyed the whole trip.

If there is a chance to go again, I would like to go with my boyfriend. My boyfriend has watched an old movie in which Las Vegas, the world-famous casino city, was mentioned. Since then, he has been full of yearning for (对...充满向往) this city. Of course, neither my boyfriend nor I are gamblers, but we both think this city is extremely cool. I think there is more to Las Vegas than just the casinos (拉斯维加斯有的不仅仅是赌场), I believe it's more about the hotels which are super cool.

In 2018, although I stayed in this small city for a whole week, I didn't have the opportunity to visit all the hotels, because each hotel is so unique and attractive. Each hotel provides different entertainment and performances, and the huge shopping mall also made me linger (让我流连忘返). By the way, I also signed up for a one-day tour group from Las Vegas to the famous Antelope Canyon (羚羊谷). Although I spent ten hours on the bus, the beauty of Antelope Canyon made me feel that the ten hours were worth it.

If I could, I'd love to stay at each hotel for a night the next time I'm in Las Vegas. The performances and other entertainment items provided by the hotel are very yearning for me.

As for why I only want to stay for a short time, because Las Vegas is just too expensive and too hot!

Part3

1. Why do people sometimes go to other cities?

People may travel to different cities for vacations or business trips. Take me as an example. I often travel to different cities during summer or winter holidays to experience different local cultures and food. Last year, I traveled to China's southeast province Yunnan, which is home to a number of ethnic minority groups in China. By immersing myself in their exotic culture, I felt myself freed from all the pressure from study, work, and family. Maybe that's the charm of traveling. Other people, maybe they go to other cities to have a local investigation or meet with investors to expand their business. Those dedicated to consultancy can only examine the local markets by traveling to different cities and observing people's lifestyles and consumption patterns with their own eyes.

2. Why are historical cities popular?

I guess it's because historical cities, in most cases, also have abundant tourism resources. There are heritage sites, special customs passed down through hundreds of generations, or probably advanced museums harboring invaluable antiques. Because of this, historical cities are often popular travel destinations. For instance, one of China's major cities Xi'an was once the capital of ancient China back in the

Qin dynasty and is now one of the most popular travel destinations. People acclaim the Terra-Cotta Warriors located in its suburban area, which is on the UNESCO world heritage list. Many young people nowadays are fascinated by Xi'an because of its food culture and the newly-designed Datang Everbright City, an innovative pedestrian mall that combined the old furnishing style with modern shopping and dining service.

5. 不寻常的一餐

Describe an unusual meal you had.

You should say:

When you had it

Where you had it

Whom you had it with

And explain why it was unusual



The most unusual meal for me was **my first night at work** when **my boss took me out to dinner** just to get to know me.

Since we didn't finish working until after seven o'clock in the evening that day, **we ate at the hotel where she stayed**. My boss is not **resident in (居住)** our city, she just flies here one or two days a week and works from home the rest of the time. To be honest, I was nervous when she told me she wanted to take me out to dinner. Since this is my first job, I've never had a private meal with any boss at work, and I didn't know what topics I should discuss with **her so as not to (以便, 为了)** disturb her privacy or offend topics she doesn't like. Another thing was that my boss is French. Although she speaks very good English, she has a very strong French accent, and I was worried whether I could understand her.

But to my surprise, she was very relaxed and chatted with me about her personal life. She shared about her family and relationship life and showed me pictures of her two children. We had delicious food and two glasses of wine together. She also asked about my **relationship status (感情状况)** and shared with me her thoughts on relationships and marriage. I felt like the distance between us had narrowed suddenly.

I thought the meal was unusual **because it was the first time my boss and I were alone**, and it helped me get to know her better.

Part 3

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of eating in restaurants?

Compared to takeouts, eating in restaurants provides a better dining environment for consumers. The service offered by waiters and the delicate furnishing can all make eating an entertaining and probably socializing occasion, instead of just food for food's sake. You may chat with an old friend or enjoy a date in a fancy restaurant on a weekend evening. Such a kind of pleasure offered by dine-in is irreplaceable. However, eating in restaurants is often more time-consuming. By ordering food online, you just need to stay at home waiting for the delivery. Yet if you choose to eat in restaurants, in most cases, you need to spend hours traveling to

the place, waiting for the cooking, and then going back home. Women, also need to dress up in advance and do their makeup.

2. What fast food are there in your country?

There are many different kinds of fast food in China. Apart from international brands like McDonald's or KFC, there are also local fast noodle brands like Lanzhou beef noodles, Laoxiangji, Dicos, and Real Kungfu. Compared to international brands, these local fast food restaurants have developed their menu based on some traditional Chinese dishes like the beef noodle of China's western city Lanzhou, pork meatballs, or rice noodles. These brands standardized the cooking of Chinese dishes and made it quicker and cheaper to have a meal. As a result, they are often seen near office buildings for white-collar workers. In recent years, these restaurants have become more and more popular in China since many Chinese people still prefer Chinese food to western style fried chicken.

6. 放松的地方

Describe your favourite place in your house where you can relax.

You should say:

Where it is

What it is like

What you enjoy doing there

And explain why you feel relaxed at this place

I can always relax in my bedroom, which is also my favorite place in my house.

My bedroom is not big, just like an ordinary apartment bedroom. It is not the master bedroom (主卧), but the side bedroom in my house, so there is no walk-in closet (步入式衣柜) or bathroom inside. There is a large 1.8-meter-wide single bed in my bedroom, an open wardrobe, some lockers, and several paintings on the wall. My open wardrobe is not huge, so I always need to hang up seasonal clothes (应季的衣服) from my suitcase every time the seasons change. I have a lot of stuff in my locker, as well as my collection of sneakers. I always pack these sneakers in the original shoe box. Those paintings were bought at IKEA. Two of them are two black and white elk (麋鹿). I thought they were very beautiful, so I hung them on my bedside.

My favorite thing to do in the bedroom is lie in bed and watch TV. I have a very large TV facing the bed. This TV used to be in my living room, but two years ago my family bought a bigger TV, so I put this one in my bedroom. My bed is very soft and fluffy (蓬松的), very comfortable to lie on, and a bit like the kind of bed in a high-end hotel. I also put a lot of dolls and pillows on the bed, so it feels safe to lie on.

I sleep with the TV on every night because the sound of the TV makes me feel at ease (让我觉得很放松), and of course with my favorite pillows and dolls, I feel very relaxed, comfortable, and safe in my bedroom.

Part 3

1. Why is it difficult for some people to relax?

Maybe too much workload is the main reason accountable for the inability to relax. There's a popular work called 996 shift in China, meaning that you need to work from 9 am to 9 pm for six days a week, which is frequently seen in Huawei and internet companies. When work squeezes out time for you to hang out with friends and enjoy a cozy afternoon at a café, there's no space or time for people to relax. What's worse, the internet allows employers to allocate tasks even if you are not at the workplace. Many people around me complain that they are really fed up with the messages from working groups on WeChat. Those messages are now invading the private life of so many people in China that even when they are traveling with friends, they carry their laptops in case there's an emergent task. In such circumstances, it's really difficult to have real relaxation.

2. What are the benefits of doing exercise?

Doing exercises allow us to calm down. When being physically active, we can temporarily forget the troubles in real life and focus on our bodies. Moreover, it can improve our brain health, help manage weight, reduce the risk of disease, and strengthen bones and muscles. I've read about a study that revealed that those who sit less and do any amount of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity gain more health benefits compared to those who sit for a whole day at the office. Exercise and physical activity can also be enjoyable. They give you a chance to unwind, enjoy the outdoors, or simply engage in activities that make you happy. Physical activity can also help you connect with family or friends in a fun social setting.

7.聚会上遇到的人

Describe a person you met at a party who you enjoyed talking with

You should say:

What party it was

Who the person is

What you talked about

And explain why you enjoyed talking with him/her

Once I participated in an alumni party held by my university. The party was intended to be a networking and job-hunting scenario for us new graduates to chat and connect with the alumnus who was already working and would like to help us to start our careers. I still remember there were more than two hundred people in the school hall and everyone was dressing properly. I came there alone and saw another guy standing not far from me who seemed also alone, so I started to chat with him naturally.

From the chat, I got to know that this guy called James, graduated from my university three years earlier than I did, and was working as a marketer at L'oreal. L'oreal had been my dream company for a long time and I was really passionate about being a marketer. I asked many questions regarding to his admission process, onboarding training, daily work, etc, and he answered all my questions patiently. He also gave me some practical advice on how to construct my resume and prepare for job interviews. I really enjoyed talking to him not only because James was a humorous and kind person who was generously sharing his experience with me, but also because I gained a lot of precious career advice from this talk, which made me even clearer about my future career path.

Part3

1. On what occasions would people be willing to get to know new people?

I think people are prepared to socialize when immersed in a special environment, such as bars or social events. In such circumstances, most people around you are strangers and everyone comes here with a similar purpose, to entertain or to meet new people. So, people are more inclined to chat with each other, compared to other situations like on public transportation or in restaurants, where people have no expectation of meeting new people. In addition, bars and social events offer open spaces for people to interact. You may dance to the music and invite anyone that you feel interested in to have a drink. And it won't be considered offensive to do so on these occasions, since that's the culture of bars.

2. Where would people get to know new people?

People get to know new people when they move to a new environment and attend events like enrollment parties or welcoming parties. For instance, upon entering a university, people will meet new classmates from different places. During the enrollment party, which is designed for those newcomers to get along with each other and meet with senior students, it is easy for you to meet a number of new people by chatting with them on trending topics or engaging them in party games. People attending such events barely know each other and they come with the purpose of socializing. As a result, it's often an opportunity to know new people.

8.和别人一起做的事情

Describe something that you did with someone/a group of people

You should say:

What it was

Who you did it with

How long it took you to do this

And explain why you did it together

I still remember it was June 10th, 2020, just 3 days after I finished the college entrance exam and graduated from high school, I went to climb Mount Hua, one of the tallest and most famous mountains in China, with 3 of my classmates and friends as a celebration of graduation.

We started to climb the mountain at 10 in the evening so we could reach the peak and watch the sunrise on the peak. In the beginning, everyone was motivated and invigorated. Our steps were light and fast, together with our singing. However, just after one hour, we started to get tired and slowed down a bit. In addition, the higher we climbed, the colder it was. I started to have the thought of quitting doing this but my 3 friends encouraged me to keep going. One of them, Henry, even helped me carry my backpack, for which I was really grateful.

With each other's encouragement and help, we finally managed to the top by sunrise, which took us about 6 hours in total. From the peak, I saw the most memorable and stunning sunrise views. When I was standing on the top of the mountain, looking at the golden sky died by the sun, I felt a great sense of accomplishment, half of which came from mountain climbing while the other half

came from my graduation. I was also proud of my three friends and myself for accomplishing such a big event in our lives, which I guess should be the reason that we did the climbing together.

Part 3

1. How do you get along with your neighbors?

Well, actually I had no idea who my neighbors are before the outbreak. I live in an apartment and we don't socialize with neighbors. Maybe we've met someday in the elevator, but there are so many people living in the same building, so it's hard to tell who lives next to me. However, after the outbreak of the pandemic, we established a WeChat group for our apartment where people can share their symptoms of getting an infection and help each other when there's not enough food or medicine. So we began to build an online community. Sometimes I received a box of cherries or a delicate cake. And I also sent out medicines to those who got a fever. We just put the things in front of the doors and then left to ensure a safe social distance. That's how we get along with each other. Maybe we don't even know what each other looks like, but it's a harmonious community.

2. How do neighbors help each other?

As an old saying goes, a good neighbor certainly can be better than a faraway relative. Neighbors live next to us and when there's an emergency, it's quicker to turn to neighbors for help. For instance, once I got a fever and there was no medicine available. Luckily, I asked my neighbor for help who offered me an antipyretic and some vitamin pills. I also assisted my neighbors when they were in difficulty. Once they forgot to bring the key and were locked outside their home. Fortunately, the two balconies connect with each other, and they managed to get back home by climbing

9. 第一天上学

Describe the first day you went to school that you remember

You should say:

Where the school was

How you went there

What happened that day

And how you felt on that day

I still have a vivid memory of my first day in middle school. It was a hot summer. After a long **bus ride**, I got to the most **prestigious (有名的)** middle school in the city with my parents. The school is in the suburban area of the city which is very **far away from the apartment my family then lived in**. It is a boarding school so after my parents took care of all the documentation and made my bed, they left and I became all alone. It was the first time I live on my own, and **my feelings were mixed**. **Juveniles (青少年)** tend to prove their independency eagerly so the **autonomous life(自主生活)** in a boarding school was indeed exciting for me. But recently I learnt that boarding school is harmful to premature individuals. And it's true. For all these years, I remember a scene in my dormitory. After my parents left, I took a shower and tried to do my own laundry. One of my roommates' parents was in the dorm with me. He **sized me up(打量)** with a stare, and a compliment came out of his mouth: "what a young boy who can live without a grown-up." At that moment, the fear of living without the support of my family was intimidating.

Middle school is full of bullies and peer pressure, and kids need adults to be around them. So I remember my first day in middle school, it was a day of a young bird leaving his nest, waiting to fly in a new world but with rather weak wings.

Part 3

1. What are the reasons for job change?

Well, there might be multiple reasons for people to change their careers. The first one I can think of is probably the financial reason. As the living cost is getting higher, we switch our job so that the new one can be more financially rewarding. Another reason might be that people find what they do currently not challenging enough. When that happens, we are less motivated and satisfied, and we feel that our potential is not fulfilled. To have a stronger sense of accomplishment and purpose in life, people might just want to try something new to challenge themselves.

2. Are big companies better than small companies Why?

To be honest, not necessarily. For small businesses, people working there actually can learn the structure of the whole company quickly and learn directly from senior employers and normally they have to push themselves to be versatile as sometimes one person may take on multiple positions. In this way, working in small companies can help people learn faster. For big organizations, employees can focus on what they do but might be hard to learn skills and knowledge in other fields, as generally, they have a variety of people who specialize in different areas. It really depends on what we need.

10.爱豆的电影角色

Describe a film character played by an actor or actress whom you admire

You should say:

Who this actor/actress is

When you saw the film

What the character was like in this film

And explain why you admire this actor/actress

When speaking of a film character played by an admirable actor or actress, I would like to talk about Ye Xianglun, who was acted by Jay Chou, a well-known singer and actor in the world. I first watched the movie, Secret, several years ago, when I was a senior high school student. In this movie, I was not only deeply attracted by the sincerity and determination of Ye, but also impressed by the talents of Jay Chou. There are many reasons why I admire him.

First of all, he is an individual who never follows the tide. I could still remember the first time I knew him was an interview. I saw a young boy with caps, wearing an oversize t-shirt and jeans. He looked like a gangster (小混混) from ghettos (街头). But he said one sentence that I can still remember now, even after more than 10 years. He said, in a very tender voice but confident look, "don't let Korean pop music be dominant in China, our Chinese pop music is the best." It really hit me because K-pop music, at that time, had unchallengeable status in China. As a result, I began to listen to his music and watch his movie.

Most importantly, Jay Chou is also a man of true greatness. His good deeds are as

well-known as his songs. During the pandemic, he prepared food, shelter and free transportation for people who are away from home in China. Besides, he donated money after natural hazards (自然灾害) like Wenchuan earthquake and typhoon. He also holds singing contest for versatile novices to let them heard by others.

Like Ye Xianglun, who is hospitable and talented in Secret, Jay Chou is using his deeds to raise the awareness of people to hold on to their dreams (坚持梦想) and do their own share to help others (尽力所能及帮助他人). That's why he is the best candidate of this topic.

Part 3

1. Is it interesting to be an actor/actress?

Absolutely yes! I guess being an actor/actress can be an attractive career for many reasons. For example, we get to experience different roles and put ourselves in others' shoes when acting. This gives us an opportunity to learn other people's stories or even experience other people's lives in a more profound way. At the same time, I believe that this career actually allows us to know more diverse people. As actors and actresses, they might need to work together with movie stars from different cultures and countries, and this can definitely make their life full of new insights.

2. What can children learn from acting?

Well, as I have observed, young children can actually learn a lot from playing different roles. When the kids are in dramatic play or pretend play, they need to imitate other people. To achieve that, children need to understand how others think and do, which can surely help develop their sympathy and encourage children to see the world from a different perspective. Also, I think acting can be a very effective way for kids to build up their verbal language skills. Acting involves a lot of language exchanges and children need to adjust their way of speaking and vocabulary based on the characters they play. Therefore, their speaking skills can be enhanced through it.

11.童年喜欢的运动

Describe a sport you enjoyed when you were young

You should say:

What it was

Where you did it

Who you did it with

And explain why you enjoyed it

When I was in school, I was really into (be into sth. 喜欢某事) playing badminton. At that time, I would usually play it after school or at weekends, with my friends or my parents. Sometimes we did it in the gym. Sometimes we would just find an open space in a park nearby and play it there.

I enjoyed playing badminton at that time. The first reason why I liked it is that it's a comparatively low-cost sport. Sports like tennis or skiing require high-standard sports fields or sports equipment, but badminton is much more straightforward.

This sport does not occupy a very large area so if you don't do serious competitions, you don't even need a professional venue; you can choose to play it at some random playground in some random parks. So basically, a pair of rackets and a ball, a friend, some clear open space, and a windless day would work. It's a very economic sport.

The second reason is that it's not extremely **energy-consuming** (消耗大量精力的). When I was a middle school student, my daily **workload was very heavy** (工作量很大). I couldn't really **afford to do** (承受不了做某事) some exciting but tiring sports. For badminton, the amount of exercise is just right. All the running and movements are restricted to a reasonable area, and the racket is not heavy so it's not very exhausting. For me, it was a student-friendly sport that could make me relax and help me stay healthy and energetic during my busy school life. So I really enjoyed playing it.

Part 3

1. Is it important to have a break during work or study?

I believe that it is very essential to take some rest during work or study. Some people may think breaks are a waste of time and that it would be better to push themselves through than to stop occasionally. However, when we focus on our work or study stuff for an extended period, we can feel mentally drained and at this point, we might not be able to concentrate anymore. Taking a rest regularly is actually an effective way to recharge ourselves so that we can get back to work with sufficient energy and maximum efficiency.

2. What sports do young people like to do now?

Well, I am actually not a sports person, but from what I have observed, I found that the younger generation nowadays prefers to do some indoor sports. I used to see people run outside, but now as a lot of gyms have been built, young people tend to go there for a run or just for some weight training, as it won't be affected by the weather, and the facilities there can make the workouts more effective. I also see that many youngsters go to the gyms for some group classes, such as dancing and yoga.

12.教他人做事

Describe a time when you taught a friend/relative something

You should say:

Who you taught

What you taught

What the result was

And explain how you felt about the experience

I would like to talk about the experience of **teaching my mom to make video clips**. It was a summer vacation from the university. My mom was going to attend a college classmates' gathering. She was thinking of bringing some video clips displaying their great college memories to the gathering, but she didn't know how to do it so she asked if I **could do her a favor** (do sb. a favor 帮某人的忙). I happened to know some video editing skills so I decided to help her with it.

I showed her some basic uses of a video editing software called Premier. I showed her how to import materials, including digital photos and short videos. I taught her how to organize the materials to compose a complete work that **pertains to (切合)** a certain theme. I taught her how to add background music and how to utilize video effects as well. She was a quick learner. **It didn't take very long for her to become comfortable with the software (很快她就能轻松使用这个软件了).** **She successfully made a five-minute video, with little help from me.**

This is a treasurable and unforgettable experience because I practiced my skills while helping my mom and **satisfying her needs (满足她的需求).** This made me feel that I learned those skills for something; they are useful. **And more importantly, I spent some time with my mom.** After I went to college, I scarcely had time to accompany my family. My university is far from home and I was busy even during vacations. I'm glad that I had such an opportunity to do something together with my family. It was an ordinary thing but it really meant a lot.

Part 3

1. What practical skills can young people teach old people?

Well, I guess there is a range of skills related to technology that young people can show senior people how to do. As nowadays our life is greatly impacted and facilitated by technology, especially cell phones, the younger generation actually can teach their parents and senior family members how to use the functions available on the phone to make our life easier. Take shopping online as an example. Young adults usually know how to buy things from their cellphone and old people generally go to physical stores. This is one of the skills young people can teach.

2. What skills can young people teach old people besides technology?

To be honest, technology is a major part. Apart from that, I believe young adults can teach senior people how to stay active. The new generation has a variety of ways to engage themselves in physical activities, while unfortunately, many old people lose this desire for movement as it starts to become challenging. Seniors can feel exhausted and unmotivated quickly, making it less likely for the to be active every day. It is surely crucial to learn from younger people that there are a lot of fun and sustainable ways for the elderly to maintain their activity level.

13.好消息

Describe a piece of good news that you heard about someone you know well

You should say:

What it was

When you heard it

How you knew it

And explain how you felt about it

I'm going to talk about the time when **my best friend Amy received the official notification of her scholarship to join an exchange program in Japan** about five years ago. It feels like a long time ago but I can still remember the day quite vividly.

At that time, **we were sophomores at university**, and one day we came across an advertisement for a two-month cultural exchange program in Japan for students from China. She was really **eager to** (渴望做某事) apply for this program and luckily her application was accepted and she was also nominated for a scholarship.

So about two months later, when we were studying together in the form, she received an email from the Scholarship Committee informing her that she had been chosen to receive a full scholarship which would cover all kinds of fees and living expenses for her during the program. I think **my heart skipped a beat** (心里一颤) and we **screamed out loud** (大声尖叫) when we saw the word "Congratulations" in that email. It was really a surprise for her to be chosen among hundreds of candidates to win this scholarship.

It was definitely the best news for her of that year. **If she hadn't won the scholarship, her living expenses would have been such a heavy financial burden** (沉重的经济负担) for her parents, but thanks to the generous grants that she received, she could really enjoy her time in Japan without worrying about the money. I missed her a lot during her time abroad, but whenever I think of the special occasion, it still **lightens me up** (使某人变得喜悦).

Part 3

1. Is it good to share something on social media?

Well, to be frank, I guess it depends on people's personalities. For extroverted and open-minded people, sharing the moments of their life can give them a sense of joy and they can probably find friends who share something in common. However, social platforms might not be for everyone, especially those who are quite sensitive to other people's opinions. This is because when we post something on social media, it might attract some unexpected comments, and not all comments are positive. In this case, if you care about what other people think and find it hard to face harsh comments, it might not be a good idea to share your life online.

2. Should the media only publish good news?

Well, I used to think that the media have the responsibility to share the truth and expose the darkness of society. However, recently I have changed my mind because I have realized that the power of the media is greater than I thought. Nowadays, people are more negative and pessimistic than before, due to COVID and other social issues. They need something very positive to keep them going and the media definitely have a responsibility to make people's lives better. Sharing good news can give hope to the public and motivate them to be more optimistic.

14. 让你骄傲的事

Describe something you did that made you feel proud

You should say:

What it was

How you did it

What difficulty you had

How you dealt with the difficulty

And explain why you felt proud of it

One of my proudest achievements was **winning the first prize in a painting contest about 10 years ago.**

Painting is one thing I absolutely love. **When the teacher who was in charge of the class told me that I was recommended to participate in a painting contest on behalf of my primary school, I accepted it with great pleasure. With the help of teachers and schoolmates, I created a piece of satisfactory work.** I still remember that when I got the news that I had won the prize, I didn't shout out with joy, but I **clenched my fist (握紧拳头)** and said "yes" to myself. I walked back home with **a spring in my step (步伐轻快)**, feeling elated and knowing that my hard work had **paid off (取得成功)**.

In fact, painting was my hobby, but I was not that professional. For the collective honor, I devoted myself to the entry. **It didn't go well at first, because I had to spend much time determining the theme, the way to mix the colors, and some other details. Fortunately, many friends of mine were also enthusiasts of painting and offered me numerous useful pieces of advice. Also, my competitors were really excellent as well, so it was a narrow victory (险胜) for me.**

I felt proud of it because **I managed to go over all the difficulties and challenged myself. At the same time, I won glory for (为.....赢得荣誉) my primary school and gained a sense of achievement during my struggle.**

Part3

1. Which is more important, personal goals or work goals?

To be honest, I don't think the two kinds of goals we are talking about here are contradictory. What I mean is that our personal goals can also be our work goals. However, if I have to choose, I might say personal goals, as when we talk about what we want to achieve in our life, we often look at some intangible qualities, which can somehow facilitate our work objectives. For example, someone's personal goal can be to stay active every day and eat healthy, which is crucial for our whole life and also can help make our work more effective. Therefore, I think we should put our personal goals before work ones.

2. Have your life goals changed since your childhood?

Surely, yes. I guess that the majority of people have changed their goals in life since childhood, as when we grow, we know what we want better. When I was a kid, my life goal was to become an actor because they looked fancy on TV. As I grew up, I gradually realized what I genuinely like and what I want to do for life. Based on my interests and skills, I changed my life goals. I reckon that it is the case for almost everyone since when we were children, we did not know ourselves enough to make the most appropriate decisions.

15.有趣的老人

Describe an interesting old person you met

You should say:

Who this person is

When/where you met this person

What you did with this person

And explain why you think this person is interesting

Off the top of my head, the first person that comes to mind is **my friend Mary's grandpa**. I live practically **within spitting distance of (很近的距离之内)** her house and I hang out with her a lot, so I often see her grandpa at her home. He's literally the most interesting senior I've ever known.

Mary's grandpa is about 70 years old, **give or take (大概)**. According to Mary, he was a history teacher at a secondary school. I still remember the first time I met her grandpa. **That was also the first time I had lunch at Lisa's home when we were ten years old.** At the time, we had lunch while watching a TV show about an ancient war together. Mary's grandpa was really **hooked on (被吸引)** the program. He made a commentary for the show by **going into detail (详细叙述)** about some interesting historical stories that we had never learned in our history class. Mary and I listened to him with relish. It was as fun as listening to some gossip.

Mary said her grandpa loved reading historical novels and really **knew history like the back of his hand (对.....很熟悉)**. I was blown away by how much he memorized in his head. And I guess it's pretty nice talking to a senior like him. Not only can I learn tons of history knowledge from him, but I can definitely blow off some steam by talking to an old wise person like him.

Part 3

1. Do you think old people and young people can share interests?

For sure. There's a saying called "wangnianjiao" in Chinese, that means friendship between generations. As long as they have common topics and hobbies, old people and young people can definitely become friends. For example, more and more young people are getting to like fishing these days, and you can see them discuss fishing with the old people and learn the techniques and tricks from them. And with the fast-developing technology, more and more old people are using the internet and even social platforms like TikTok for entertainment. They can really have interesting engagement with young people on there.

2. What can old people teach young people?

A lot. Old people tend to be more experienced, which is so true because they have lived much longer than young people like us. So they can pass the knowledge gained from their lifelong experience to the younger generation. And we young people can stand on their shoulders, avoid the same mistakes and build development. Also, old people are more likely to have a more relaxed philosophy of life as they lived long enough to tell what is important and what is not in life. That could give young people some guidance.

16.收到想要物品

Describe a time when someone gave you something that you really wanted

You should say:

What it was

When you received it

Who gave it to you

And explain why you wanted it so much

My sister bought me a pair of Martin boots as a new year's gift. They're really great for most of the activities that I do and perfectly match most of my bottoms.

I mentioned a while ago that I was thinking of buying them, but I've been so busy with my final exams that I just haven't had time to go out and look for them, so I had planned to scout around(四处搜索) in some of the shoe stores downtown to see if they stocked them, or something similar.

Anyway, completely out of the blue, my sister turned up and presented me with a gift on the last day of 2022. As I was unwrapping the box I realized what she had bought and I couldn't believe it. It's not the first time we've surprised each other with unprecedented gifts, but this was bigger than usual. I tried them on immediately and wore them for the rest of the day. By the way, who can reject a brand-new pair of boots?

It was so sweet of her that she paid any attention to the fact that I'd mentioned I was thinking of buying them a while back, so it just goes to show how much she cares that's why it's so special.

In a word, I was so thrilled that day, and I treated her to a big meal to (请她吃大餐) express my thankfulness. I just hope I can return the favor (报答) soon, and buy her something really nice that she's been wanting for some time.

Part 3

1. Should employees have their own goals?

I don't think it is ok to just set an overall goal for the entire company. Rather, we should have a goal for each person and section of the organization. Even the smallest functional unit of the workplace must have a specific numeric target. Furthermore, based on this clear guidepost, all employees should have their own specific goals as well, because that is fairer. We can't have someone doing an outstanding job but not getting rewards because of the mistakes of other team members. We must set clear goals for each individual so that all employees can fully understand their roles and achieve their goals.

2. How should bosses reward employees?

Most ideally, a paycheck or a raise in the salary. But the important thing is for the employees to feel that their hard work is appreciated whether they are paid minimum wage or a six-figure salary. It could be a simple gift card for a gas station, restaurant, chain store, or mall. Even if they aren't a huge fan of the place, they can always auction it off on Xianyu, a platform like eBay, or regift it when the holidays roll around. So, it's really a safe choice. Or the boss gives employees extra vacation days and certificates if they are really doing hard work and have achieved outstanding performance.

17. 迟到

Describe a time when you missed or were late for a meeting

You should say:

When it happened

What happened

Why you missed/were late for it

And explain how you felt about this experience

Half a year ago, I was working as an intern at a company. To **align with(配合)** the customer's schedule, we arranged a meeting on a Sunday morning. I was supposed to arrive at the venue no later than 8:30 am to prepare the stuff needed for the meeting.

Unfortunately, it rained heavily in the evening right before the day, and the weather forecast predicted incessant rain for a few days. Considering the bad weather, I set an alarm for 6:00 am and went to bed early. Truth is, I was feeling quite nervous and worried about the report I should present at the very meeting through the whole night and couldn't sleep well. Despite all that, I managed to wake up on time the next morning.

To my surprise, when I arrived at the bus station, no buses or any other commuters were **in operation (运转)**. It turned out to be a different bus schedule on weekends, but I did not realize the change.

And I decided to take a taxi. However, I could not catch a car due to the heavy rain. Fortunately, one of the buses started to move at 8:00 am and I rushed onto it without hesitation. Finally, I reached the meeting room at 8:50 am. I explained the situation to the line manager, and he totally understood. Moreover, our customer team was still stuck on the road. Lucky me! The meeting went well that day, but whenever I think about this incident, my heart just couldn't stop beating fast.

Part 3

1. Are you a punctual person?

Well, I think I'm a punctual person because my friends and colleagues usually comment me like that. My parents brought me up with strict rules on punctuality and time management, so I am the kind of person who values this a lot and attaches great importance to being on time on most occasions. Especially for important things like taking an IELTS test. I even got here 30 minutes earlier today, so I guess I am quite punctual.

2. Do you think it is important to be on time?

Of course. People in my country always say that punctuality is a basic virtue for people to bear. It ensures that no time for all parties is wasted meaninglessly, because if there are one person late for the meeting, other people have to wait for that person, and that's just a waste of time. I am very punctual personally and hardly be late for any occasion, so I'd really like everyone manages their time efficiently so that we can have everything on track.

18.居住地发展

Describe a new development in the area where you live (e.g.shopping mall, park...)

You should say:

What the development is

When/where you noticed it

How long it took to complete it

And explain how you feel about it

Today I'd like to share with you about a newly built park that I frequently visit. It's located in the southeast of our community and not too far from my home. It often takes me 10 minutes to jog there.

I first noticed that there was going to be a new park when I looked through the window of my bedroom 2 years ago. And I witnessed that the park began to take shape(初具规模) from the waste ground, hoping that I can visit there with my family soon after it was completed. After 2-year waiting, my dream finally came true.

This park is just perfect for working out because it has all the exercise equipment I need like bars and parallel bars(单杠和双杠). It's also surrounded by trees and a wide variety of flowers that bloom in the summer months. It's even pretty quiet too, so whenever I come here I just feel at ease(放松) and I guess you could call it my happy place.

I personally favor this park a lot cuz it is so accessible, meaning its locations make it so easy for me as well as my family to visit it anytime we want to. In addition, I always have a great time greeting people when I take a walk in that park as most visitors are my neighbors so it does give me an intimate feeling when I spend time in this park.

Part 3

1. What transportation do you use the most?

Usually metro. Growing up in the city, we have very well-established transportation system and many metro lines. You can almost get everywhere by metro. There's a station right in front of my apartment, so in most cases, I choose metro as my means of transportation. I think metro is more punctual than other public transportations because it has a set schedule. Unlike bus, you might have encounter heavy traffic and cost some extra time.

2. Is public transportation popular in China?

Yes. I grow up in the city where we have a well-established public transportation system. People can get everywhere by public transportations. Usually, people choose public transportation because it is much cheaper than taking a taxi and it is always good to travel green.

19. 嘈杂地

Describe a noisy place you have been to

You should say:

What it is

When you went there

What you did there

And explain why you feel it's a noisy place

I'd like to talk about the rock concert I went to, which was the noisiest place I've ever visited. It was during the summer vacation of my freshman year (大一那年), a band called Tang Dynasty, which was the favorite rock band of my best friend Cindy, came to Shanghai to hold a concert. Cindy was so thrilled that she spent lots of time scrambling tickets (抢票), and finally managed to buy two of them.

Cindy invited me to come along with her (和她一起去). At that time, I never went to a concert before, let alone (更别说) a rock concert. I looked very much forward to this concert and said yes.

It was a hot summer and as soon as I came into the studio, I felt the heat wave coming out of the crowds. I began to sweat as more people poured in, and the music started playing. The sound of people cheering already made me dizzy, but I didn't expect the penetrating sound of the music. It was very painful for me to sit there and bear the noise from everyone. I wanted to complain to my friend Cindy, but I had to shout or she cannot hear me.

I thought the concert was a noisy place because I can't appreciate rock music. It makes me lose concentration and gives me headaches. I don't think I'll go to any rock concerts anymore.

Part 3

1. Do you think it is good for children to make noise?

At reasonable times and occasions, then yes. I think we have all been children at some point in our life, and that is the kind of time we need to run, have fun and shout, give our energy out, and grow up. It is a must-have phase in one's growth process. As long as children do not make noise at inappropriate times or places, like in the restaurant or in the middle of the night, I think it is rather fair for them to make noises.

2. Should children not be allowed to make noise under any circumstances?

I wouldn't say so, this is too definite. Children are restless during the grow-up phase. They need to run, have fun, and even shout if they're really enjoying it. Restricting them would be too cruel. As long as they are taught well and do not make noise at inappropriate times or places, I think it is ok.

20. 空气糟糕之地

Describe a place you visited where the air was polluted

You should say:

Where the place is

When you visited

Why the air was not good

And explain how you felt about the place

I'd like to talk about my hometown Anyang City in the Henan Province. It is a city with heavy air pollution, which is among the most polluted cities in China. I grew up there, and now I would come back there to visit my relatives every year.

When I was in elementary school, the air pollution in Anyang was severe in particular. The sky was always grey and the buildings were like covered in some sort of dust. I remember I always coughed as a kid, and sometimes the air was so bad that I felt my eyes watering and my nose uncomfortable. According to statistics, people in Anyang also had a high incidence of (有很大几率) suffering from lung disease.

Anyang had developed heavy industry, and there were many different large factories in the suburbs. I believe those factories were responsible for polluting the air, including steel factories, coal plants (煤场), and paper mills (造纸厂), which all belonged to high-polluting industries. Their chimneys emitted a lot of harmful gas into the air. Because the environmental law was not that advanced in my childhood, there was limited regulation on those factories, which made the situation worse.

Although Anyang is my hometown, I couldn't bear the awful air there and chose to move to another city. I don't think urban development should come at a cost of (以.....为代价) the environment. It won't be sustainable.

Part 3

1. In what ways can air pollution be reduced effectively?

Firstly, we should reduce car driving and travel green by taking the metro or bus. Secondly, we should conduct recycling in a scientific way. Do not burn all the trashes, but try to recycle. In this way, we can reduce heat power stations and chemistry pollution in the air. Finally, I think it is important to educate people about the harm of air pollution and make them realize its significance.

2. Is there more pollution now than in the past?

From my point of view, I believe the pollution is less now. First of all, the awareness of people has been raised to a large extent, thanks to campaigns led by governments and education revolution. In the past, it is easy to notice people throw their rubbish casually, while today, garbage classification has become an integral part of everyone's life. What's more, with the introduction of clean energy and other cutting-edge technology, the pollution created by factories could be possess properly and effectively, which could reduce our carbon footprint greatly. However, people could only dump its waste into water, or emit toxic gas into the air.

21. 想要一起学习/工作的人

Describe a person you have met who you want to work/study with

You should say:

Who this person is

How you met this person

How long you have known him/her

And explain why you want to work/study with him/her

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I'd like to talk about my intimate friend (亲密好友) Cindy. We are high school classmates and we became very close friends on the first day of school. When we first met each other, I saw her reading Harry Potter, my favorite novel, so I approached and chatted with her. We soon hit it off (一拍即合) and became best friends.

Both of us are sophomores (大学二年级) in college now, so we've known each other for about five years. Although we went to different universities in different cities, we still maintain close relationships. When we read a new novel and think it's intriguing (耐人寻味的), the first thing we do is recommend it to each other.

Cindy and I not only love the same books but also have similar career goals. We both want to be playwrights (剧作家) and long (渴望) to create our own novels and plays. In our spare time, we would even write plays together and contribute them to writing competitions.

When I knew Cindy wanted to be a playwright just like I did, I was very excited and hoped to work together with her in the future, because we know each other so well that our minds are in sync (有默契). I believe in her writing ability and I'm sure we can make great achievements together.

Part 3

1. Why should children be kind to their classmates?

Should we be kind to everybody? Children are in the process of forming their values and personality therefore, it is important for them to learn the good virtues, such as being kind to his or her friends, family, and classmates. It is vital for parents and teachers to guide them through this at the early stage.

2. Can children choose their deskmate?

I don't think so. Children need to focus during classes, and by choosing their own friends and buddies as deskmate may distract them, because they probably gonna have small talks in the class. But at certain occasions, for example someone's birthday or children's day, I think it is nice to make an exception and give children the chance to choose their own deskmate.

22. 投诉

Describe a time when you made a complaint and were satisfied with the result

You should say:

When it happened

Who you complained to

What you complained about

And explain why you were satisfied with the result

It reminds me of an issue happened a few months ago. I guess it was June. I moved to Shanghai because I got an internship from Bytedance. As a new arriver, I rent a room in the center of the city, but that led to the problem. My room was close to an overpass (高架桥), and I found that the road was in maintenance (维修) when I moved in. The construction team made so much noise that I couldn't fall in sleep.

Noise problem is very common in China, and it requires communication between residents and workers. In order to solve this **annoyance (烦恼)**, I **approached (接近)** the manager who played the role of a butler (管家) in my building. **I complained to him about how the noise had bothered me** and informed him my demand for **adjustment (调整)**. He soon delivered my **appeal (诉求)** to the neighborhood committee. Meanwhile, they helped me to negotiate with the construction team. The result tended to be positive. Workers decided to shorten the time they spend on the road each day, which gave enough time for the residents to rest. **I was satisfied not only due to the in-time solution, but also due to the attitude they posed.** During the whole process, the manager and his colleagues showed respect to me and made each side happy. Being considerate to people's complaint is the key to bring understanding. If everyone can be as considerate as the manager, I think more unnecessary conflicts can be avoided.

Part 3

1. Which one is better when making a complaint, by talking or by writing?

For me, talking is just fine. Firstly, I think it could be more efficient if I directly talk to the person who could possibly solve the problem. Secondly, I can deliver my anxiety or stress to the person I talk to, which can not be done by writing. Although writing might be more polite and formal in certain occasions, I think my voice and facial expression will leave a deep impression to the person by talking, which is better if I want to push the issue forward. And through talking, my negative emotions could be released a little bit, and that's the goal of complaining, maybe.

2. Who are more likely to make complaints, older people or younger people?

I think it really depends on people's personalities. Around me, I see complaints from younger people more frequently. Young people complain a lot about their study, family, or friends. It seems that they always have endless anxiety and worries. Well, honestly speaking, I feel the same. As the population goes bigger, we face a much more competitive environment than the past. By contrast, older people are more insensible (麻木的) to the distress (悲痛) they encounter. In my opinion, the reason might be that they have been through a difficult time in the past, and the history has told them to bear everything silently.

23. 想学的技能

Describe something you would like to learn in the future.

You should say:

What it is

How you would like to learn it

Where you would like to learn it

Why you would like to learn it

And explain whether it's difficult to learn it

The new skill I want to learn in the future is German. My boyfriend is German so I want to learn his language so that I can better **integrate into (融入) his culture and communicate with his friends and family.**

We plan to work and live in Germany in the future, probably in the next 2 year we will move to Germany. We have contacted the German immigration office, and the office told us **that I must achieve a certain level of German to get the family visa.** If

I remember correctly, it should be the most basic A1 level, so that I can get the corresponding (对应的) visa. But if I want to work and live in Germany, I think I should continue my studies.

I want to learn German in an extracurricular class (课外班). Although my boyfriend can teach me, I think it is better to learn German with the help of a teacher at school, because it provides a better learning atmosphere. Another reason is that I think the teacher can put a certain amount of pressure on me (给我一定的压力) and make me feel more urgent to study (让我更有学习的紧迫感). If it was just my boyfriend teaching me, I think I might be lazy.

In my opinion, German should be more difficult compared with English. Although English is a language developed from (源自于) German, and I can master English (我可以掌握英语), the pronunciation and grammar of German are still very different from English. But I believe that my English ability will definitely help me when I study German.

Part3

1.What's the most popular thing to learn nowadays?

I think arts and programming are very popular to learn right now. Nowadays, many parents, especially those in big cities, send their children to extra-curricular schools to learn, such as piano, violin, painting, etc., which are relatively traditional and popular learning items. Many parents also send their children to extracurricular classes to learn to program, because it has been proved that programming has become an international foreign language. If children learn this foreign language from an early age, it will be good for their future too. Of course, foreign languages are also popular, not only English, but many parents also let their children learn small languages, such as German and French.

2.At what age should children start making their own decisions? Why?

I think children can make their own decisions from an early age. I think "decision-making" is a very important skill, and many people are not good at it. If children can be trained to have their own unique ideas and make correct decisions quickly at an early age, it will be very beneficial to their growth. Of course, when their minds are immature, I suggest that parents or adults can help children make decisions. But parents can only 'assist', for example, they can analyze the pros and cons with their children and help them make the right decisions, instead of making decisions for their children.

24.不喜欢的广告

Describe an advertisement you don't like

You should say:

Where and when you first saw it

What the advertisement was for

What you could see in the advertisement

And explain why you did not like the advertisement

The ad I don't like is the melatonin (脑白金, 聚黑激素) ad, I think you should have heard of this ad too. This ad should be rated as 'the most brainwashing (洗脑) and annoying ad' by Chinese netizens (网友).

I can't remember when I first saw this ad, but I was probably a little kid at the time, so it must have been at least a dozen years ago. I saw this commercial on TV and it was very brainwashing. I remember at that time you could see this ad on all the shows, so it had a very wide audience (它的受众面很广).

This was an advertisement for health care products. It said Melatonin powerfully improves sleep quality, increases sleep time, and relieves stress in a natural way. The entire advertisement was very simple and short, about ten seconds or so, and there was only one slogan sung in it: "This holiday do not accept gifts, but if you accept gifts, you should only take melatonin." In addition to this slogan, there are two animated characters, an old lady and an old man, dancing along with (和...一起起舞) the song.

I don't think the advertising slogan is logical at all, and the song is very brainwashing, so I don't like this advertisement. Since you don't accept gifts, why do you have to accept this health care product? This statement makes no sense at all logically. But it is undeniable that this advertisement was very successful. At that time, the sales of this health care product increased greatly because of this advertisement, and almost everyone in the country knew about this product.

Part3

1.What are the most advertised products in your country?

From my point of view, electronic products and various new delicacies have the most advertisements in China. Every time the latest electronic products come out, whether it is a computer, TV, or tablet, you can always see their advertisements in various places. People are always looking forward to such an advertisement, especially Apple's new mobile phone, which will cause a sensation in China every time. Secondly, I think there are a lot of advertisements for food, especially for snacks. I've found that people are drawn to the pictures of these delicacies, which increases sales.

2.Which one is more effective, newspaper advertising or online advertising?

I think it depends on different audiences. For older audiences, newspaper ads are more effective, because the vast majority of older audiences do not have access to the Internet or have little access to the Internet. The way they get in touch with the world is through newspapers or TV shows, so newspaper ads are more effective for them. But for younger audiences, I think online advertising is more effective. Young people spend almost all their spare time on the Internet and even work online. So online advertising can approach almost all young people.

25.喜欢做的日常事务

Describe a daily routine that you enjoy.

You should say:

What it is

Where and when you do it

Who you do it with

And explain why you enjoy it

I drink a cup of black coffee every morning in the office and I consider it one of the daily routines that I enjoy. I guess this is also the habit of many office workers.

This habit has been developed very early (这个习惯很早就养成了), probably from the time I started working, and it has been several years. In fact, when I first started working, I didn't have this habit, because I usually prefer tea or milk tea instead of coffee. But as the workload increased (随着工作量的增加), I was getting less and less sleep, which made me feel tired. At this time, my good friend told me that drinking a cup of black coffee in the morning would make me energetic all day.

I started with milk coffee because it was easier to drink, and I didn't find it too bitter. But later I found that black coffee is better for the human body, and it has almost no calories, so I started to try drinking black coffee. At first, I found it bitter and unpalatable (难以入口的, 不好吃/喝的), but gradually I got used to the taste. Now, I hardly drink coffee with milk.

I don't think I'll change the habit in the future, in fact, my daily coffee intake is increasing (我每天喝咖啡的频率正在增加). Sometimes I also enjoy a cup of black coffee with my colleague. I enjoy my daily routine very much. I think a cup of black coffee in the morning gives me energy for the day and gives me the energy to deal with a busy day at work.

Part3

1.Should children have learning routines?

I think in general; a learning routine is a very good, very effective habit that anyone can benefit from, let alone children. If children can develop a very good learning routine from an early age, it will be very helpful to their future study and life. For example, if children develop the habit of getting up early to read from an early age, they will also have the habit of getting up early to read when they grow up. Of course, it is not easy to develop a good learning routine, so it requires a lot of correct guidance from teachers and parents.

2.What are the advantages of children having a routine at school?

It is very beneficial for children to develop good habits if they have a routine in school. I remember when I was in elementary school, every morning the school asked us to go to the classroom at eight o'clock for morning reading. The content of morning reading was very flexible, it could be Chinese, English, or even any extracurricular reading suitable for this age group. This has helped me a lot in developing the habit of getting up early to read. In addition, if children study at a certain time, they can keep their brains active during that time period and help them learn better.

P1 保留题

1. Birthday

1.What do you usually do on your birthday?

I prefer to celebrate my birthday with a bunch of friends. Normally, I would like to throw a party at my home and invite all my close friends to come over. We eat dinner and cakes together. Afterward, we might go to a karaoke and enjoy the rest of the night there.

2.What did you do on your birthday when you were young?

I remember when I was in primary school, my parents loved to take me to go shopping on my birthday. They would buy me whatever gifts I wanted. I remember I have received pretty clothes, comic books, barbie dolls, etc. After shopping, they usually took me to a good restaurant for a lovely family dinner. I really miss the time that I was living together with my parents.

3.Do you think it is important for you to celebrate your birthday?

I think yes. Birthdays mark the beginning of a new stage for a person. Therefore, it is meaningful to do something on this special day with families and friends to keep good memories. In addition, birthday is a good occasion for me to enjoy some good time with my family and friends.

Whose birthday do you think is the most important to celebrate in China?

Even if you expand the range to the whole world, I still think my own birthday is the most important to celebrate. Because this is a date that my parents and I would never forget. For me, it helps me to remember for how long I have lived in this world and helps me to review my progress and growth in my life.

2. Writing

1.Do you write a lot?

I only write from time to time. For me, most of the things in life that need to be written down like work or study notes and to-do lists can't really be called writing. And since most of our lives are filled with these must-do tasks, the time left for active writing is compressed. Now I only record my feelings when reading in my leisure time or use the fragmented time to express my emotions in WeChat circles.

2.What do you like to write? Why?

In addition to work and study, I like to record my feelings in life. I have a memo on my phone that I use to write down how I feel. Sometimes it's my observation of people around me, and most of the time it's just a little thought that pops into my head. I always think that everyone needs to express themselves. In many cases, it is not suitable to talk to others because the ideas are immature, or the timing and atmosphere are not in place. Trying to record my emotions is a way to talk to myself.

3.Do you think the things you write would change?

Of course. With the different environment and the growth of experience, my personality and thoughts differ from before. Thus, what I write will naturally change a lot. In the past, I mostly complained about life and expressed my emotions, but now I have a larger view of things around me.

4.Do you prefer typing or handwriting when you are writing?

I prefer handwriting although it is inevitable that I will type more often in my work and life. With the spread of the paperless concept, it is easier and faster to record on a mobile phone or computer, but it always makes me feel impersonal. For me, the process of writing down is also a process of thinking. The rustle of the pen on paper makes me feel more secure, which stimulates my desire to think and write more.

3. Weather

1.What's the weather like where you live?

I am living in Shanghai, which is a city located in the south of the country and is close to the ocean. Therefore, it rains a lot in this city, especially in summer. In the winter, the temperature tends to be above zero degrees, so it means it seldomly snows. Generally speaking, I think Shanghai is a nice city to live in.

2.Do you prefer cold or hot weather?

Definitely cold weather. When there's too much sun, everyone is just angry and frowning. When there's too much sun, insects are everywhere, outdoors as well as indoors. In hot weather, you sweat easily even if you do nothing but breathe, which makes you have to shower twice a day. I've always been a fan of cold weather.

3.Do you prefer dry or wet weather?

Dry weather all the way, humid weather is too uncomfortable at all temperatures. I could really live in a semi-arid place, I guess. Rain is nice, but I don't need the air to be humid the rest of the time. And unlike the rainy seasons, the weather in dry seasons are very predictable. You are free to go anywhere you want without worrying about rain.

4.Are you in the habit of checking the weather forecast? When/How often?

Yes, I am. Every night before I go to bed, I will check the weather forecast for the next day. It determines what I should wear to work/school the next day and what time I should get up. After all, you stand a good chance to get stuck in traffic on a rainy day.

5.What do you think are the effects of climate change in recent years?

Well, one obvious result of climate change is global warming. Summer is getting so hot these years. And in fact, mountain fires are becoming common in some places. Also, some animal species died out because of this, such as the Chinese Paddlefish and wild Yangtze sturgeon.

6.Would you like to visit other cities/countries that have different climates from where you live?

Yes, absolutely. I want to visit Melbourne in Australia, actually. I've got a couple of friends who are studying there. In their words, in Melbourne, you can experience four seasons in one day. Well, for someone who's lived in a place where the temperature is stable all year round, that's hard to imagine!

4. Snacks

1.What snacks do you like to eat?

Given that I have a sweet tooth, I like a wide range of snacks, including lollipops, chips, biscuits, and so on. I usually eat a pack of chips on my way to home in school days, as it is convenient for me to enjoy the tasty food only by tearing open the package.

2.Did you often eat snacks when you were young?

Absolutely yes! I could still remember that when I was a little boy, I ate heaps of snacks every day. Considering that I was inundated with loads of homework, it is to some extent necessary to eat some snacks to replenish my energy otherwise I would feel dizzy and fainted.

3. When do you usually eat snacks now?

I tend to eat snacks at about 5 pm when my classes always end. I was always exhausted after spend almost whole day studying. By having a small pack of chips or a bar of chocolates, I can be cheered up.

4. Do you think it is healthy for you to eat snacks?

Actually, I think it is not healthy always eating snacks. It is easy to notice that most of the time we would underestimate the calories of snacks. What's more, as most of snacks such as chips and fries contain too much add sugar, sodium and oil, which may do harm to our health if the intake is too much.

5. Names

1. Does your name have any special meaning?

Yes, my Chinese name shows my parents' wish and advice to me. The Chinese word meaning humble in English always reminds me of not being arrogant in any cases, which has an major influence to my life without any doubt.

2. How would you choose names for your next generation?

In my opinion, there are various ways to choose the name for my children such as combining the last name of their parents or displaying my wish to him including being healthy, handsome and so on, which is to some extent common in China.

3. Are there any differences between how the Chinese name their children now and in the past?

The way people choose the name for their children has been changing all the time dramatically. For example, the past, the names were always related to the historical issues happening recently considering China has come across a turbulent age hundreds years ago. However, today as people are living a peaceful life, people's names are more likely to suggest their personality and morality.

4. Does anyone in your family have the same name as you?

Actually no. Although people always share the same last name, the first name can't be the same considering that in China it is not respectful to have the same first name with their families. If people's names are the same, it would be troublesome.

5. Are there any names that are more popular than others in China?

Based on a survey conducted by the Ministry of Public Security of China, the top names for Chinese newborns are Mùchén (沐宸). The Mu character literally means bathing in sunshine, whereas Chen means imperial palace, a symbol of wealth and power. I think the name is popular in China because it carries the best wishes of the parents to the kids.

6. Puzzles

1. Did you do puzzles in your childhood?

Yes, I was almost addicted to doing puzzles when I was a kid. I didn't have those dolls as other girls did. Compared to dressing barbies, I enjoyed the process of solving the puzzle. You need to find different pieces and put them in the right place. You need to be logical when tracing the clues on different pieces of the puzzle. As a

result, it's more challenging. Yet the challenge also brought me a sense of achievement when I finally accomplished the task.

2. When do you do puzzles, during a trip or when you feel bored?

I usually do the puzzles during my trip. However they are not really traditional puzzles. I buy lego during long flights to kill the time. You don't have wifi on the plane. You're cut off from the outside world. Sometimes, playing with lego will make a boring trip a bit interesting.

3. Do you like doing word puzzles or number puzzles? Which is more difficult for you?

Frankly speaking, I prefer number puzzles. I have installed a number puzzle app on my smartphone which serves as a great time killer when I am on the shuttle bus to work. Obviously solving a word puzzle seems to be a much tougher task for me, sometimes I might need a dictionary. Given the fact that it's just a game, why should I work so hard on that?

4. Do you think it is good for old people to do puzzles?

Yes, I definitely agree with that. We all worry about our elderly family members will feel tedious at home but just find it so hard to learn to use electronic devices like smart TVs and enjoy themselves. I reckon that puzzles might be a good solution because it has simple rules and requires no extra facilities. On top of that, it's also expected to have a positive impact on preventing Alzheimer's.

7. Social media

1. Do you or your friends like using social media?

Yes, I do. Social media is one of the indispensable parts of people's life. I'll check my social media every day to see what things my friends are doing. Meanwhile, social media is a great platform to follow internet celebrities in whom I'm interested. There is a lot of up-to-date news about celebrities on social media, which I can talk about with my friends.

2. Do you think you or your friends use too much social media?

No, I don't think my friends are overusing social media. In fact, I prefer seeing more information about my friends on the internet. It's a convenient way to catch up with what's going on with them. For example, I would check my friends' latest posts on social media. If he posts something I'm interested in, we can have a good talk and improve our friendship.

3. Do you want to work in social media? Why or why not?

No, I don't really want to work in social media, because I think it will be exhausting. As we know, working in internet companies requires employees to devote themselves to work and be ready to work extra hours. In terms of social media companies, the situation may be worse. Although I love exploring things on social media, I don't want to spend all my time working for it and be overloaded with responsibilities.

4. What's the most popular social media platform in China? Why?

The most popular social media in China is WeChat, which has now become the most common way of contact and the most preferred social platform for people. I think the main reason is that WeChat is very full-featured. In addition to instant messaging and video and voice calls, WeChat has also developed a series of functions such as Moments, Subscriptions, Channels, etc., which meet people's needs for networking and office work.

8. Geography

1. Do you like geography?

Yeah, definitely. I think geography is one of the most interesting subjects. Through learning about the climate in different parts of the world and the geographical characteristics of different countries, I can get a rough idea of what our world is really like. It is also helpful for my trips overseas in the future.

2. Have you ever studied geography at school?

Well, my school always had geography subjects. However, it was not an important subject until grade seven. We had to take geography classes twice a week. Also, the teachers became demanding of our geography grades and only then, I feel the importance of learning it.

3. Are you good at reading a map?

I guess I can say yes. My father taught me how to read maps when I was seven. I traveled to many places with my parents when I was a kid. For each new place I went, I read the map first. So I've got years of experience reading maps. I think reading maps is easy.

4. Would you visit a country because of its geographical location?

Actually, yes. When I was in middle school, I learned about the difference between the north and south hemispheres. And that intrigued me to travel to the southern hemisphere to experience the opposite climate to my own country. I wanted to go to New Zealand.

9. Public transportation

1. What kind of public transportation do you usually take?

Well, if I travel a short distance, like going to a restaurant or a shopping mall, I will take buses or subways. It is wise to take subways, especially during commute hours. When talking about the long journey, the public transportation I usually take is the high-speed train. You know, with the development of China's railway transportation network, taking the high-speed train can reach almost every city in China. No need to mention that the train ticket is not so expensive, isn't it?

2. When do you usually take public transportation, in your everyday life or when you are travelling?

I would say I take public transportation in my daily life. There is no doubt that I take it when I visit other cities. But the most common situation when I take public transportation is when I go downtown from the university town. You know, taking the subway is the most suitable way in this situation. Taking a taxi is too expensive. I also take the subway when I go to a restaurant or a shopping mall. Obviously, the subway is an indispensable transportation means for most people in this city.

3. Do most people prefer public transportation in your country?

Public transportation is such an economical and convenient option that most people in my country would prefer to travel by it. Taking a high-speed train or airplane, you can arrive at a far city within just several hours. The most important thing is that you can relax or do your work along the way instead of taking control of the driving. Besides, driving by oneself is far more expensive than taking public transportation.

4. Did you take public transportation when you were a kid?

Yes. Actually, I have taken public transportation since I was 8 years old. When I was in elementary school, I took the bus home from school by myself. It might be a little bit frightening to me at the beginning. But I adapted to it quite soon. Since then, I've been taking public transportation home by myself.

5. Will there be more people taking public transportation in the future?

I imagine so, yeah. People are realizing the terrible effects that climate change brings about. Most of us want to make an effort to improve the air quality. Plus, the major roads in most cities are crowded and it takes forever to travel. So public transportation will probably be the best option for us.

10. Housework and cooking

1. Do you do some cooking/help your family cook at home now?

Yes, I cook from time to time now, and as a matter of fact, I just started learning to cook earlier this year, due to the pandemic and city lockdown. My dad used to do the cooking, and he was really a great chef, however, I DO want to share some of the family chores, so I bought ingredients online and learned a few recipes. So far, I have been improving a lot and it is exciting.

2. Do you think your home is clean and tidy?

I make sure to clean my home at least once a week. Perhaps it's not as clean as a five-star hotel, but I think it's clean enough for living. Having said that, occasionally it gets messy. But that's only when I'm too busy to place things in order.

3. Did you do some house cleaning when you were young?

I did, ever since primary school. I was responsible for cleaning my study room then, such as making the bed and cleaning the desk. Later on, I started doing laundry with my grandma during the summer. At first, I was kind of reluctant to do household cleaning, so my mum sometimes gave me candy or pocket money as incentives. But I gradually developed this habit because I felt that in my home, everyone takes responsibility for making the home sweet and clean.

4. Do you have breakfast at home every day?

I have breakfast mostly at home. In fact, it has been discovered that breakfast should be the most nutritious meal, and it should be eaten at a rather early and fixed time of the day. That is why I usually prepare and eat breakfast at home before heading out the school and work. But of course, when I planned for brunch with my friends, I skip breakfast and leave room for smoothies and avocado toasts!

5.Do you want to learn how to cook well?

For sure. I have always wanted to learn cooking in my spare time. You know, I enjoy hanging out with friends to try all kinds of local and international cuisines, and there are a couple of great dishes that I hope to cook on my own one day. Therefore, I have recently made up my mind to learn one recipe each weekend, and to ask my friends for their reviews. I look forward to making healthy and tasty dishes all by myself soon.

6. housework do you like or dislike doing?

I enjoy washing dishes. I find it kind of calming - although I enjoyed it a lot more back when I still lived with my parents and the kitchen sink was in front of a window, so I could look outside while washing. I enjoy most cleaning as long as I'm in a good mood and have some music in the background. I hate cleaning the bathtub. It just seems like it's so difficult to get clean and it's gross.

11. Singing

1.Do you like singing? Why or why not?

Yeah, I like singing. I always can't help singing when I take a shower. Well, I mean singing is indeed a suitable way to express one's feelings. If someone broke up with his partner, he will sing sad love songs all night. And some excellent singers can touch the bottom of my heart by singing. But to be honest, I'm not so good at singing. I can't find the pitch precisely. So, I really seldom sing in public.

2.Have you ever learnt how to sing?

No, I never learned to sing. Cause singing is just entertainment to me. I only sing when I go to karaoke with my friends or in the bathroom. So, there is indeed no need for me to learn how to sing. Anyway, I'm not a professional singer and I never want to be. Actually, there was a chance for me to learn singing in the music class in my high school. But I chose to learn how to play the ukulele.

3.Who do you want to sing for?

Well, I'd like to sing for my girl. You know, that's quite romantic to some extent. I'll sing a sweet and slow love song for her. There are a bunch of amazing love songs. Maybe I'll choose Justin's song. And I prefer to sing for her on a special day, like her birthday or Valentine's Day.

4.Do you think singing can bring happiness to people?

Well, it depends. It depends on the singer's singing level. If your friend is a poor singer who persists to sing all the time, that will be a disaster. But generally speaking, I believe that singing is a fabulous art, which can convey feelings and emotions to listeners. If it is a happy song, it will definitely bring happiness to people. But if it is a sad song, it may trigger off people's unpleasant memories.

12. Technology

1.What technology do you often use, computers or cellphones?

Well, to be honest, computers and mobile phones are really indispensable in our daily life nowadays. It's hard to say which is used more often. I almost use both of them every day. If I must choose one, I'll say it is the mobile phone. Because I take

it all the time, from the second I wake up in the morning until I fall back to bed at night. It is the online payment that makes the mobile phone so indispensable.

2.What electronic devices have you bought lately?

The latest electronic device that I have bought is my apple watch. It is so useful that I regret I haven't bought it earlier. For example, wearing the apple watch, I'm able to unlock my iPhone with the mask on. It saves a lot of time and energy to take on and off my mask again and again. Especially during the pandemic period. Besides, it can record my data when I exercise. And that gives me a concrete idea of my training.

3.Is there any technology you want to buy?

I would like to try an electric car, especially one with driverless capabilities. I believe electric cars will be the future. It is one of the latest human technologies, which can give me a totally different driving experience. With the price of petrol rising, I am increasingly tempted to buy an electric car.

4.Is technology important in your life?

Yes, of course. This is because, in my perspective, technology helps me to reach out to people from all walks of life. I still remember a guy I once met on the Internet and later found out he was my alumnus. He gave me a lot of solid advice when I was looking for a job. It's amazing how technology connects us.

5.Is there any technology you don't like?

Honestly, I don't like the idea of robots. For some reason, the idea of having a robot around gives me chills. I mean, to communicate with a machine that looks and acts like a human? That would definitely cut down real-time communication. I'm afraid that would eventually kill people's social abilities.

6.What do you think are the trends in technology today compared to when you were young?

When I was a kid, people focused more on the technology of communication tools. From telephones to pagers then to cellphones, people were always looking forward to smarter designs and multi-functions. But now, we are expecting technology to change our life, such as electric vehicles, automatic driving, and robots.

13. Morning time

1.Do you like getting up early in the morning?

I don't like getting up early in the morning especially during weekends because it feels good for someone who doesn't get nearly enough rest during the workweek like me. Indeed, after an exhausting week filled with work, social, and family responsibilities, sleeping in on weekends can feel like a reward.

2.What do you usually do in the morning?

I usually go on a walk in the morning because when I walk outside, exposing myself to the sunshine, I will instantly feel more awake and have more gratitude for everything life has to offer. It can also be a time when I can let go of whatever is stressing me out and focus on what I am hoping to accomplish that day.

3.What did you do in the morning when you were little? Why?

When I was little, my sister and I liked to go to the farmland fields with my grandfather in the morning. Our family fields were quite far away from where we live, so to be there before noon, we need to start early. I loved to go to the fields because it was filled with lovely creatures such as butterflies and locusts, and my grandfather would catch them for me.

4.Are there any differences between what you do in the morning now and what you did in the past?

I think the biggest difference between what I do in the morning now and what I did in the past is that I now do things all by myself in metropolitan cities, whereas in the past I would be accompanied by my extended family members i.e my sister and my grandpa.

5.Do you spend your mornings doing the same things on both weekends and weekdays? Why or why not?

I don't spend my mornings doing the same things on the weekends. On weekdays, I prefer to get up early to make my own breakfasts. Whereas on weekends, I like to sleep in to recoup some sleep debt. For me, sleeping is crucial to helping my body recover from the weekday schedule.

14. Work or study

1、 What subjects are you studying?

I study English literature.

2、 Do you like your subject?

Of course. I think it is my love towards this subject that keeps me continuing my study. Studying English actually broadens my horizon. Learning English helps me to enhance my knowledge of every field over the world through reading English documents which are not only in books, newspapers but also on the internet.

3、 Is it interesting?

I think so. First of all, studying English literature means that you can not only learn a language but also get to know a culture. Moreover, it gives me a chance to read a lot of great books. I will never pick up some of the books if they hadn't been on the syllabus. Whilst the occasional book or style of writing may not resonate with you, it's really interesting and important to read books out of the box.

4、 What work do you do?

I am an English teacher in a senior high school. Besides teaching English, I also teach my students how to read and write well, how to understand what they read, how to learn from their peers, and how to have productive and challenging conversations. I think my students can understand more complex thoughts and ideas than others. Therefore, I start having intelligent, challenging discussions with them. I will bring the classics like Shakespeare or Chaucer, and open up their minds to a world of reading that doesn't just revolve around vampire books.

15.Home/Accommodation

1、 Do you live in a house or a flat?

Well, I live in a house with my family in suburb areas. Far away from city center as it is, we own 3 spacious rooms, a beautiful balcony and a garden where we can have barbecue almost all-year around. Although the living infrastructure nearby is still under construction, it is still worthwhile to live here.

2、 Do you prefer living in a house or a flat?

I prefer living in a house. I think house is better than flat. Firstly, many houses have a backyard where the pet can live and play. Also, you can have a garden in the backyard, and plant some flowers to decorate your house.

3、 Can you describe the place where you live?

I live in a comfortable and cozy flat. It is a duplex apartment. I live on the 21st floor. From the window of my bedroom, I can overlook the garden in the housing estate. It is not very big, but I still have enough space.

4、 Who do you live with?

I live with my cat Max. I thought I might feel lonely if I live alone, so I decided to have Max. It proved to be a very good decision. Max is a gray British Shorthair and I love him so much. Even though my cat can't speak, he is constantly trying to find ways to communicate with me. Every time I get home, he greets me with a passionate "meow".

16.Hometown

1、 What's (the name of) your hometown (again)?

My hometown is Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan Province.

2、 Please describe your hometown a little.

It is located in southwest China. It is the capital of Sichuan province and metropolis of southeast China. It is a big city with a convenient traffic system. The surrounding Chengdu Plain is also known as the "Country of Heaven" and the "Land of Abundance". I am very proud of my hometown.

3、 Is that a big city or a small place?

Chengdu is a big city. I think it is the biggest city in southwest China. Moreover, it is a fast-developing city. What's fascinating about Chengdu is that it is not only a comfortable city for senior citizens to enjoy their old ages, but also a city with a lot of opportunities where young people can work hard and fulfill their dreams.

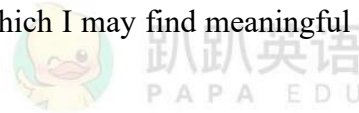
4、 How long have you lived there?

I've lived here for 18 years. I left for Beijing when I went to college. It's quite challenging for me to get out of my comfort zone. However, I made it.

17.The area you live in

1、 Where do you like to go in that area?

The city library is where I frequently visit in the place I live, because I prefer a tranquil atmosphere and people in the library are always silent. So, even if I don't want to read, going to the library to work/study is also what I would do. Besides, there are many activities held by the library regularly, which I may find meaningful to participate in.



2、 Do you know any famous people in your area?

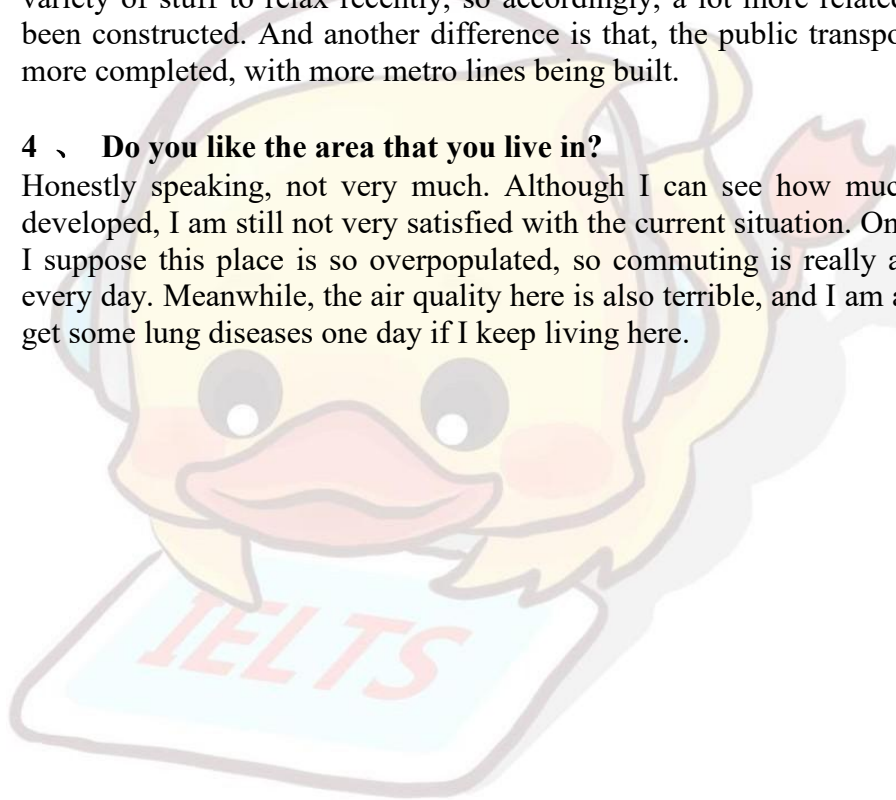
I remember that some popular singers in China come from where I live now, who have won several singing competitions, and produced songs which enjoy great popularity. And in ancient times, this land also cultivated a large number of productive poets who made a valuable contribution to the development of Chinese poetry.

3、 What are some changes in the area recently?

According to my observation, the biggest change that took place here is that there are more and more entertaining venues now. People here have come up with a variety of stuff to relax recently, so accordingly, a lot more related facilities have been constructed. And another difference is that, the public transport system is far more completed, with more metro lines being built.

4 、 Do you like the area that you live in?

Honestly speaking, not very much. Although I can see how much this area has developed, I am still not very satisfied with the current situation. One reason is that, I suppose this place is so overpopulated, so commuting is really a torture for me every day. Meanwhile, the air quality here is also terrible, and I am afraid that I will get some lung diseases one day if I keep living here.



P2&P3 保留题

1. 运动场所

Describe a popular place for sports (e.g. a stadium)

You should say:

Where it is

When you went there

What you did there

And explain how you felt about this place



For me the most familiar place for sports is not the well-known Bird's Nest / National Stadium (鸟巢), the Water Cube / National Aquatics Center (水立方) or the various high-class stadiums, but our school's sports field.

It is located in the northeast corner of our campus and occupies a large area of the campus. Although it is only a school sports field, it covers a variety of sports venues such as basketball courts, tennis courts, and soccer fields for students to engage in various sports (参与多项体育活动). Tens of thousands of people can be accommodated in the stands (看台可容纳上万人) surrounded by a brand new 800-meter track and a vast green field. For me, the school sports field is a place to relax and unwind (休闲放松) after a tiring day of studying.

My favorite thing is to run on the athletic field in the evening after class, where I would run around the runway for a few laps. In the darkness of the night, I am immersed in the world of music with headphones and run forward step by step with the dynamic beat, which is the freest time of the day for me.

Sometimes, after the run, I would lie on the grass to stare at the night sky and let my thoughts run wild (放飞思绪). Like me, there are many students who play sports there every day, and the sports field has added color to our school life. I always feel full of youthful energy there.

Part 3

1) Do young people like to do sports?

I think most young people like to do sports. Sport today is gaining more and more popularity. And it is no wonder because people become more conscious about their healthy lifestyle. Participation in sports allows young people to make lasting friendships, develop communication skills, feel a sense of community and learn to respect their teammates and coaches. Even athletes in individual sports learn to work as a team with their coach and make lasting friendships with others in their sport. Many young people who pursue sports have a strong self-concept and are very goal driven. These positive qualities can carry over into the classroom.

2) What are the benefits of sports for children?

Doing sports can help children to reduce their risk of many diseases, including heart disease and obesity. Regular exercise is also known to reduce the risk of emotional problems such as anxiety and depression. Habits are established early in life and evidence suggests that physically active children are more likely to mature into physically active adults.

However, from what I have observed around me, fewer and fewer children participate in sports outside of school, because they have too much homework to do. I also notice that more boys like to participate in sports than girls. In my opinion, young children should put an emphasis on increasing involvement in sporting activities, which is very important for their health.

2. 收钱

Describe a time when you received money as a gift

You should say:

When it happened

Who gave you money

Why he/she gave you money



I wanna talk about the unforgettable birthday I had when I turned 13.

Anyhow, I invited a bunch of good friends over and my parents helped me book a room in a fancy restaurant. Then they handed me a red envelope with 1000 yuan in it(他们给了我一个 1000 元的红包). I was a little surprised! I never received such a big sum of money! When I was told that I could use the money however I wished, I was thrilled! (我兴奋得很!) They also told me this was because they wanted me to have a wonderful birthday. Finally, I could have the fantastic cake in the bakery which was 300 yuan! But then I saw the menu. Gees! The dishes were all so expensive. I did some quick math in my head(我快速在脑袋里算了一笔账), and realized that my budget was actually quite limited. If we wanted to have a proper meal with our favorite coconut juice, I would have to cut down on my cake cost (我不得不在蛋糕上花费少一些). I tell you, I struggled quite a bit before I finally changed the cake to a smaller and more ordinary looking one.

My friends had a great time that day! We had fancy food, delicious drinks, and some cake! Everybody was praising me for organizing the event so well! Honestly, no one even noticed the size of the cake! From there, I learnt how to spend money wisely, and I also picked up some people skills. I'm thankful to my parents.

Part 3

1) Why do people rarely use cash now?

The convenience of mobile payment and online payment makes fewer people use cash now. Mobile payment is definitely one of the ways to save our the cost of doing business. By having mobile payment, the risk of cash lost will be reduced. Also, it's faster to pay via mobile phone. Simply tap, pay and go. With mobile payment systems, people simply wave or tap the phone in front of a machine, and the transaction is done. As for women, the small purse is the fashion trend now. Mobile phones, tissue, and keys can barely fit in the purse. There's no room for cash.

3. 认识的不同文化的人

Describe a person you know who is from a different culture

You should say:

Who he/she is

Where he/she is from

How you know him/her

And explain how you feel about him/her

Looking back on my childhood, I noticed that though I've come across several foreigners down on the streets from time to time (时不时), seldom have I got the chance to (几乎没机会) communicate with them about their cultures. And the only single one should be an exchange student from Seoul, Korea.

Kim was my deskmate in senior high, and I remember clearly at the first sight, I nearly mistook her for my cousin. So maybe that's the reason why I took it for granted that Chinese people, Korean, Japanese as well as people from other Asian countries all appear the same and share similar living habits. However, the truth is more complicated than I expected (事实比我想象的复杂得多). One day in class, I noticed her shivering on his seat, looking awfully pale and weak. It seemed like a gentle breeze could simply blow her away. What actually blew my mind (惊到我) was that she kept tucking into the ice water (狂吨冰水) and murmured to me that it was a common solution that Korean people created to kill the pain. At that moment, I froze with bewilderment (困惑地僵在原地). It was almost common sense for me and other Chinese people to drink hot water on such occasions. Cuz according to theories of Chinese traditional medication, it's warm and heat that could heal the bruise and relieve the pain.

After doing a bit of research, I realised Japanese and Korean cultures have been affected by western customs, especially American. They feel exactly fine with what we think is totally contradictory to traditional Chinese ones. From this experience, I bore it in mind (记住) that the variety of different cultures was beyond my imagination, and for each and every person we'd better at least accept and respect another possibility.

Part 3

1) Where and how can we get to know people of different cultures better?

Yeah as for how we could get in touch with people of different countries, I suppose within our own nation, we could have a go for the off-line sites such as the pubs, gyms and music festivals, say, places that are popular in most countries. Another option should be some places of interest to retain the ancient architectural style and precious relics. Because if we stand in their shoes, when traveling to another country, we might be quite curious about the nation's landscape and something different from our own. If people are unable to exchange ideas with them face to face, another alternative is to talk to them online. To be more specific, scrolling through the tweets on a foreign social media where they would voice their unique opinions and show what their life is actually like.

2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of cultural diversity?

There is a list of pros and cons in terms of the city's cultural diversity. Take the workplace as an example, in most international corporations, employees are generally of different sexual orientations, born of different races, and speaking different languages. This actually increases innovation and creativity. A mix of prior experience and expertise encourages employees to learn from each other and also staff from a wide range of backgrounds would have a greater understanding of

customers' points of view. The more diverse the workforce is the more likely it is that they will be able to empathize with individual clients' needs. However, the disadvantage is that also really obvious. the most significant one should be weak communication. In fact, it may be quite challenging for people to interact with each other in different languages. Because of the different opinions, beliefs, norms, customs traditions, there might be serious conflicts between individuals.

4. 争论

Describe a disagreement you had with someone

You should say:

Who you had the disagreement with

What the disagreement was

What happened

And explain how you felt about it



Last summer I had a big disagreement with my best friend Ann about a trip that we had planned. It was just after the final exam and we planned to go traveling abroad for pleasure (放松). The disagreement occurred when it came to (涉及到.....) the tourist destination.

My best friend Ann suggested that we should visit Mexico but I preferred to (更喜欢.....) travel to Europe and enjoy the magnificent (宏伟的) mountains, exotic (异国风情的) cultures and the tranquility there.

I argued that we all agreed to go traveling in Europe so I had already done a lot for it and changing the plan out all of a sudden (突然之间) would ruin the plan (搞砸计划). While Ann insisted that Mexico also had great landscapes and interesting cultures, and traveling there we might have some special experiences. She seemed quite determined and refused to listen to my suggestion, so I was really irritated. We fought all the time and didn't stop until we both got pissed off (生气).

After returning home I felt a bit ashamed to quarrel over (为某事争吵) such a silly issue with my friend when I could have easily fixed it in a much calmer way. Then I text her and apologized. I suggested that we should meet again and have a much friendlier discussion then. Ann also said sorry to me and she proposed that we take the trip to Australia where her aunt lives and we could live with them. I thought that was a good idea. We talked a bit about it and finally agreed.

Part 3

1) What do you do if you disagree with someone?

When I disagree with someone I dislike, of course, I'd be ready for a longer debate because I just don't want to lose. But most of the time, I wouldn't be so aggressive. I just take about it and express clearly my views. I'd also listen carefully to others' opinions and try to understand the reasons why they disagree with me and at the same time consider what I can do to reach a consensus, and I promise during this process, I would respect the other person and be polite.

2) How can we stop an argument from escalating into a fight?

There are some tips to stop an argument from escalating. First of all, trying to control our emotions is really important. If we easily lose our temper, then things will definitely get worse. Then apologize if we've done something hurting the other person. I mean if we are certainly wrong in some aspects, just making it clear and directly apologizing for what we did. Apart from that, we can also show that we're willing to compromise, and usually by doing so, the other person would know that we sincerely want to stop the fight instead of escalating it.

5. 学到的重要事情

Describe an important thing you have learned (not at school or college)

You should say:

What it was

When you learned it

How you learned it

And explain why it was important

In terms of this topic, I would like to say that one of the most important things that I learned is to return to paper reading instead of reading online.

It was about two weeks ago that I decided to write blogs to record daily life and comment on current events. But what confused me was that I had no idea of how to organize sentences and that I found it difficult to outline(勾勒、描绘) the framework of the passage.

Therefore, I turned to my father for help, who used to be a teacher for decades. Since he has kept good reading habits, he suggested that I rely less on electronic devices(电子产品) to obtain(获得) information. He added that I should make a reading list containing (包含) books on the same or similar topics because it's the best way to improve writing skills and develop the way of critical thinking(批判性思维).

I think his suggestion is very useful, especially in a society filled with information. There's no doubt that gaining information is quicker and easier than ever before, but the disadvantage can't be ignored, fragmented reading(碎片化阅读) mixes our judgments, which makes us feel it hard to put what we've read and learned into practice. This is the barrier(障碍) between online reading and reality. I was determined to follow my father's advice to read paper books and take notes carefully.

Part 3

1) What can children learn from parents?

Children learn quite a lot from their parents because they spend a lot of time staying with their parents. Firstly, children learn the way that their parents talk and behave, if parents are rude and impolite, their children are most likely to behave badly to others, but on the contrary, if parents behave in a decent manner, their children often act in the same way. Secondly, children's way of thinking is also influenced by their parents, so people believe that harmonious parents are more likely to have happy and active children.

2) Do you think some children are well-behaved because they are influenced by their parents?

Yes, I believe that to a large extent, children's behaviour is influenced by their parents because parents are the first teacher whom children learn from. children are very innocent and they learn by imitating their parents. So most well-behaved children are influenced by their parents, but undoubtedly, teachers' role in helping develop good behaviors is critical and remarkable. So it's very important for both parents and teachers to pay attention to personal behaviour.



6. 时尚人士

Describe a person who likes to dress fashionable/well

You should say:

Who he/she is

What job he/she does

What kind of clothes he/she wears

And explain why he/she likes fashion

I'd like to talk about my best friend Cindy, who is working for a famous fashion magazine as a market editor. She is mainly responsible for collecting the most up-to-date (新潮的) looks and brands of major fashion shows. Besides, she is also in charge of writing marketing plans so that her leaders can make well-thought-out (经过周密考虑的) decisions.

Cindy and I are high school classmates and intimate friends (亲密朋友), so we talk about everything with each other. When we are hanging out together, Cindy always loves talking about new fashion styles and giving me some suggestions to improve my fashion sense.

Cindy is an outgoing person, and her dressing style is dramatic and attractive, which brings out her personality. She loves dresses with bright colors and floral print dresses (印花连衣裙). When we are walking on the streets, she is always the most outstanding one in the crowd. If someone gives her a compliment on her dress, she would be very delighted.

Cindy is crazy about fashion because she thinks a person's fashion sense is strongly related to one's attitude towards life. She wants to live an enthusiastic life, a life full of passion, so she decides to wear dramatic outfits to affect other people around her. I really admire her attitude to fashion and life, and I think people like Cindy are able to live their lives to the fullest (充分地).

Part 3

1) Do you think online shopping will replace in-store shopping in the future?

No, I don't think so. Admittedly, online shopping has greatly benefited our lives and has taken the place of many offline stores already. I still think there are two functions of in-store shopping which cannot be replaced. Firstly, people prefer buying things offline when they are in urgent need of those goods. For example, when it's late at night and you really want to drink some cold beer, you won't wait for one or two days for the delivery person. You will head off to the nearest store immediately. Secondly, when buying something really personal, such as clothes and

make-up, people tend to go shopping in the market because they need to try on them.

2) Are older people as fashionable as young people?

No, I don't think so. Older people tend to be less fashionable than young people. There are two reasons. First, older people prefer saving money and they usually want to spend their savings on something practical, like food or medicines. Their social environment doesn't require them to dress fashionably either. Second, older people lack fashion sense and a way to know about fashion. They are less open-minded than younger people, which makes them more conservative when picking up clothes. They may think the newest fashion trend is too weird and cannot understand them. As a result, they will choose not to follow it.

7. 让你自豪的照片

Describe a photo you took that you are proud of

You should say:

When you took it

Where you took it

What is in the photo

And explain why you are proud of it

When speaking of the photo I am proud of, I would like to talk about the one I took in a natural reserve. The experience roughly happened several years ago, when I paid a visit there with my parents.

We spent two days and one night there and we did a wide range of things such as picnicking, camping and barbecuing and we all get spoiled(玩的尽兴). Meanwhile, I took out my smartphone and took a photo to record it, which might be the best photo I have taken. The stunning scenery in the photo is the first reason why it is awesome. It is like the view from the postcards (风景如画). There are many colors in the picture, such as the crystal-blue (水晶蓝的) lake, cotton-like (雪白的) clouds, tropical flowers and even a blue mountain in a distance. Even though I was suffering from mental disorders such as frustration and depression, when traveling there and seeing the view, helped me say goodbye to the anxiety. The second reason why I am really into (喜欢) it is that it records the moments I shared with my parents. In the picture, my parents are playing cards on the desk near our tent, laughing loudly. This experience of traveling together provides us an opportunity to enjoy each other's company which strengthened our bonds and ties (加强联系) without any doubt.

I'm very proud of this photo. It always reminds me of the most memorable and meaningful experience I have had in my life.

Part 3

1) Why do some people like to record important things with photos?

From my point of view, the reasons can be various. First, considering that in a fast-paced society, people are always busy with their work or study. When they multitask, it is to some extent necessary for them to record important information by using their smartphones or cameras in order to improve their working

productivity and avoid forgetting something of great significance otherwise it would be a waste of time and labor. Secondly, as the saying goes, seeing is believing, by taking a photo, compared to hearing it, seeing always helps people have a more lasting impression of something important. That's the main reason why people, especially journalists, tend to take photos to record something important.

2) What can people learn from historical photographs?

Many things can be learned from historical photos. Most historical photographs keep a unique record of a city or a certain place and even also witness the development and progression of a country. As a result, it offers opportunities for people or even the next generation to learn about history, culture, and even tradition from the photos, which is educational without any doubt. What's more, it provides evidence and materials for the research into certain areas which is valuable and meaningful.

8. 发小

Describe a friend from your childhood

You should say:

Who he/she is

Where you met each other

What you often did together

And explain what made you like him/her

When it comes to this topic, the first name that comes to my mind (我脑海中浮现的第一个名字是...) is Lee. Lee is my friend from childhood.

In fact, our parents used to work in the same company, so we have played together a lot since young. Actually, we have known each other before kindergarten, because we often played together in the children's playground downstairs. Later, we went to the same kindergarten.

When we were young, we were inseparable (形影不离的) in kindergarten and slept in bunk beds (上下铺). Sometimes when my parents didn't have time to pick me up, Lee's mother would pick me up and bring me to his house. Or my mom would take Lee to our place when his parents weren't available. We watched cartoons and played with building blocks (玩积木) together. Sometimes we went to the children's playground together, and in summer we always went to the pool together. If it's time for dinner, and my parents haven't picked me up, or Lee's parents haven't picked him up, I would eat at his house, or he would have dinner with us.

I love Lee, not just because we've been friends since we were kids. He is a very warm and kind person. He always thinks of others and has a unique way of looking at things. I love chatting with him whenever I am in trouble, and he will quickly find the cause of the problem. All in all, time with him is always relaxing. I hope we can be friends forever.

Part 3

1) Do you still keep in touch with your friends from childhood? Why or why not?

I still have contact with some of my childhood friends, but most of them are no longer on my contact list. In fact, the biggest reason is that the communication equipment was not so advanced when I was a child, and most of the time we used landlines to communicate, not even mobile phones. So when I grew up, I gradually lost contact with these friends. In addition, we all went to different schools, have different jobs and live tracks, and there are fewer and fewer topics for everyone to talk about, so naturally, there are fewer and fewer contacts.

2) What do you think of online social media?

I think online social media is very useful. Children can learn and appreciate different perspectives and worldviews to better understand the world around them and build their knowledge. Online social media also allows us to maintain relationships with friends and family living out of town and allows us to stay connected and easily share our lives. Online social media can also provide support for those who may be experiencing specific issues. For example, for some people, if they are going through something they cannot talk to friends or family, they can turn to online social media for help.

9. 喜欢的节目

Describe a program you like to watch

You should say:

What it is

What it is about

Who you watch it with

And explain why you like to watch it

One of my favorite music shows is Rap of China. Rap of China is a wildly popular rap competition show that invites famous rappers to compete against each other(相互竞技). It has often featured high-profile (有名的) Chinese rappers like Gai and Jackson Wang.

I always watch it with my good friend who likes rap. Because we both enjoy hip-hop culture very much and we can sing the hit songs together after watching the show. It feels so good when you have a friend who can share your music taste with.

Rap of China was the first rap show in China started in 2017. This year, 2022, we have the fifth season of this show. In the past 5 years, it has brought a lot of talented rappers from the underground to the entertainment industry, letting their good works be known by more people. Therefore, it has played a pivotal role(有举足轻重的作用) in the Chinese rap world. Almost all the good rappers have been invited to the show, no matter he or she is famous or not before. Also, thanks to the show, I got to know my favorite rapper, Gai. So I'm really grateful for this show as it brings a lot of joy and great rap music to me. I highly recommend it to you if you want to enjoy some hip-hop vibes.

Part 3

1) What programs do people like to watch in your country?

Generally speaking, Chinese people love watching reality shows. There are two reasons for it. Firstly, many celebrities are invited to join reality shows. For the fans

of those celebrities, watching reality shows can help them explore another side of the celebrities. Secondly, reality shows are true to life and easy to watch. In those shows, the celebrities will be asked to finish some interesting tasks, which are enjoyable to watch and also relaxing. It is very suitable for family members to gather and watch reality shows and have a good talk about them. Therefore, reality shows have gained a huge fan base in China.

2) Do people in your country like to watch foreign TV programs?

Yes, they do. Chinese people love foreign TV programs, and many foreign programs have been introduced to China and localized, such as Running Man from South Korea, and The Voice from America. All those reality shows have gained great popularity in China. I think that's because the TV program industry in China is at its beginning, so it has to learn from other countries with more mature TV show business. Another reason why Chinese people like foreign TV programs is that they are curious about other countries' cultures. The TV show can be a great way to explore a foreign country.

10. 喜欢看的电影

Describe a movie you watched recently and would like to watch again

You should say:

What type of movie it was

What it was about

Where you watched it

And explain why you would like to watch it again

Thor: Love and Thunder was an action movie I have watched recently. The movie is a prequel (前传) to Thor and chronicles Thor's post-war life.

After falling ill, Jane Foster acquired Thor's abilities, transforming into the goddess of Thor and rescuing everyone. Thor himself was also saved in the process, developing self-assurance (重获自信) and responsibility. Thor eventually gained a goddaughter and no longer had to be all by himself. He punished evil and promoted good on various planets with his goddaughter, helped the underprivileged (弱势群体), and lived a very happy life.

I watched this movie in a theater along with some of my friends. I've been a long-time fan of (是...的忠实粉丝) the Thor series, and I've always been a huge fan of Marvel movies in general. I've seen Thor transform from decadent (颓废的) to inspiring, and I've witnessed the love between Thor and Natalie, which is why it impresses me so much. In addition, I like this movie because Natalie Portman is one of my all-time favorite actors. Her return to the role this time shocked me greatly, and I found her to be very attractive, powerful, and endearing in the role.

Because of the excellent special effects and numerous exciting fight scenes, I really want to watch this movie again. Marvel movies have always evoked my heroic fantasies (唤醒我的英雄梦), and I never get tired of watching them. I'm amazed at how many children also possess Thor's ability (拥有索尔的能力). This gives

people the impression that anyone can be strong, defend those they care about, and stand up for both themselves and other people.

Part 3

1) Where do people normally watch movies?

People generally prefer to watch movies at the cinema, though some prefer to watch them at home. There are now various types of movie theaters; some allow you to watch movies while sitting in your own cars, others while eating dinner, and still others while getting a massage. People who watch movies at home are divided into several categories, including those who watch on a tablet or computer at home, those who watch on a TV, and those who have a home theater to watch with a projector. Some people will choose to build an open-air projection screen and invite friends and family to watch it with them.

2) What are the differences between watching movies at home and at the cinema?

People who go to the movies frequently seek a better vocal experience because the acoustics and screen resolution are often better in the cinema. This is due to the fact that cinemas typically invest heavily in equipment and technology. At the same time, there will be no interruptions in the theater, no road noise, and no harsh lighting which distract people. Watching a movie at home, on the other hand, is a more permissive option. You can even watch movies while lying down because watching them at home is unrestricted. We can eat anything we want and make noises, without considering what others would think.

11. 常去的熟人之家

Describe the home of someone you know well and that you often visit

You should say:

Whose home it is

How often you go there

What it is like

And explain how you feel about the home

Among all the homes of someone I am familiar with, it is Gary's two-storey villa close to the sea shore that leaves me the deepest impression. I suppose it is roughly about ten years ago when I visit there for the first time to attend Gary's birthday party. After that time, I go there from time to time as it is an ideal place for us to enjoy each other's company and do a wide range of things including playing games and watching movies together which are recreational for both of us. Without any doubt every time we all have a blast there.

The reasons why I am really into it are various. First of all, the space is staggeringly (惊人的) large. It has a garage large enough for two cars. What's more, there are 4 living rooms, 2 dining rooms and an amazing courtyard with a basketball court surrounded by different genres (种类) of plants and flowers. It allows us to play games like playing basketball and hide and seek together. As a sports person, I always spend the whole day playing with Gary since it is entertaining for us. Second, it gives me a peaceful mindset (内心平静). Sitting on the balcony, I could only hear the whistling of the sea breeze and the chirping (鸟叫) of

seagulls. When I feel fidgety and grumpy (烦躁), the serenity and tranquility (宁静) of the environment could always help me get rid of the stress.

In conclusion, Gary's villa is always on the top of my list, as it is comfy and interesting.

Part 3

1) What are the differences between buildings in the city and in the countryside?

They are distinctive in many ways. Compared with houses in the countryside, the house in the countryside is not as convenient as that in the city. In cities, it is common for people to find a bus or subway station that is steps from home while in the countryside it may take people more time and labor to get to their destination if driving is not available. What's more the design of the houses in cities is likely to be more modern and contemporary, which outstrips that in the countryside in terms of safety and beauty.

2) Do you prefer to live in the city or in the countryside?

Personally speaking, between the two options, my preference is the former one. Although it is undeniable that life in the countryside would be more peaceful and healthy considering the environmental surroundings, there are still many concerns when living in the countryside. The first reason is that the medical and educational resources are poorer in the countryside, compared with that in the city, in particular in the metropolis. Secondly, I would spend too much time on my daily commute, if I live in the countryside. It would be both time-consuming and labor-consuming when living in the city.

12. 塑料废品

Describe a time when you saw a lot of plastic waste (e.g. in a park, on the beach etc.)

You should say:

Where and when you saw the plastic waste

Why there was a lot of plastic waste

What you did after you saw it

And explain what your thoughts were about this

Once, I saw a lot of plastic waste by the river in my hometown. This happened last year when I went home during the Spring Festival.

That was the first day after I reached home, and after lunch I went for a walk by the river as usual. If my memory serves me correctly (如果我没记错的话), the river in my hometown had always been very clear. I have been swimming and fishing in the river a lot in the summer since I was a child. Even now, almost every day I see people fishing in the river. It seems to be a local habit, and everyone grew up by the river (所有人都是在河边长大的). So, it really disappointed me when I saw the plastic waste by the river, soaked in the once clear river water (浸泡在曾经清澈的河水里), making the whole environment look very dirty and disharmonious (不和谐的). Fortunately, there was not a lot of garbage. I guess it should be someone who didn't want to go to the recycling plant, but just threw them there.

So I contacted friends who also went home during the Spring Festival. They were very sad when they came to the river and saw that the once clear river was polluted by plastic waste. So the three of us spent a whole afternoon cleaning up this pile of plastic rubbish.

I felt very distressed and upset about this matter and when I saw it, I just wanted to clean it up immediately. I hope that when I go back this year, I won't see any plastic waste again.



Part 3

1) Do you think we should use plastic products?

From the perspective of environmental protection, I think we should give up the use of plastic products. After all, the damage caused by plastic products to the environment is obvious to all. However, in terms of industry and employment, human beings are currently inseparable from plastic products. Without plastic products, our lives will be greatly affected, and many people will lose their jobs. I think the best way is for scientists to find something that can completely replace plastic products as soon as possible, but has the same function.

2) How can we reduce our use of plastic?

There are many ways to reduce plastic usage. For example, we can avoid single-use plastic cutlery. Cutlery and cups are best made of materials that can be washed and reused, such as glass or ceramic. Secondly, when we go to the supermarket, we can also use canvas bags or our own shopping bags instead of buying new plastic shopping bags in the supermarket. At the same time, let's face the reality: we can't get rid of plastic completely. So if we already have plastic packaging or plastic goods, we should reuse them. For example, recycled plastic boxes can be reused to preserve food.

13. 信息搜索

Describe a time when you needed to search for information

You should say:

What information you needed to search for

When you searched for it

Where you searched for it

And explain why you needed to search for it

Nowadays citizens across the globe have been bombarded with (被炮轰) an excessive amount of fragmented information (碎片化信息), and so do I.

I remember at the juncture of (在关键时期) deciding on the college for my academic career, I was at loss, just looking at something higher up in the air, with eyes losing focus and my heart sinking deep into anxiety and depression. The voices from my parents and the agencies online kept haunting my mind (阴魂不散). They said I didn't come from a top-tier University nor with any competitive GPA or internship experiences. But cause maybe I'm an inborn rebel (生来反骨) who always aims high (志存高远), from the bottom of my heart I desperately wanted to enter my dream school and that's the reason why I decided to do

something big to change my status quo (改变现状) rather than squeezing my mind.

First I just started to Google it on my laptop, scrolling through the pages whether it be the official websites, or professors' profiles. I also viewed several posts on an app called Red with recommendations and useful tips. Then I DM (direct message 私信) a few, inquiring about what I actually could do to back myself up (support 支持). They told me I could get started by analyzing the essays written by the professors from my dream school, listening to and better attending some academic conferences, or at least, doing my graduation whole-heartedly.

After following the suggestions and taking the steps, I gradually calmed down and stopped hearing the noises. Anyway, from this, I would say targeting useful information and acting upon it are the best remedy to (...良方) solve any mental unease.

Part 3

1) How can people search for information now?

Well in the age of digital breakthroughs, people or we say netizens could approach, almost whatever they want on the web. No matter for work or study or simply personal life, we can easily access the answers with the help of the searching engines like Bing or Google. It just applies to all walks of life. For example, housewives used to specially go to the bookstore downtown to buy the cooking recipes in preparation for the family reunion but now they could simply download an app and type into the keywords, and then the detailed lines with pics and videos will immediately pop to their eye, or even the cooks' instant reply. So I believe the Internet is definitely a blessing bestowed on human beings.

2) What information can people get from television?

Well, I will say several decades ago televisions took up most of my leisure time. People were engulfed by an assortment of programs, namely, reality shows soap operas and ads, among which I believe the most helpful ones should be the news and the weather forecast. But I have to say recently television has been gradually replaced by our cell phones since loads of information on display is virtually instantaneous and the audience is too occupied to wait in front of it. And I guess the reason why people still stick to it is that the special effects need to be supported by large screens and high-quality acoustics.

14. 分享

Describe something you had to share with others

You should say:

What it was

Who you shared it with

Why you had to share it with others

And explain how you felt about it

I remember that back in college, I was once given the opportunity to share my learning experience with my fellow schoolmates. Although for a long time, I have always tried to avoid the public-speaking spotlight, I did pick up my courage (鼓起

勇气) this time because I believe students are more successful when we aren't just asked to absorb information from the teacher but are part of the learning process. In fact, I remember as a child my mother saying to me, "most often two heads are better than one. (一人拾柴火不旺，众人拾柴火焰高)" And this phrase has prompted me, a straight A student (别人家的孩子) through high school, to actively share my learning experience and create new meanings with others from the very start.

Indeed, on occasion, studying and working solo is the right course of action (正确的做法), but in most situations, involving others produces better outcomes for everyone.

For my part, throughout the years, I've come to believe that the simple formula for happiness and success in life lies in sharing what we have. Sharing is a way to connect with others as, by sharing, we can find new ways to relate to classmates, and coworkers, and even make new like-minded friends (志同道合的朋友). In addition, it also helps us get to know ourselves better, forgive ourselves, and be more compassionate. Ultimately, that leads to feeling good about ourselves and forming a deeper connection that then helps us live a purpose-driven life. After all, our mission in life is not always sure, but it is connected to going beyond ourselves.

Part 3

1) Do you think kids like to share? Why or why not?

I don't think kids like to share. Whether it's at a playdate, daycare, or park, toddlers and toys together usually lead to sharing squabbles. Sharing is hard for toddlers because it involves thinking about someone else's feelings, wants, and needs and they haven't developed the ability to do that yet. In other words, parents should rest assured their toddler's sharing woes aren't a reflection of bad parenting or caregiving or a sign she'll grow up to be selfish. Instead, self-centeredness in toddlerhood is just a normal part of development.

2) How can parents teach their children to share?

The building blocks of sharing include perspective-taking, empathy, turn-taking, fairness, cooperation, and patience. Hefty concepts for a toddler, but parents can start laying the foundation for them now. Moreover, some experts say to encourage little ones to play with something until they're "all done" and then another child can have a turn. This, they say, teaches positive assertiveness, child-directed turn-taking, and patience. Sometimes "all done" is too long, though, in which case parents could try a toy timer: one child plays with the toy until the alarm goes off, and then the other child gets a turn for the same amount of time.

15. 漂亮物品

Describe an object that you think is beautiful

You should say:

What it is

Where you saw it

What it looks like

And explain why you think it is beautiful

A beautiful snow globe has always been a cherished childhood trinket for me. They are, in essence, glass balls containing a landscape upon which snow fell when shaken.

The first time I saw a snow globe was in a seaside souvenir shop. For an eight-year-old, there's something mysteriously beautiful about snow globes that makes them truly enrapturing (吸引人的) to look at. They feel like tinny houses, hosting beautiful stories or an alternate universe of my favorite places in the world. Lightly sparkling in snow, with a Christmas tree, and beautiful creatures, unique snow globes are simply ethereal (美轮美奂). They are irresistible for their promise of brief, easy entertainment. Without hesitation, I convinced my mom to buy one for me and placed it on our dining table. Having it around our house really filled our home with joy and delight.

Though I am no longer a child, I like collecting snow globes very much as they serve as a remembrance of (纪念) my childhood fantasies, or so-called "happy days". Moreover, beautiful snow globes allow me to go back to a time when everything is okay. Where nothing can hurt us and all we know is joy and innocence.

In fact, when I stare at the whimsical wintry scenes suspended in liquid, I will immerse myself in the happy memories depicted in the snow globe. By doing so, I feel I am gradually loosening the restraints (放松限制) of self-centeredness, thus having a profound, abiding feeling (长久的) of peace.

Part 3

1) Do you think there are more beautiful things now than in the past? Why or why not?

I think there are more beautiful things now than in the past because technologies have enabled human beings to identify and appreciate beautiful things in a way that has never been possible before. For instance, wildlife programmes such as A Perfect Planet made it possible for every ordinary person to have an immersive experience over the flock of beautiful breeding flamingos on the toxic waters of Lake Natron in Tanzania. Flightless chicks have to travel six miles from their nests to meet their parents at the lake's edges, risking being eaten by marabou storks. It is a dazzling scene that will stay with me forever.

2) What beautiful scenery spots are there in your country?

Shangri-la is one of China's most beautiful scenic spots. Shangri-la is a Tibetan word meaning land of sacredness and peace. Shangri-La County is remarkable for its Tibetan culture and alpine landscapes, including sacred snow-capped mountains, spectacular gorges, clear lakes, and bucolic villages. Famous worldwide, it is no longer a hidden paradise per se, but hidden paradises can still be found within. In addition, Shangri-La is home to more than 20 ethnic groups, with Tibetans comprising the majority of the population. It is a great place to experience the Tibetan lifestyle and religion,

16. 侍花弄果之人

Describe a person you know who loves to grow plants (e.g. vegetables/fruits/flowers etc.)

You should say:

Who this person is

What he/she grows

Where he/she grows them

And explain why he/she enjoys growing plants

My neighbors are one retired couple who love to grow vegetables and fruits.

We both live on the first floor, so both of us have a yard. My mom plants flowers in our yard every year and the rest is just lawn, because she doesn't know how to grow vegetables and fruits. On the contrary, the retired couple always plants fruits and vegetables in the yard. I heard them once mention that when they were young, they helped people grow vegetables in the countryside, so now that they are retired and have their own yard, they plan to grow some vegetables so that they can eat fresh fruits and greens.

Every year they grow something different. Last year, they harvested cucumbers, pumpkins and some greens. This year I saw they have planted grapes, tomatoes, Thai peppers and some green onions and garlic. I even saw them planting three fig trees. Although the tree is still very small, it is bearing fruit (树上都结了果子了).

To be honest, I actually have a little grudge (抱怨) against them growing vegetables and fruits. I don't know what they use to fertilize (施肥), but I always feel a little stinky, especially in the summer when I can barely open the door to the balcony (我几乎不能打开通往阳台的门). Plus, these melons and fruits also attract a lot of mosquitoes when they are in bloom (开花), and sometimes there are bees and wasps. I think the reason why they like to grow vegetables and plants in the yard is that when they were young, they helped people grow vegetables in the countryside, so now that they are retired and have their own yard, when they grow some vegetables in the yard, they can eat fresh fruits and greens.

Part 3

1) What do you think of the job as a farmer?

I don't think the farmer's job is good at all. Although I grew up in the city and have not experienced rural life, I have also seen many videos and articles about rural life and farmers' work on TV and the Internet. Their working conditions don't look good, and most of the time, farmers need to work from morning to night. And I heard that their income is not stable and generally not very high, and some farmers can't even pay their children's tuition fees in the city. So I don't think the farmer job is attractive.

2) Are there many people growing their own vegetables now?

I think elderly people like to grow their own vegetables. Even when they don't live in the countryside, they will try to grow some simple vegetables on the balcony, such as green onions and garlic. I think this may be the habit of the elderly. After all, most of them come from the countryside, and they also want to eat fresh vegetables

without pesticides. Many young people also like to grow some vegetables on their balcony, but their enthusiasm is not as high as that of the elderly.

17. 失约

Describe a time when you forgot/missed an appointment

You should say:

What the appointment was for

Who you made it with

Why you forgot it/missed it

And explain how you felt about the experience



I forgot my date with my boyfriend last Valentine's Day.

We had an appointment to have dinner on Valentine's Day and then watch a movie. My boyfriend made restaurant reservations weeks in advance (数周前) and got movie tickets. He specially informed me to be there on time, because there were a lot of people booking restaurants and movie tickets on Valentine's Day. After listening to what he said, I promised that I would be there on time. But I happened to be (碰巧, 正好) joining a new company at the time, and I was very busy because of the job handover (工作交接). I was so busy on Valentine's Day that I completely forgot about my appointment with my boyfriend.

When he called me, I didn't even realize it was Valentine's Day. I answered his call and said I was too busy to talk to you right now, then I hung up the phone. When I finally finished work, I realized that I missed our appointment. But it was too late, even the movie was over, let alone dinner (别说吃晚餐了, 就连电影都散场了). Feeling very guilty, I sincerely apologized (真诚地道歉) to my boyfriend and invited him for a late night snack (宵夜). Fortunately, my boyfriend didn't blame me, because he understood that I must be very busy at the new company. He in turn comforted me, saying that every day is Valentine's Day for us as long as we love each other (只要我们彼此相爱, 每一天对我们来说都是情人节).

Part 3

1) How do people who are busy remember things they need to do?

I think busy people should have a schedule and record all the things they have to do, so as to ensure that they will not miss any important appointments because of their busyness. I remember when I was looking for a job, every time HR and I set an interview time, they would say on the phone "wait a minute, I need to check the manager or the boss's schedule". I think these people should be very busy, and they all have a schedule. In this way, these busy people only need to look at their schedules every day to know the arrangements for the whole day or even the next week and next month.

2) Do you think people should remember family history?

I think it is no longer necessary to record family history nowadays. While we all say that history is important, people can learn a lot from history to avoid making the same mistakes. But in my opinion, family history is generally trivial, such as the birth of a family member, when he was admitted to college, and when he got

married. These things do not have much learning significance for future generations, but they only get to know what important life experiences their ancestors had. Instead of wasting time here, I would say we should learn the history of the real greats.

18. 糟糕购物

Describe a problem you had while shopping online or in a store

You should say:

When it happened

What you bought

What problem you had

And explain how you felt about the experience



I'd like to talk about a horrible shopping experience when I shopped online for a white shirt. It was last September, and I was preparing for a very important interview. I was asked to wear a white shirt to the interview, but I didn't have one, so I planned to buy one online because it was more affordable to shop online.

However, after I purchased the white shirt online, the seller didn't **ship (发货)** within the promised time. In those days when I was waiting, I sent a message to the seller twice, and he said it would be shipped the next day each time, but he never **kept his promise (信守承诺)**.

At last, I had to go to the store to buy a shirt the day before my interview. After that, I returned the shirt that I had purchased online. I was pretty angry and **complained to (投诉)** the store. Usually, the item bought online should be shipped within two days. The irresponsible behavior of the store caused me a lot of trouble and almost made me miss the interview.

I hope my complaint would make the store recognize their fault and correct it next time. Otherwise, they would **bring destruction to themselves (自取灭亡)**. The major advantage of online shopping is convenience. If an online store is not convenient enough to save its consumers more time, then the customers have no reason to buy their products.

Part 3

1) What are the differences between shopping online and in-store?

There are quite a few differences. Online shopping is more convenient than traditional shopping. By purchasing online, customers don't have to deal with crowds or line up in long queues. Everything can be done with a click of a button and the products are delivered directly to you at your door. But shopping in stores means that people could touch or try on products they want to buy and get them on the day. When they have any questions about the goods, they can just ask the staff and receive immediate customer service. Sometimes, there are even special promotions or discounts that customers are likely to receive in the brick-and-mortar stores.

2) What problems do customers often have while shopping?

Waiting in a long line is a common problem customers usually face when going shopping, and this wastes a lot of time and is really inconvenient if someone has emergencies to deal with. Another one might be quality issues with particular reference to online shopping. There's no guarantee of a product's quality, and reviews are not always reliable, so customers' legitimate rights are hard to be protected. In addition to that, getting the correct size remains a serious problem for buying things online. Size varies from brand to brand and since people cannot try out the product before buying them, selecting a size is just like gambling.

19. 印象深刻的英语课

Describe an impressive English lesson you had and enjoyed

You should say:

What it was about When you had it

What the teacher did

And why you enjoyed the lesson

I had English courses during my undergrad. A lesson that impressed me a lot was about language learning. I remember that was my freshman year. The professor of the course Advanced English picked this topic in a lecture, which addressed(涉及) some problems or confusion that students had during English learning, from a linguistic perspective(从...的视角).

I still remember a few very interesting, enlightening points. For example, the prof said the way we learn a second language is quite distinct from(和...很不同) the way we acquire our mother tongue – actually that's why two different terms are used here – 'learning' versus 'acquisition'(学习 vs. 习得). We never do grammar when we learn how to use our first language; everything just comes naturally. But when we learn a second language, we have to intentionally put the effort into learning the 'boring' grammar, and we have to do lots and lots of repetitive practice. At that point I thought, well this is so true. Another interesting point was the 'critical period' in second language learning, after which the 'fossilization' would hinder our learning and make gaining progress become really slow. (非限制性定语从句) I think that's why university students always feel improving their English is quite difficult at this stage.

The reason why I enjoyed this lesson a lot is that, it gave me a more professional perspective on foreign language learning, while helping me better plan my English learning at university.

Part 3

1) Why do people learn foreign languages?

For me there are several important reasons why people learn foreign languages: to get information and knowledge more easily, to communicate with people from different parts of the world, or to better understand the culture behind the language. Take English for example, leaning it would enable us to read news, books or journal articles written in this language directly, to avoid possible information loss in the process of translation. Learning English would also enable us to talk to people from English-speaking countries, or in this case people from across the

world. If we are interested in knowing the history or culture of English-speaking countries, the English language also provides a good window for us to do that.

2) What makes a good foreign language teacher?

I think what makes a good teacher makes a good foreign language teacher – is being patient, supportive, responsible, and professional. Specifically, being professional for a good foreign language teacher means they should be a good foreign language user first – good pronunciation, correct grammar, and being able to use the language properly in a different context. Secondly, a professional foreign language teacher should command some pedagogical knowledge related to language teaching, for example how to arrange review sessions according to the memory curve. They should also have some linguistic knowledge such as how second language learning is different from first language learning. The knowledge would enable the teacher to arrange the teaching activities in a more scientific and professional way.

20. 有趣小说/故事

Describe a story or novel you have read that you found interesting

You should say:

When you read it

What it was about

Who wrote it

And explain why it was interesting

The top 1 novel that I found interesting to read is the Hound of the Baskervilles. It is the third of the four crime novels by British writer Arthur Conan Doyle featuring the detective Sherlock Holmes.

The first time that I came across this fantastic book was in middle school when my mom brought me a bunch of books for leisure reading (课外阅读). And as someone who loves to read mystery stories, I decided to have a try. Dramatic and atmospheric, the Hound of the Baskervilles has everything an entertaining and captivating story needs: a legend, a mysterious death and a very eerie setting.

The story revolves around the ancient legend of the hound of the Baskervilles that had persisted in family history for generations. And it was Sir Charles's mysterious death on the grounds of Baskerville Hall that brought Sherlock Holmes to the scene of one of his most famous and intriguing (引人入胜的) cases. The legend of the hound of the Baskervilles sets up this mystery very nicely. And, as much as I enjoy superstitions and the paranormal (超自然的), the ending was very good, very sound, and very clever: in a dramatic final scene, Holmes and Watson use the younger Baskerville as bait to catch Stapleton red-handed. Holmes knew Mr. Stapleton was lying about his identity and using his wife and Laura Lyons to carry out his schemes (实施计划).

I think the main but subtle theme of this book is science versus superstition. The triumph and factual knowledge of science are represented by Sherlock Holmes, while superstition is represented by the Baskerville curse.

Part 3

1) How does technology help people tell stories?

Technology has undoubtedly had a profound impact on how we tell stories; as technology evolves, so do the ways we use it to communicate. Rather than replacing the old ways of telling stories, technology helps amplify their strengths and make them more accessible to anyone who wants to create a world of their own- talking weasels or otherwise. For instance, with the advent of the radio in the early 1900s, people brought spoken-word narratives into their own homes. This created the feeling that the storyteller was speaking directly to the audience and made the stories more believable.

2) Do you prefer to read e-books or paper books?

I prefer to read paper books because the feel of paper matters to me when reading a book. There is a real human experience to holding a book in hand, smelling the paper, hearing the crackle of the binding and flipping through the pages. And according to a Harvard Medical School study, reading a light-emitting e-book before bed hinders one's ability to sleep, decreases one's alertness the next morning and negatively affects overall health. Paper books don't create the same adverse effects. Instead, they bring a wealth of benefits, including increased language skills, enhanced mental development and improved memory.

21. 决意等待

Describe a time you made a decision to wait for something

You should say:

When it happened

What you waited for

Why you made the decision to wait

And explain how you felt while waiting

I'd like to share with you an experience in that I waited for my boyfriend to see a movie. Last Christmas Eve, we agreed to watch a movie after work. I bought the tickets online in advance, informed my boyfriend of the location of the cinema and repeatedly exhorted (再三叮嘱) him not to be late.

Ten minutes before the movie started, I picked up my ticket and was waiting at the gate of the theater. Just then (就在此时) I received a message from my boyfriend. He told me he slipped behind schedule (耽误) due to a meeting with clients about a working project. Worse still (更糟的是), he had mistaken the location of the theater and it would take him 30 minutes to get to the correct appointment now.

Seeing the minutes were ticking away (时间一分一秒的过去), I was so furious when I read his message that I almost consider going to the cinema alone without waiting for him.

However, on second thought (转念一想), I realized that compared to the movie itself, I expected the delight of watching and discussing the movie together with him more. After calming down, I decided that instead of watching movies myself with a grievance (一肚子怨气), I would rather wait for him and watch

the next show together. Thus, I wouldn't miss the beginning of the movie as well. Of course, to punish him for his carelessness, I asked him to pay for the tickets for the next movie. So I found a cozy seat for myself in the hallway and read a book on my phone while waiting for him, trying to calm down and relax.

After he arrived, we talked with each other since there was still some time before the next movie started. He apologized and was contrite (愧疚) for his carelessness. After resolving the conflict, we entered the theater. Fortunately, the movie was also wonderful and lived up to (值得) the "double" price we paid. I'm glad I didn't watch it first in a mood (心情不好) but choose to wait. I think I made a wise decision.

Part 3

1) Do people in your country like to take public transportation?

Yes. According to my observation, the proportion of traveling by public transportation in our country is quite considerable. The most important reason is that the increasingly developed construction of public transportation indeed provides great convenience for residents to travel. Take my city as an example, there exist as many as 18 daily operated subway lines throughout the city. Even suburbs also have coverage. Thus, almost all the places can be reached by public transportation. If it occurs that the ground road condition is bad, the advantage of taking the subway is more obvious: People can arrive at their destination quicker without troubling traffic congestion.

2) Why do some people like a slow-paced life?

I think the desire for a slow-paced life is mostly due to the desire to have more time to enjoy life. After all, the increasingly fierce social competition between all industries makes people live stressful life. Our life seems to be divided into cycles by work projects. One of my friends told me that he was so overwhelmed by overtime that he didn't even have time to think carefully about what he really wanted but was just constantly pushed forward by the assigned work. What's more, the fast pace of life also leads to one's physical and mental sub-health. That's why some people want to slow down and take good care of themselves.

22. 向旅游者推荐你国家的一个地方

Describe a place in your country that you would recommend to visitors

You should say:

What it is

Where it is

What people can do there

And explain why you would recommend it to visitors

After I visited Xinjiang this summer, I would say the one place where everyone should go at least once in their lifetime is Tianshan Tianchi Lake.

Tianchi Lake is in the Tianshan mountain, one of the seven greatest mountain ranges in the world. And the Tianshan mountain is in Xinjiang Province, the northwest part of China, where geotectonic movements (地壳运动) have brought magnificent landscapes.

What tourists do there is like what they do on every other mountain. They enjoy sightseeing and mountain climbing there. But the view there is beyond what words could describe. On the shuttle bus to the lake, I felt like I was on my way to paradise. The lake is grand. And the water is so pure that it is blue like Sapphire (蓝宝石). You can take an electric boat to see around the lake. And it feels like mother nature is holding you in her arms with the calm and cool breeze on the boat surrounded by the water. (感觉就像大自然母亲将你搂在怀里，在被水环绕的船上，微风平静而凉爽)

Why I want to recommend it is not only because of its splendid views but also there was a very touching story that happened here. Thousand of years ago, an emperor in the middle part of China travelled all the way there. He met a queen there and they got along quite well. After days of the visit, the emperor had to leave for his next destination. At that time, a journey across the land of china was literally once in a lifetime. So the queen told the emperor, "Wish you longevity and come back again." Longevity was such a heartfelt blessing for people at that time (长寿对当时的人们来说是一种由衷的祝福。). The story is indeed memorable.

Part 3

1) Is it important to take photos while traveling?

I think it's a matter of private habit, but as far as I'm concerned, it's important to take some photos. I like photography so much that I take a lot of pictures of beautiful scenery and a local specialty. I consider these pictures as important marks. But it should also be noted that traveling is actually to relax and to know more about the destination other than only taking pictures.

23. 克服困难终成功

Describe a time when you overcame difficulties in doing something and succeeded

You should say:

What the difficult task was

How you overcame the difficulties

Whether you got help

And explain how you felt when you succeeded

When I was in high school, I enjoyed watching Japanese animation, so I dreamed of traveling to Japan alone when I grew up. Therefore, I began to learn Japanese by myself. Because there was no teacher's guidance, I could only obtain (获得) study resources on some media platforms like bilibili, where I could acquire basic grammar skills.

In order to improve my speaking skills, I imitated (模仿) the tone and intonation (语调) of the characters in some of my favorite Japanese animations and dramas. At the beginning of this self-learning process, I had this naïve thought (天真的想法) that Japanese would be very simple for a native Chinese because they have many

similar characters. But as I went through in-depth study, I found it a lot more difficult than I expected. In writing and speaking, there are different grammatical rules according to different contexts (语境). For example, people speak in different ways to their teacher, family, or friends. Besides, the adoption of grammatical persons (人称) also varies depending on the person you are talking to, and the wrong choice of words could be very embarrassing in Japanese society. All of these confused me a lot. Although many words look similar to Chinese as I mentioned before, their pronunciation is very different, and sometimes one word can be pronounced in several distinct ways. Although Japanese was developed from the Chinese language system, people who are determined to (坚持) learn it still need talent and continuous effort.

Part 3

1) Is it hard for old people to learn new skills?

I would agree that it is rather hard for old people to learn new skills. First of all, it is about the natural decay of human body. When people get old, they will be slower in terms of processing and understanding new information, compared to the young. Second, sometimes the old refuse to accept new concepts or skills, let alone to learn. They still feel that the old way is the best way. For example, my grandma refuses to learn to use electronic payment because she believes the cash is the most secured payment method and everyone should get back to the old way.

2) Is it hard for students to learn skills?

I think it is not hard for students to learn skills. Here, I regard the students to be young students who are under 30. For students who are in the school, they have a great environment that encourages and supports them to absorb knowledge. The teachers will organize the learning materials and give quiz and test to make sure the students are following the study plan. Also, if the student has questions, there is a very supportive community that could address the question in a timely manner. With so many help and supports, it is not hard for students to learn skills.

24. 户外活动

Describe an outdoor activity you recently did in a new place

You should say:

Where and when you went there

What the activity was

Whether you asked for help with the activity

And explain why you attended the activity

I'm going to talk about climbing mountains in a good friend's hometown Jiaozuo. Well, Debbie and I have been good friends for many years. She invited me multiple times to visit her hometown, as there was a five-star tourist site (五星级风景区) in her hometown, called Yuntai Mountain(云台山). I finally made the trip last weekend. Debbie and her family were so enthusiastic about my coming! They treated me to a feast, and took me to climb Yuntai Mountain the next day!

It was a rocky and steep mountain (这是一个陡峭的岩石山)! While going up, I found the mountain view so beautiful! And I even met a bunch of monkeys! The monkeys stopped us for food! So funny! To be honest, it was the first time I ever

climbed such a tall mountain. Such a physical challenge to me!（对我来说是一大体力挑战）I didn't ask for help, but I had to stop every twenty minutes to get rest and restore my physical strength.（恢复体力）I tell you, for a moment, I just wanted to give up. But it would be so embarrassing to quit when Debbie's 60-year-old grandmother was still going up without any complaint, even though she was also breathless. I'm not exaggerating, but I really relied on my willpower to reach the top of the mountain at last! It's a three-hour climbing trip!

Standing on the top and looking at the floating white clouds, I felt such a great sense of satisfaction. Meanwhile, I realized that I needed some workouts!

Part 3

1) What outdoor activities are popular in China?

Well, the common outdoor activities in my country include square dancing, running, walking, swimming and mountain climbing. Besides, bicycling is also a popular exercise in China. There are many beautiful roads in the mountains and through the countryside. Many people like to get on a bike to explore nature on the weekend. Also, fishing is popular in China as you see it almost everywhere, down the river, by a pond, or on a lake. Some fish men can even sit by the river for a whole day! On top of those, sports are often common activities, like basketball, soccer or volleyball.

2) What are the differences between after-class activities done by middle and older children?

Middle school kids are often more interested in games. They are more likely to team up with their mates to organize some sort of entertaining activities when they have a break between classes. However, once children enter high school, they are almost adults. They often engage in quiet activities. For example, most of them prefer to be involved in intelligent discussions or just sit quietly for some reading. Even if they go outdoors, they would either set up some proper team sports, or just take a walk to relax and get fresh air.

25. 激励你做有趣事情的人

Describe a person who inspired you to do something interesting

You should say:

Who he/she is

How you know him/her

What interesting thing you did

And explain how he/she inspired you

I'm going to introduce a person who inspired me to do interesting things, Morgan. Morgan is my college flatmate and we lived together for, I'd say more or less two years.

One major influence of him on me is that he got me interested in scuba diving, which to a large extent（短语：在很大程度上）broadened and deepened my vision of the ocean and also offered me a chance to dive into（字面意思为跳入，可引申为发掘、发现）an adventurous world. Growing up in inland areas of

China, I never had the opportunity to be close to the sea until I went to my university, which is located in a coastal city. Even so, I never thought about aquatic sports because I'd always heard how dangerous the ocean is, while my friend Morgan, born and raised (生于长于) here, really knows a lot about water sports, to name a few, swimming, surfing, scuba diving, etc.

After hanging out with him a few times by the sea, he encouraged me to try something and suggested that I start with swimming, which is always the easiest. He was so sweet and considering and always ready to help, and I gradually made peace with my fear of the sea (我逐渐与自己的恐惧和解) and discovered that I actually am a big fan of (字面意思为.....的粉丝，可引申为“喜爱做某事”) aquatic sports, especially scuba diving. Eventually I was brave enough to try it by myself and finally I was able to explore the vast world under the sea, which I attribute to (归因于) my friend Morgan.

Part 3

1) What qualities make a role model?

A role model, in my opinion, is someone that can guide one's behavior and thinking. In that case, I would say that the most important qualities for making a role model are knowing oneself and being decisive. The precondition for confidence is really knowing oneself deeply, including what he or she is, what he or she wants, and what he or she wants to be. On the other hand, it is not enough to just know oneself comprehensively, as one has to take action to pursue certain goals, in which being decisive invariably plays a big part.

26.受到表扬

Describe a time you received positive feedback

You should say:

What you did

Who gave you the feedback

Why he/she gave you positive feedback

And explain how you felt about it

I'm going to talk about when I gave the house a big clean and received a lot of praise from my parents! Last weekend, I went home to visit them. They happened to be out during the day, so I just wandered around the house while waiting for them to return. For some reason, I felt really uncomfortable looking at the messy living room.

Normally, my mother cleans the house and maintains it (通常是我妈妈打扫和维持家里的卫生), but she must have been too busy that day. So, I decided to do a big

clean and give her a surprise! I went to the grocery store downstairs to get all the cleaning materials. To be honest, it was the first time I had ever done any cleaning myself. I looked at videos online to learn from the professional cleaners about how to clean the bathroom, the kitchen, the living room, and so on (我上网找到专业的卫生清洁视频，学习如何打扫角落，卫生间等卫生死角). I tell you, it was no easy job!

I was already sweating and out of breath(气喘呼呼) only twenty minutes into the job, but thinking of how my mother has been doing it for twenty years, I told myself I could do it too! I took a few breaks during the day (中间我休息了几次), and by the evening, the job was all done! All the furniture was shining and the floor was gleaming like a mirror. It was funny when my parents looked at each other in shock when they opened the door! They quickly realized what had happened! My mother exclaimed WOW! They gave me a big hug and told me that I was a real grown-up! They praised me for my hard work! I was so glad that I could help out my family, and I have been doing the cleaning ever since!

