

智课

一站式美国留学专家

出国考试 | 留学申请 | 海外服务

TOEFL

精选托福干货资料

陪你一起斩托福

● 精选资料专线 400-011-9191

- 1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? dancing plays an important role in a culture. use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Around the world, people gather to explore their emotions through dance. the dances are created as part of celebrations, as religious services, as preparation for challenging hunts and warfare and to express sorrow (less often than the other situations). indeed, dance does play an important role within a culture and reveals a wide range of information about the characteristics of a culture. three of the most revealing aspects of dance are the nature of the culture's symbols and art forms revealed in costumes and equipment, the body language (moves and gestures) which give information about social contact behaviors and frequently the style of preferred music for the culture. Ethnic dances, and certainly popular dancing, anywhere around the world have associated preferences for costumes and special clothing. through dancing, the participants are able to reveal and express their chosen role in the garments they choose; social roles in the dance are shown public ally to the observers as well as the other dancers. frequently dancers utilize objects like swords or sticks or hoops or musical instruments to further reveal information about their role in the social story portrayed in the dance. items such as special headwear and jewelry are further examples of the garments that in general express preferences and culturally significant details about the particular culture.

Dancers, by the very nature of the activity, physically express beliefs and attitudes associated with their specific culture. in many dances the participants are modeling typical activities of their culture and thus imparting instructions and historical information to the audience. in other dances, one can see expressions of deep emotion: love, worship, grief, strength, anger, etc. and thus obtain clues about the inner feelings of the culture's individuals. dance provides an opportunity for others to witness some of the special behaviors associated with activities in the culture. also, dance is a (usually) public statement so that observers can see how members of the culture treat those who are older members of the opposite sex, more respected members, etc.

The third aspect of dance that reveals much about a culture is the music or singing that is typically a part of the event. observers can see evidence of the of the types of instruments characteristics of the culture, and who plays these instruments as well as how they are used --instruments may be associated only with special events and thus transmit valuable cultural information. Frequently singing is part of a dance program, and again an observer has an opportunity to observe who is singing and the nature of the voices. I found this aspect of dance particularly fascinating during a brief time I spent in a rural village in Zimbabwe a few years ago.

Dancing is indeed a very important aspect of any culture. it provides a communal opportunity for members of the culture to artistically express emotions while acting out typical activities and concerns in their world. for outsider observers, many valuable details about the culture are revealed.

2. It has been said, “Not every thing that is learned is contained in books.”

Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?

“Experience is the best teacher” is an old cliché, but I agree with it. The most important, and sometimes the hardest, lessons we learn in life come from our participation in situations. You can't learn everything from a book.

Of course, learning from books in a formal educational setting is also valuable. It's in schools that we learn the information we need to function in our society. We learn how to speak and write and understand mathematical equations. This is all information that we need to live in our communities and earn a living.

Nevertheless, I think that the most important lessons can't be taught; they have to be experienced. No one can teach us how to get along with others or how to have self-respect. As we grow from children into teenagers, no one can teach us how to deal with peer pressure. As we leave adolescence behind and enter adult life, no one can teach us how to fall in love and get married.

This shouldn't stop us from looking for guidelines along the way. Teachers and parents are valuable sources of advice when we're young. As we enter into new stages in our lives, the advice we receive from them is very helpful because they have already had similar experiences. But experiencing our own triumphs and disasters is really the only way to learn how to deal with life.

3. It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to develop your essay.

Both the countryside and an urban environment have many things to offer. Many important museums and cultural venues can be found in the city. There is also often good access to educational resources and a wide variety of job opportunities. However, the countryside offers a more relaxed and peaceful way of life. Communities are often close-knit and secure. Although both environments offer good opportunities for development, it is my opinion that life in the countryside is more beneficial for children.

One important advantage of raising children in the countryside is that the environment is cleaner and healthier. With fresh air to breathe, less crowded living conditions, and more chances to take part in physical exercise, children in the country are usually healthier than those in the city. Another advantage of country living is safety. There is not only less crime in the countryside, but also fewer traffic accidents. Parents do not need to worry so much when their children are playing outside. A third advantage is the stronger sense of community in the country. Children know their neighbors and learn to care about others at an early age. Finally, a country upbringing allows children to experience a more natural environment without all the distractions of entertainment places in the city. Thus, they can concentrate on their schoolwork and their families.

Due to the great number of advantages in raising children in the country, I believe it is better for children to grow up there rather than in a city. Without all the dangers

and distractions of city life, they will grow up healthier and better grounded in the moral values of their culture.

4. **"When people succeed, it is because of hard work. Luck has nothing to do with success." Do you agree or disagree with the quotation above? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.**

It has been said that when people succeed, it is because of hard work and that luck has nothing to do with success. Although I believe that hard work is very important and is the surest way to success for most people, I must disagree with this statement. It cannot be denied that luck often plays an important role in success. For example, many important discoveries have been made by accident. There have been many cases of researchers and inventors making major breakthroughs while they were actually trying to solve another problem or create a different device.

Furthermore, there is something to be said for simply being in the right place at the right time-perhaps meeting someone by chance who can offer a good job or rare opportunity. And of course, there are the rare examples of gamblers and lottery winners who beat the odds and achieve sudden and unexpected success.

While the influence of luck cannot be ignored, this is not to say that one should depend on it and ignore the value of hard work. If one is willing to work hard, I believe that success will eventually be achieved, with or without the added benefit of luck. Moreover, hard work is often an essential ingredient of luck because it enables one to take advantage of a lucky encounter. If the scientist has not worked hard to develop his knowledge and skills, he may not recognize that lucky breakthrough when it comes along. Therefore, my suggestion is not to count on luck to bring you success. Instead, work hard and keep your eyes open for that lucky opportunity.

5. **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is better to make friends with intelligent people than with the people who have a good sense of humor.**

It is normal to have friends throughout all stages of life: childhood, school, college, university, work, etc. The friends we associate with, as is widely acknowledged, have a major impact on our social life and personal success. Thus, how to choose right friends and build healthy relationships with them becomes especially important. As to the two types of friends mentioned in the statement, I would say humorous friends are just as right and beneficial to us as are intelligent people.

It is often said that relationships are like elevators; they are either bringing us up or taking us down. Indeed, in any friendship, no one seems to want a friend that is negative or down all the time, and it is usually the people who are uplifting and positive that we naturally want to be around. Then, which types of friends will there be to offer a listening ear and help us put a positive spin on any situation? The answer probably has to be friends with a sense of humor, who can infuse our life with laugh and lift it on to another planet. Laugh, especially a belly one, draw some air full of oxygen into our heart, lungs and muscles. A great body of research evidence reveals that this process, like physical exercise, releases endorphins in the brain keeps us in a better mood. In the long term, the benefits for health are enormous as it provides pain relief and even improves our immune system. Thus, it is safe to say, the more we socialize with humorous people, the more we laugh, the longer we would live.

Compared with humorous people, although intelligent ones tend to socialize with others way much less, most of them are no introverts. Besides, they are passionately curious, some of who do have a great sense of humor. Therefore, making friends with them would be an exceedingly exciting journey one can experience. When dealing with daily chores or even major problems, smart people are the first one to see patterns between seemingly disparate ideas. Meanwhile they do not close themselves off to new ideas or opportunities, thereby lifting us out of troubled matters. To be more specific, with the help of intelligent friends who are able to seek out alternate viewpoints and weigh the evidence fairly, a certain student may score higher on the SAT, and a certain employee may carry out a marketing survey more efficiently.

To sum up, regardless of the criteria everyone sets when choosing a friend, both humorous friends and intelligent ones are worth us establishing new relationships with.

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A university should focus more on its facilities, such as libraries, computers or laboratory rather than on hiring famous teachers.

Cradles of cultivating talents, universities are supposed to provide most high-caliber education. Responding to the expectation, universities have to think the issue over. Compared with hiring more teachers, from my own perspective, keeping facilities and resources in the universities most advanced and updated is more essential not only for students but also for renowned professors.

First of all, students are able to enjoy a better study environment if their schools utilize advanced equipment. With the assistance of exquisite inventions such as electronic screen and projectors, as well as laboratory equipment, like microscopes and chemical reactors, studying would no longer be a tedious and repetitious information engrafting process, but a way everyone would like to get involved in. Similarly, definitions and formulas of physics and chemistry will graven in students' minds deeply if they are aided by the equipment when experimenting. However, hardly can professors crystalize abstract concepts into definite ideas without advanced teaching devices.

What is more, as for famous teachers themselves, a university that does not invest in its facilities would be appealing. To be constantly enthusiastic on researching their respective academic fields, teachers have a great demand for exquisite facilities to maintain progressing on their own fields. The most sophisticated technological devices offered in universities enable these teachers to conduct successful researches and remain at the top, which is really attractive to those renowned professors. By contrast, old and obsolete teaching and studying facilities will certainly not inspire teachers to keep further academic researching. Also, practically impossible will teachers have interest in making progress.

Granted, it is conceded that hiring more teachers in universities means guaranteeing education quality in some sense because every student will be concerned and cared about. Even slightest and most subtle academic performance changes of students will be noticed; therefore, teachers can encourage and guide frustrated and upsetting students in time. However, while weighing the benefits brought by investing in facilities and hiring more teachers, we can conclude that facilities are more worthwhile.

In conclusion, I should reiterate that universities should update their facilities, making a top priority. Without advanced facilities, a university will not be helped further improved.

7. Some famous athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars every year. Do you think these people deserve such high salaries? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Nowadays, the annual incomes of many sports stars and film stars come to millions of dollars. Some people claim that their salaries are too high. Yet, in my opinion, such salaries are well deserved. They work hard to become famous, provide entertainment for us, and win honors for their countries.

First, famous athletes and entertainers make painstaking efforts to achieve fame. Fame is a wonderful thing to have, but it seldom appears overnight. Famous people have worked hard for years to achieve their fame today and they have to continue their good work to maintain it. For their hard work, sports and entertaining stars deserve to be generously rewarded. Unfortunately, people tend to focus on the huge amounts of money made by them. They rarely appreciate the efforts that athletes and entertainers have to make in order to achieve the fame that they have today. For example, in order to win the first place in a 100-meter dash, an athlete has to cover hundreds of miles during training. Famous stars deserve their high salaries because they have worked hard.

Second, sports and entertaining stars provide us with good entertainment. On weekends, many of us attend a football match that includes Beckham, see a movie that stars Julia Roberts, or go to a concert that features Celine Dion. These people help us make good use of our free time by entertaining us. As a result, we feel inspired as well as relaxed. In other words, we feel energetic again after attending the events. We even feel that we have more to enjoy in life and have new aspirations. For such reasons, these people are worth their high salaries.

Third, athletes and entertainers win honors for their countries. For example, after four years' hard work, many athletes win gold medals at the Olympics Games. They are able to make millions of dollars a year after the games. Such high salaries are justified, because these athletes have won honors for their countries in the most competitive arena and have made their people proud, something few people can even dream of. This is true for entertainers as well. Many actors and actresses receive high salaries after they have won Oscars or prizes at Cannes Films Festival. Those people also deserve high salaries, because they have made a name in films for their country and have made their country better known by people elsewhere in the world.

All in all, famous athletes and entertainers merit their high salaries, for their hard work, entertainment they provide, and their contribution to their country. If I had a chance, I would be a famous star who can make millions of dollars a year.

8. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? One can learn a lot about a person from the type of friends this person has.

Getting know about an individual personality through the type of their friends is not an unconvincing means to a certain extent. People would only friend with those attracted to them, so we can see the preferences or life values of that person from his or her friends, particularly intimate ones.

It is admitted that we all have some friends whose characters are so distinct from us, but if we observe carefully, it is not difficult to find out the friendship with conflicting humanity is bound to fade away gradually. At least this is true for me. We

girls are so obsessed with constellation as a reference to judge whether a person is matched with us or not. I was born in April, and according to the illustration of constellation books, I was born with failure of getting along well with someone born in November. It is explained that they are over aggressive and like to control everything following their thought of train, which is virtually not my likes. I am described as generous, thoughtful, considerate and innocent. Even though there is no scientific evidence to prove this popular belief, it makes sense that people with so distinct characters will not build up a solid social connection.

Moreover, the commonest example for supporting this statement is how a man choose his partner, which is believed to have an underlying pattern showing the man's marital values, even they might have no consciousness themselves. A man constantly chasing after girls with sexy body shape and pretty appearance is regarded as a shallow one who simply weighs the extricate traits more than the inner beauty. In contrast, attracted to a plain-looking but wise and kind lady, the man will be honored as a reliable quality. Thus, we can judge a man from what his wife is like.

Additionally, analyzing from a wider angle, people with similar concerns tend to be more closely related to each other. On a higher level, this fact is also true with countries. Back to the Cold War, countries with similar social system fell into two major categories: the capitalist west led by US and the socialist east led by USSR. By looking at a country's alliances, people could easily know what kind of country it was. On a lower level, people with similar social status or interests are more inclined to hang out together because their ways of life are subjected to similar factors (such as money and time) they share: housewives may become acquainted with housewives in the supermarkets; millionaires know their kindred spirits in a luxurious golf club.

To sum up, there exists reasonable judgment about a person's character by observing their friend type. There is an old saying in Chinese, animals gather by family, human are divided by groups.

9. Do you agree or disagree that people in the past are friendlier than people today?

With the rapid globalization of the contemporary world, more opportunities are provided for friendship, cooperation and business success. Older generations cherish the intimate and friendly neighbor relationship whereas engineers maintain that automation and industrialization promote social progress. In my opinion, modern people pay less attention to friendship thanks to the diversity of professions and productivity of machines.

To start with, the higher recognition of friendship can be elaborated by the underdevelopment of science and technology hundreds of years ago. As is known to all, farmers living in the agricultural society of underdeveloped technology could get no access to construction equipment to build houses, bridges or roads. Alternatively, they had to depend on joint efforts to cultivate or harvest, which proves the significance of mutual support and friendship in the labor-intensive society. The close friendship was established with the face-to-face communication, exchange and cooperation. However, this valuable human link is hardly appreciated in the modern world full of assembly lines, distance offices and Internet business.

Moreover, the friendship was regarded as the source of power, warmth and victory in the ancient culture and civilization. In those days, neighbors relied on each other mentally for comfort, happiness and confidence. Due to the lack of modern entertainment, they used to chat frequently after work or supper for pleasure, delight and a sense of contentment. For pastime, their children tended to play games together, such as jump-rope, hide-and-seek or card games. Seeing local operas or gathering to celebrate special days were essential in their tradition and culture.

In addition, geographical isolation and shortage of transport offers the unexpected chances for the local inhabitants to enjoy friendship, trust and mutual respect. In underdeveloped remote villages or minority tribes, the lack of transportation prevented the local inhabitants from traveling far or to so-called big towns. The restriction confined them to adjacent areas for simple businesses of selling and buying. Just

because of the small number of population, friendship was developed between sellers and buyers when they sold agricultural produce and exchanged for daily necessities. The regular trade and familiar faces acted as the foundation for their trust, honesty and reputation.

To sum up, the changing attitude towards friendship can be explained by scientific development, cultural awareness and transport construction. Many sociologists and researchers predict that people will still give priority to friendship after economic prosperity, material satisfaction and happiness pursuit.

10. Some filmmakers make movies based on books. When watching films based on books, some prefer to read the book before watching the movie, while others read the book only after they have watched the movie. Which do you prefer?

Recent decades have seen an unprecedented development in the movie industry, thanks to the advent of projection technology in the last century and the spread of three-dimension movie-making method at the beginning of this century. Since not a few filmmakers derive their inspiration from well-written books, especially those classic ones and best-selling ones, opinions are split when it comes to the movies adapted from fiction or non-fiction books. Some cinemagoers prefer to read the book after they have watched the movie, immersing themselves and savoring the screen-shot stories once again in the book. As far as I am concerned, I would rather restrain myself from watching the movie and turn to the original printed edition first.

The first major reason why I prefer to do so is that in the original book, stories, real or made-up, are usually organized and developed in a longer text. Therefore, one could encounter more detailed description in the book than that in the compact edition presented in the movie. For instance, protagonists may have exhibited a myriad of characteristics via various conflicts with other characters. However, in a movie lasting for two hours on average, one or two characteristics of the protagonists are often arbitrarily selected by the director or just lost due to the performance of the actor or

actress. Only after we have thoroughly understood the plots and characters in the book can we appreciate the movie in depth.

Apart from the incomplete presentation of the original work in a movie, sometimes movies have spoiled my pleasure of imagining the appearance of characters as well as the different scenes they are supposed to be in. Although it is typically argued that words written on the paper are impotent in most cases and television dramas and movies speak more directly than books do, I honestly believe that with the intervention of human's imagination, words are more powerful weapons than any other tools in terms of the expression of true feelings. On the contrary, after our seeing the movie, the memory of what the characters look like or how their tones are in certain conversations may stick in our mind and would take over our imagination when we read the book.

As is stated above, reading a book before seeing a movie is what I would always do and I also highly recommend others to do so.

11. Some young people are free in the evenings or have days off at school, which way can bring them the most benefit?

- A. to accumulate work experience by a part-time job or volunteering in a community**
- B. learning to play a sport**
- C. learning to play a musical instrument**

It seems that everyone in the world aspires to achieve something so as to live life to the full, especially the young who have a glorious future before themselves. Although a vast majority of people agree with this notion, opinions on how to achieve one's ambitious dreams or realistic goals are diverse. As a broadly-disseminated idea goes that the other 8 hours of free time determine one's success, an increasing number of young people are pondering a problem of how to maximize their "free" time – the 8 hours in the day when they are not studying, working or sleeping. As far as I am

concerned, from the three above-mentioned ways to utilize the free time, I would unhesitatingly choose the second one – learning to play a sport.

Despite the fact that the 8 hours after work or study can be a valuable resource one has to achieve one's ideal life, let's be honest first, the time when one is working or studying is the most valuable. It is imperative for either students or workers to make the full use of this "unfree" time for any academic pursuit or career advancement, in which case an investment of large amounts of energy and attention is required. Then, physical and mental fatigue would unavoidably ensue. Therefore, the way I see it, when these young people are free in the evenings or have days off at school, relieving their tiredness should be given top priority. Learning to play a sport and engaging in related sports activities, even just for a few minutes, will help to relax their muscles and relieve the tension in the face, neck, shoulders and other body parts. Alvin Oldman, a lead researcher of New Channel Health Center, emphasized that people who exercise regularly feel more energetic throughout the day, sleep better at night, and feel more relaxed and positive about themselves and their lives.

It is tempting to argue that play sports will help to relax, so will learning to play a musical instrument and engaging in related musical activities. Nevertheless, further analysis would reveal that playing a musical instrument is not so easy as expected. A simple piece of music may require seven consecutive days of practice, for which seldom would persist. Meanwhile, just hearing a couple of musical notes by touching the strings of guitar or hitting the keys of piano is neither likely to relieve one mentally since no melodious music is produced nor likely to relieve one physically in the same way sports does.

As for the first choice, let's be honest once again, little working experience could be accumulated through a part-time job or volunteering in the community simply due to the fact that little amount of time is devoted to this kind of work. This so called first-hand experience lasts for such a short time that participants barely know what the rules and regulations of a certain company are or how the business operations are conducted. Moreover, do not interpret part-time job or volunteering work literally,

more often than not they can be rather demanding, and of course, time-consuming, for which seldom would persist.

In conclusion, learning to play a sport is young people's best choice in their free time.

12. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Taking a lot of time to make an important decision is often considered as a bad quality for a person, but in fact, it is a good quality for a person to have.

With the society becoming increasingly complex, we make numerous decisions every single day, some of which are simple while others of which are more complex. The issue whether Spending a long time in making an important decision is often considered as a good quality has triggered a hot debate. Personally speaking, my answer towards this question is negative, that is, making quick decision is good, for the following reasons.

First of all, making quick decisions can help people grasp the precious opportunities. As is known to all, change is the permanent topic in nearly every area of life including day-to-day life and business world. In other words, the opportunities may vanish in the blink of an eye. As a result, people who spend much time pondering different paths for the fear of making errors may end up missing out the chances. On the contrary, quick decision making will boost the likelihood of seizing the opportunities, which makes his or her have an edge over other competitors. This is especially true of the business competition. In the commercial world, To illustrate, a decisive leader will not block subordinates from getting things done and thus . For example, if an entrepreneur find changes in the needs of customers, there is a need of quick decisions to satisfy their new demand. Without quick response to the appeals of the clients, competitors around the same business may take the initiative to make headway in these emerging markets.

Apart from that, making quick decisions reflects the strong ability of analysis of a person. As is common sense, analytical skills is a basis for quick decision making.

As you can see, an analytical skill is the ability of a person to draw conclusions and to make quality decisions based on incomplete information. Put it in another way, the characteristic of analytical people is to address all of the critical elements needed for a successful outcome more quickly than average persons can do. Consequently, these decisive people will leave a good impression on others and thus improve their charisma. By contrast, spending too much time in making decisions means that you can only make up your mind after collecting all the information. This practice may make others feel that you are hesitant in doing things.

Admittedly, some opponents may assert that it is a good quality to spend a long time in decision-making, because the quality of the decision certainly depends on the speed of making it. However, the above claim has overlooked a fact that no matter how much time you spend making a decision, there is always a chance that it won't turn out the way you had envisioned. In this case, the quick decision making can help you more timely fix the wrong decisions.

In a nutshell, spending long time in decision making is anything but a good quality, because people will let opportunities slip off and leave a indecisive impression on others.

13. The best leader should spend more time listening to other people's ideas than taking his/her own ideas.

History remembers great leaders—kings, presidents, CEOs, and the like—largely for the decisions they make. However, what we often forget is that these decisions are rarely made alone—leaders will often rely on the help of others when weighing their options. While some leaders may prefer to make decisions alone, I think the most effective ones will involve others in the decision-making process.

Firstly, letting others participate in the process creates stronger bonds and more trust between the leader and the rest of the group. When others in the group are brought into the decision-making process, they will feel more valued and more essential to the

group's success. This will engender a stronger sense of camaraderie and belonging, and subsequently, will lead them to work harder to see their group succeed at their task. Also, they will gain some insight into how the leader makes his or her decisions. This will make the leader's decisions seem less mysterious or arbitrary. The group will come to trust the leader's decisions more in the future—even when they are not part of the decision-making process.

Secondly, a leader must attend to many things that demand his or her attention, and making so many judgment calls without the aid of others can be extremely tiring. In fact, studies have shown that the act of decision-making actually fatigues the brain, and that people can only make a limited number of decisions per day before mental performance starts to dip and bad decisions start to be made. This is why people often agree to add needless and expensive options to a new car purchase at the car dealership—after hours of haggling with sly car salesmen over the details of a purchase, they are sapped of all their decision-making sense, and suddenly adding an expensive package to your purchase might not seem like such a bad idea. For the same reason, leaders should involve others when making decisions so that they stay sharp for as long as possible.

Finally, when leaders have others involved in the decision-making process, they have people to double-check the quality of their decisions. This is related to the above point about decision fatigue—since leaders usually make the most decisions out of anyone in the group, they will inevitably make a bad decision once in a while. No leader will be working at 100% efficiency all the time. However, if a leader can rely on others to set him or her straight, then it is okay if he or she slips up once in a while because others can point out the problem and set the leader back on the right course. So involving others in the decision-making process not only helps leader prevent fatigue-induced errors, but it also minimizes the damage when these errors do occur.

14. Do you agree or disagree that it is impossible to always be completely honest with your friends?

We can never over emphasis the importance of friends who help us get through hard time and keep us company in daily life. Though it is commonly believed that honesty and mutual trust are essential ingredients for people to maintain friendship in the long run, people usually have justified excuses to lie or encounter various situations under which they have to hide the truth. In fact, to be absolutely honest with friends is impossible.

To begin with, people sometimes tell white lies, in order to protect friends' feelings and interests. Under certain circumstances, the so-called truth does no good to friends but bring many troubles. At this moment, although friends may appreciate our honesty, they still feel hurt and choose to keep distance with us, as our appearance will remind them the unhappy situation. Gradually, friends become estranged and feel difficult to patch up the relationship. Therefore, to avoid unnecessary frictions, people need white lies. For example, it is unwise to tell a female friend that she has gained weight and does not fit the new dress, if she comes to show her new look happily. The candid comments will severely discourage her confidence or even irritate her if she is sensitive on her appearance. On the contrary, white lies can help her keep positive and if necessary we could advise her to do more exercises to keep fit.

Secondly, people sometimes hide privacy with friends to avoid embarrassment and give themselves an opportunity to forget the past and have a new beginning. Inevitably, people encounter something unpleasant or even disgraceful, such as discomfiture and defeat. When asked by friends about those experiences, people either refuse to answer or make up another story. Furthermore, for some people who have suffered too much, they even move to a new place to start a new life and make new friends. In a new environment that no one knows him or her, the fake but well-meaning introduction of one's background is therefore acceptable. Take a criminal who gets released from the prison as an example. With no offense, he usually chooses

to hide the unmentionable experience behind bars to new friends met in gym in a new city that he tries to settle down.

To sum up, there is almost no unconditional honesty between friends. On the opposite, people need white lies to be in rapport with friends in the long term. Also, there are justified reasons for people to hide truth so as to avoid troubles.

15. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Universities should require every graduation student to take public speaking courses. Give specific examples and details to support your answer.

As we all know, course settings of universities have always been a focal point of the public attention. Recently, it has become a hotly-debated question that whether or not college students should take compulsory public speaking classes. Some people argue that delivering speech in public can help a student develop an open personality filled with courage. So it is necessary for university students to take this course. However, in my opinion, turning public speaking course into a compulsory one can be a terrible decision. My view point is based on the following reasons and examples.

To begin with, public speaking, as a kind of skill, is actually needed only in certain occupations. A politician or an entertainer may sometimes need to present himself facing a crowd of people, while other people such as engineers and programmers would have no opportunity to use this skill during his career life. For example, one of my schoolmates who is now working in a mobile game company once shared his life with us during our meeting. He needs to spend almost all his working time facing his computer, coding and thinking. With such a heavy workload, only little time was left for him to social with his colleagues and friends. It is obvious that learning how to give an excellent speech in public is useless for him. Therefore, we can see that public speaking isn't an essential skill needed by people who are responsible for certain kinds of jobs.

Moreover, requiring students to take public speaking courses doesn't mean they can successfully get this skill when the class is over. It is universally acknowledged

that different individual owns different personality. Some people are naturally open and willing to give their opinion in public. In contrast, others may be shy and inclined to share their thoughts only to a small group of people. When I was still a college student, I took part in a club which gathered a group of young people interested in psychology. Some club members were outgoing and good at social. Due to their nature, jobs related with broadcasting and external connection were usually assigned to them. In the club, there were also some students with introvertive personality. They were responsible for some rigorous tasks such as accounting and some strict paperwork. Both groups performed well. If we hand accounting jobs to the outgoing group or force the quiet group social, the operation of our club might turn into a mess. Similarly, if those people who are not open enough are forced to take public speaking course, it might just be a waste of time.

Admittedly, public speaking course can help develop a personality which is required to be a leader. It is necessary for a leader to deliver a speech full of emotion and appeal to his team members. Take Jack Ma, the boss of Alibaba, as an example. We all know that Jack Ma established Alibaba, an e-commerce company when he was in obscure. At that time, he was a college English teacher and usually gave lectures in a class in front of hundreds of adult students. Adequate public teaching experience equipped him with a charming and attractive personality, which might contribute a lot as he recruiting people to set up his e-business. Most people didn't hold an optimistic attitude towards e-commerce, so I regarded the leadership of Jack Ma himself as a significant factor resulting in the success of their initial team building.

To conclude, public speaking course is not a necessary one during students' college years. Not every student actually need this skill. In addition, not all the pupils can become a successful public speaker after such kind of training. Nevertheless, for students who have the ambition to be a leader in his future, taking public speaking course can effectively help him to get an attractive figure.

16. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People spend too much money on their pets even though there can be other good ways to spend money. Give details and examples to support your response.

With the rise of the middle class, more and more people spend money on things that are not essential to their daily needs. As the average wealth of households has increased, many trends have emerged. One trend that has appeared recently in my neighborhood is the increase in the amount of money people spend on their pets, and for me this is definitely the truth.

The reason why people spend too much money on their pets is because they believe their pets to be more than just animals. They assign to them many human characteristics. This does not mean that I do not like pets. I love pets. My father is a biologist and growing up our house was always filled with lots of strange and unique pets. Pets play a very important role in families and I think we should take care of animals. I love volunteering for the local animal shelter and helping find homes for stray pets. I like taking care of animals and I will be the first to help an animal in need. I do not, however, believe that we should treat pets like humans.

My neighbors, on the other hand, have a different opinion. They love their dogs, but I think they are a rather extreme when it comes to taking care of their dogs. For example, their dogs have their own feather beds that cost 300 dollars each. I think that's how much all of the furniture in my bedroom costs! My neighbors claim that their dogs have back problems and that the dogs need these beds. I am not sure the dogs realize this, because last time I visited my neighbors I saw that the dogs had ripped a bunch of holes in these beds. Maybe humans think these dog beds are more comfortable, but I highly doubt that dogs know the difference between a several hundred-dollar mattress and a ten-dollar mattress. Buying these kinds of luxury items for pets is very silly.

Spending exorbitant amounts of money on one's pet is not only pointless, but it's also wasteful. It's pointless because pets can't determine the quality of an object. It's wasteful, because there are so many better things on which to spend one's money.

Take for example the animal shelter. Rather than spending 300 dollars on a fancy mattress, my neighbors could have donated that money to the animal shelter. The animal shelter helps find pets homes and helps control the local animal population. Before the animal shelter was set up, my town was overrun with feral cats and stray dogs. Now, thanks to the shelter, those animals have been taken off the streets. If my neighbors loved animals so much, they would try and help as many as they could instead of wasting all of their money on their dogs.

I believe people today spend too much money on their pets. I love animals, but I believe there are better ways to spend one's money. Spending a lot of money on pets is extravagant and senseless.

17. Which way would you like to change to improve your health: the kind of food you eat, the amount of exercise, or the amount of stress?

Many of us spend upwards of 8 hours a day sedentary at our jobs; we eat unbalanced diets of pre-prepared foods in order to save time; and we are constantly stressed due to a never-ending bombardment of stressors coming from our contemporary lifestyle. Managing all three things--diet, exercise, and stress--would be a daunting task for anyone, so if I had to pick one thing to improve my health, it would probably be exercise.

To begin with, exercise is much easier to manage than both your diet and your stress. In order to manage your diet effectively, you need to reduce or eliminate certain foods you enjoy eating, as well as create a comprehensive plan that balances your intake of different nutrients like proteins, fats, and carbohydrates. This is too much for most people. Managing stress is similarly difficult, because there are so many potential stressors to account for (work, kids, bills, etc.) and it may not be plausible to try and manage all of them. Exercise, on the other hand, can be effective even when simple.

Also, exercise has the scientifically measurable benefit of improving mood. When we perform physically demanding activities such as running, the brain

releases a rush of endorphins that produces feelings of euphoria. From an evolutionary perspective, this is a neurological reward that encourages us to run and be healthy--we're basically built to be runners. If you can incorporate running (or some similar form of exercise) into your weekly routine, you'll notice your mood improve almost immediately. And there's also another, indirect way exercise improves mood: When you're fit, you feel much better about yourself.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, exercise can lead to both better eating habits as well as lower overall stress. Exercise is in fact an excellent way to manage stress, and is recommended by medical authorities as a way to strengthen the brain's buffers against it. It is even recommended by doctors for treating depression. This stress reduction from exercise can in turn lead to better food choices, since stress is a major contributor to poor eating habits, and eating healthy is much easier when you're feeling good about yourself. Anyone who's reached for junk-food during a stressful situation can tell you that.

Obviously, diet, exercise, and stress management are all important for living a healthy life. However, if you had to choose only one, I'd say that exercise wins out when it comes to getting the most bang for your buck.

18. Do you agree with the following statement? People often buy products not because they really need them but because other people have them.

We make regular purchases every day, and most of the time, I believe people buy products because they need them. On the other hand, it is also true that sometimes our purchases are of human desires or so-called "wants", but this does not necessarily mean that we want these goods only because other people have them. It's very possible for humans to like something purely because it is good to have them. Therefore, in my opinion, whether people buy products because they really need them or other people have them should be discussed case-by-case.

For goods like groceries, we buy them because they are essential for our everyday living. Using my mother as an example, each Friday after work, she would go to the

grocery store to do grocery shopping for the family. Although she gets very tired after a week of work, she still does the shopping. She knows the importance of food for a family. Whether for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, she always prepares us a healthy and delicious meal. Giving us food is a way for her to show her love and care. She is not the only mom who does this. Most moms would go to grocery store to pick up food for the family. It is not because other moms buy food for their family so they need to do it as well, but rather, as humans we depend on food for survival. For college students, same principle applies. It is easy for students to get overwhelmed by school work and social life, but when it comes to grocery shopping, students still make time to do their shopping list. Buying healthy and nutritious food is necessary for students' life. In this case, we buy products because we need them not because others have it.

For some luxurious goods, however, such as an expensive bag or a pair of shoes, people might purchase them because others have them as well. This phenomenon is especially common among high school female students. As girls begin to care more and more about their looks, their perspective on beauty starts to change collectively. For example, a girl who wears a pair of UGG shoes may eventually starts a trend. If her classmates think having a pair of UGG is cool and pretty, then they will want a pair too. So it is common to see within a school that girls dress very similarly with one another. This is an example when purchases are not needs, but simply because others have it and so one wants to have it too. According to a survey conducted by Trend website, a significant percentage of luxurious goods buyers consider luxurious brand as a label for their social status or wealth and they tend to choose the brand that their colleagues or friends recognize or value.

In sum, I think most of the time people make purchases because we need them, but there are rare situations where making a purchase is because others have it.

- 19. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It's necessary to put a lot of money into advertising to make a business successful.**

Businesses nowadays spend huge amounts of money on advertising their products. Is this a successful business strategy? I believe that it is.

The most important reason is probably exposure. Most markets are completely saturated with products-just walking down the toiletries aisle of a supermarket, you'll see countless brands of toothpaste, toothbrush, and shampoo. In the course of walking through the aisle, you will probably notice less than a handful of brands, and of those brands, really only one or two are up for consideration. In order for a new company to catch your eye with their product, advertising is key. A company with a low advertising budget will not be able to create fancy packaging or impressive commercials, and this will negatively impact their ability to generate product awareness. No matter how good a product is, if nobody knows about it, it will not sell.

Another function of advertising is to make consumers choose your product over the products of competitors. Regardless of whether it's a good thing or bad thing, the reality is that most people are easily swayed by advertising techniques like adorning ads with flashy graphics or milking celebrity endorsements. A high advertising budget can help ensure that your commercial has good production values and contains famous celebrities. These things have been demonstrated to dramatically increase the appeal of products. Every time Yao Ming or Beyonce pops up on TV with a can of Coke in their hand, they reinforce in our heads the idea that Coke is a high-quality and desirable product. It guarantees that the next time you walk through the soda aisle, you will reach for the Coke instead of the generic brand soda.

Of course, no amount of money spent on advertisement can save a product that is ultimately flawed. In order for advertising to work long-term, a product has to be at least acceptable in terms of quality. However, when choosing between comparable products, advertising is often key in nudging your preferences one way or the other. Most people like the taste of Coke, but seeing Yao Ming's face on the can might make people like it just enough to choose Coke over Pepsi. Thus, for companies with similar products in a packed market, spending a lot on advertising is crucial to achieving success.

Advertising serves two important functions: First, it exposes people to your product, and second, it tells people to choose your product over competing ones. Though doing these things may not make an inferior product successful, for most acceptable products, large advertising budgets are an absolute necessity.

20. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important to have rules about the types of clothing that people wear at work and at school.

Nowadays, people's opinions may differ when it comes to the issue whether it is of vital importance to have rules about the types of clothing that people are permitted to wear at work and at school. Some people would claim that clothing is an identity at work or school. However, in my opinion, I am still in favor of the idea that rules on the types of clothing are unnecessary for the following reasons.

Admittedly, restriction on clothing at work or at school can enhance working and learning efficiency to some extent. When employees are ruled to wear uniforms, people can focus their attention on what they do instead of distracted by a variety of clothes. It is obvious that concentration will bring efficiency, ensuring production efficiency and ensuring studying effect. However, compared to the benefits brought by free wearing, rules on clothing are secondary both to workers and students

To begin with, allowing employees to have different standards on clothes enables workers to feel more respect. That is to say, by providing the freedom to dress whatever they like, employers deliver the concept of respect. According to a survey conducted by Gallup, after polling thousands of employees from different companies, most respondents believe that regulations on their clothing are disrespectful and undesirable and should be abandoned or at least adjusted. It is also mentioned by some senior managers that it is of potential risks to prohibit the clothes wearing since it might cause tension between employers and employees. On the other hand, when employees are free to choose what to wear in office, the color difference would bring more diversity, leading to a more vivacious atmosphere. This is helpful in improving

work efficiency because office-stayers are more free in what they think and how to manage the problems.

In addition, in a school setting, personalized clothing can cultivate students' appreciation for beauty. As is known to all, students are at an age that well-rounded education are in dire need; by permitting students to wear different kinds of clothes, students can learn about beauty through different angles by watching everyday apparels. For instance, my girlfriend Katie grew up in US and she was given with the freedom to wear what she loves in school. Later when she started working in China, she knew exactly what to wear because her standard of beauty in dressing has been established. In contrast, most Chinese students who have been restricted by wearing uniforms in school for years would have trouble choosing the proper attire entering the professional world. The reason is that most Chinese teenagers are not given with the opportunity to select what they like. Consequently, they lack the experience of trial and error, which will take a longer time for them to find out what's suitable for them.

To sum up, based on the above analysis, despite certain merits of having strict dress code, I believed that people should not implement this policy at work or school.

托福备考路上 智课帮你过关斩将

同样的时间 更高的分数



托福最新资讯-最新资讯、专业解读都在这里

<https://www.smartstudy.com/toefl/article/>



托福资料论坛-精选全网好资料，一站搞定

<https://bbs.smartstudy.com/forum-gid-1.html>



托福名师公开课-大牌名师干货直播+专业答疑

<https://www.smartstudy.com/lives>



**智课斩托福APP
扫码立即下载**

全网六大题库
智能练习计划
写作口语批改



**托福学习社群
加小姐姐入群**

每日学习福利
和小伙伴一起过托福

