Reference answers

Task 1 Open-ended.

Task 2

Identification method	The year
zhaoshentie	about 300 B.C. / 300 BC

passports the 1410s
photo ID cards 1876
PINs 1967
DNA testing the 1980s
iris recognition the 1990s
fingerprint recognition on iPhone 5S 2013

Task 3

- 1. Yes, I'm surprised by the information about *zhaoshentie*, the world's first "ID card." I'm so proud that the first "ID card" was invented in China. More amazingly, it was invented as early as about 300 B.C. A person's basic information was carved on a bamboo slip for identity verification. This not only displays the wisdom of the Chinese people but also depicts a highly civilized Chinese society dating back to more than 2,000 years ago.
- 2. Open-ended.

Academic Listening

Listening 1 Life events



Life events

PROFESSOR: Good afternoon. Last class we discussed life events that affect one's identity; for example, getting married, and getting a job. Today, I'd like to focus on key events in education. What kind of things can happen during your education that affect the direction of your life? Any ideas?

DAN: Well, sometimes people realize they're studying the wrong subject. Maybe you really thought that you wanted to be a designer, but once you start your course you realize that you don't enjoy it. I know lots of people like that ...

PROFESSOR: Absolutely. This was a common response during my research in which I interviewed 100 students. I asked them "Was there a defining moment at school that affected your self-identity?" By "defining moment" I meant a class, or a professor, or an experience with other students. One student I spoke to, Tom, told me he'd always wanted to be a doctor. His father was a doctor. His uncle was a doctor. He wanted to be like them. It was part of their family structure. However, in his first year at college, he took a writing seminar and realized he really liked to write. One day in class he suddenly knew he wanted to be a journalist instead. Sounds familiar?

SONYA: Sure. Lots of students decide on a career and then change their minds. It seems pretty common.

PROFESSOR: Here's another example from research. It's one from a student named Ben majoring in biology.

Ben had planned to be a computer science major. But, then he took a couple of biology classes and discovered not only was he good at it, but that he loved it. He changed major. Now he plans to work in biotech. Have any of you had a similar experience? Dan?

DAN: Well, in high school, I was good at mathematics. I also loved art and design and writing. I had a lot of interests, but planned to major in math. Then, I took an intro engineering class. The engineering professor was fantastic! I was hooked. I decided to major in engineering instead. It allows me to combine mathematics and design.

PROFESSOR: That sounds like a good choice. Anyone else? Hassan?

HASSAN: Hmmm, well, my defining moment was a little different. It was when I made the swim team earlier this year. I trained hard all summer and tried out for the team in the fall. I'd wanted to be on the team for a couple of years and all that practice enabled me to succeed. Now I have a new status at school. I can say I'm a member of the swim team. I can call myself a school athlete. I also changed my major to sports management.

PROFESSOR: Great that you attained your goal. That is a good example of how our achievements can lead to a new identity. All right. Was anyone influenced by other students? Yes, Sonya?

SONYA: Well, I definitely was influenced by my friends in my study group ... I really like psychology, but I was concerned about getting a job with a psychology major. My friends

know I like to talk to lots of people. I'm outgoing. They suggested I study business. They thought I would be great at it. So, that's what I've decided to do.

PROFESSOR: Your experiences support my research, which shows students often change their minds about a major after they attend classes and are exposed to new ideas.

Words and expressions

seminar *n.* (大学里师生分组进行专题讨论的)研讨班 biotech (biotechnology) *n.* 生物技术;生物技术领域 attain *v.* (通过长时间努力而)得到,获得,赢得 expose *v.* 使接触;使体验



Before you listen

Task 1 Choose the correct meaning of each word or phrase in bold.

- 1. The college student decided to **major in** computer science.
 - A. learn about

- B. study something as one's main subject
- 2. The class **influenced** the student to major in business.
 - A. had an effect on
- B. criticized
- 3. The student studied hard. This **enabled** him to pass the test.
 - A. accepted

- B. made it possible
- 4. Doing homework with a friend is a way to **combine** socializing and studying.
 - A. move toward
- B. do two things at the same time