

traditional product

Q1. Why do traditional products attract tourists?

Oh, I guess traditional goods appeal to (有吸引力) holiday makers because they are truly local and kind of add flavor to holidays. What is more, tourists like to take something home as a reminder of their travels, something they can use to look back and reminisce about (追忆) the fantastic experience they had during their holiday, something to commemorate their adventures and love for the places they have been to. Only local traditional products can meet this demand, to my mind, and that's the main reason why they are loved by travelers so much.

Q2. What different types of traditional products are produced in your country?

Well, a lot of different handicrafts, first of all. I mean handmade carpets, rugs, pillows, embroidered (刺绣) goods, baskets and different kinds of jewelry. Local souvenir markets also offer a wide choice of ceramics and earthenware coming from various regions of X (the name of the country). One more thing my country is famous for is producing folk clothes with a distinctive design, for example, geometrical patterns, floral motifs and stylized images of people, birds or animals.

Q3. Why do people like to buy imported products?

Oh, I think for a couple of reasons, actually, first of all, people do it because foreign products have a good reputation and almost always mean a higher quality (高质量). They are internationally accepted by consumers and it's a sign of their worthiness for many people. Secondly, they are often regarded as a status symbol, which is very important for customers as it makes them feel proud of themselves. And lastly, imported goods usually have a wider choice, which undoubtedly appeals to a number of shoppers as people like to choose, from a wide range.

Travelling by Plane

Q1. Should people hit up the airport shop for sleep props, or do they not really work?

If you're in for a middle or aisle seat, a travel pillow definitely helps. One option is the Travel Halo, It's a compact headband and eye mask that goes around your forehead; And it has small side cushions that keep your head from rocking. But you might want to try out a couple of options at a store before you buy one. I always wear an eye mask (mine is made by Lewis N. Clark) and use earplugs. I also travel with noise-canceling headphones. If there's a crying baby nearby, I'll wear the earplugs and put my headphones on top and play spa music or a lecture. That combo drowns out everything and puts me right to sleep. One more thing: Bring your own blanket or a sweatshirt. Just thinking about what's living on the airplane blanket might give you nightmares.

Q2. What do you wear on a red-eye?

I flew first class to Korea for my honeymoon, and the flight attendants gave out pajamas. Let me tell you—I saw the light. Now whenever I have a long flight, usually in coach, I bring pajama bottoms and change into them after takeoff. If you're not up for that, try sweatpants(长裤). Also, bring a pair of cozy socks to slip on before bedtime.

Q3. How do you keep your sleep from being interrupted?

The key is to buckle your seat belt over your blanket or sweater, not under it. That way, the flight attendant can see that you're buckled up(系好安全带) and won't bug you (打扰你) if there is turbulence (飞机颠簸). And before you close your eyes, take care of the basics: Have a snack and some water (bring your own if you don't want to wait for meal service), and visit the restroom.

Q4. Is there any way to make you drowsy without medication or alcohol?

I don't use either on a flight. A few days before a red-eye, I start going to bed and waking up earlier than usual. I try to get into bed at 9 p.m., but even a half hour prior to your usual bedtime is good. And if working out helps you sleep, make an effort to exercise while you are on vacation. It may help you enjoy a restful trip home.

Local News

Q1. Why do local people like to read local news?

Well, it's really hard for me to tell you what the exact reason could be, for I have never done any survey. But if I ever need to make a guess, I prefer to believe that people care more about the news that they are related to. Taking my father as an example, he knows everything happening in the town from the local newspaper.

Q2. Why do people like local news more than international news?

Well, to be honest, I don't believe it's the real case. People around me, especially the young people, care more about international news. Every time we have a party, I can hear them talking about the situation in Syria, the economy in America, and something like that. But, for the elderly people, who care for nothing but those that they are connected with, local news is their top choice.

Q3. How often do Chinese people buy newspaper?

I do believe that because of the thriving of Internet, people do not turn to newspaper for information anymore, for the information coming from the Internet is always faster and cheaper. So we seldom buy newspaper anymore.

Q4. Is it convenient to read news on the Internet in your country?

Well, it's really hard to say. If you want to read the domestic news, it's pretty convenient. We have all kind of cellphone apps providing us with information and news in all fields. But if you want get foreign news from foreign websites, like CNN, it is beyond your dream, for most of which are blocked by the government for safety reasons. Anyway, getting news from the Internet is much more convenient than before.

Television

Q1: Do you like watching TV?

Yes, I 'm keen on sitting in front of the screen during evening. I love all kinds of TV programs, like chat show, fantasy, cartoon and so on. Well, these programs do not require a lot of deep thinking and watching TV is a form of entertainment to ease my mind.

Q2: What types of TV programs do you (most) like to watch?

Well, I enjoy watching TV series, especially soap operas that based on a page-turner. These TV series are not only a good way to kill time but also able to provide more chances to inspire imagination and satisfy curiosity.

Q3: Do you prefer reading a newspaper, or watching TV?

I love to watch TV, especially the news report, because I can have a better and fully understanding of the news. Apparently, the contents and articles in the newspaper are not as objective as the on the spot reports on television.

Q4. What types of program do children in China like to watch?

Well, I ' ve no idea, but I guess, maybe animation, especially those with some heroic characters. Little boys love to be a hero and save the world maybe. However, girls are more likely fond of something fantasy, just like fairy tales or cartoons with angels or characters with magic.

Q5. How do you feel about advertisements on TV?

I feel tired of TV commercials, especially those infomercials. When the channel begins broadcasting the endless infomercials, I just turn the TV off. Nobody loves being bombarded by advertisements and only few people would buy the products.

Technological devices

Q1. Do you think men and women view technological devices differently?

Yes, I do. For starters, men are usually more obsessed with (对... 痴迷) gadgets(小的电子产品, 基本等于 gizmo). They're almost like children with the way they want to play with the latest gizmos and learn all their new functions. They're constantly fiddling around with (没事摆弄) their new toys. I also think that gadgets are a kind of ego (自我, 自尊) for men. I mean, they often compare their new toys with each other to see who has the best one. Women, on the other hand, are more down-to-earth(实际的) and see devices more rationally (理性地) as a means to communicate with others or to perform a particular function. Of course, this is pretty stereotyped (有刻板印象的、带有偏见的) but it seems to hold true for (对... 试用) most men and women I know.

A Famous Person

Q1. How do people become famous?

Well I suppose people mainly become famous from being successful in what they do. For example, if you think of all the most famous film stars, pop stars and sports stars around the world, then I think it's true to say that they are all incredibly good at what they do, and that's really the main thing that led to them becoming famous.

Q2. What types of people become famous in your country?

It's really kind of hard to generalize, because I'd say all kinds of people nowadays can become famous. For example, on one end of the scale, you've got people who are super talented and work extremely hard, and then on the other end of the scale, there are people who just do something unusual, you know, a bit out of the ordinary, and end up becoming famous because of it. And there are plenty of examples of such people here in China!

Q3. Are there any differences between the people who were famous in the past, and the people who are famous today?

That's an interesting question, and to tell the truth, I'm not really all that sure. But thinking about it, I guess there might be a few differences. I mean, nowadays it's relatively easier to become famous because of the Internet, which gives everyone the possibility of gaining exposure to a large number of people. So because of this, I'd say that nowadays there are a lot of people with normal backgrounds who have been able to become famous, whereas in the past, I imagine this wasn't so much the case, and that most people who became famous several decades ago probably received more professional training.

Q4. What are the good points about being famous?

Well first of all, I imagine if you're famous, you're probably welcomed by people everywhere you go, which I'm sure must be nice to experience! So that's one thing, and I guess another advantage of being famous is that you get a lot of companies sending you free stuff, like clothes and bags, in the hope that other people will see you with their product and then go and buy it themselves. And I remember once reading an interview with Will Smith, the actor, who said that he hardly needs to buy anything nowadays, because he gets most things for free!

Q5. Are there any disadvantages to being famous?

Yeah I'd say there are. And the most obvious one would be a lack of privacy. Because as I'm sure you know, most celebrities get followed around everywhere by the paparazzi, even on holiday, which I'm sure they must get sick and tired of.

So this would be one disadvantage, and I guess another would be that it might be quite difficult to tell who your real friends are, because it's very likely that a lot of people might want to be your friend purely because of your fame. And I guess that's the reason why most celebrities mainly hang out and mingle

with other celebrities.

Q6. Do you think famous people have much influence on young people?

Yeah I suppose they do. Because I mean, young people tend to look up to the celebrities they admire, and find inspiration from them. For example, when I listen to sports players being interviewed, a lot of them will talk about a past champion who was their hero and gave them the inspiration to succeed. And I think this is also the case with other famous people, like pop stars and film stars.

重点词汇:

I think it's true to say that – 我觉得可以说…

It's hard to generalize – 很难概括

On one end of the scale, ... and on the other end of the scale = 在一边……, 然后在另一边

End up becoming…… = 最终成为、最终变得……

exposure – (here refers to 'publicity' 宣传)

In the past this wasn't so much the case = it wasn't really like this 以前不太这样子

The paparazzi = 狗仔队

Get sick and tired of…… = 对……感到十分厌烦

Difficult to tell = 很难看得出

Mingle = 交际

This is also the case with…… = ……也是这样的

Personal Qualities

Q1. Let's think about personal qualities. What qualities make a person admirable?

Oh, well, um ... first of all, I think honesty is a very important quality that most people admire, oh, and also, kindness. My friend was very kind to me, and I think that being kind is one of the most admirable qualities in a friend, or in anyone, really. Sometimes it's very hard to put other people first (把别人放在第一位), especially if it's inconvenient, and people who are prepared to do that are very rare.

Q2. I see. Can you think of any other qualities that are considered admirable?

Well, I suppose competence (n. 能力、才干) is always admirable (令人钦佩的).

Q3. Yes, can you tell me any more about that?

Most people look up to (look up to sb.=respect sb.) those who do things well. Successful people are usually admired, aren't they? It doesn't really matter what they have succeeded in. Oh, and I suppose that hard work is part of that, so being hard-working can make you an admirable person.

Public Holiday

Q1. Do you like more national holiday?

No, I think we have had enough, I just expect each holiday can be longer so people will have more time to enjoy. A one-day holiday is like nothing.

Q2. What public holiday do you prefer?

Spring festival: I like spring festival most. It's the biggest festival every year. The holiday is a weeklong. I get to see my relatives and friends. It's a lot of fun!

National holiday: national holiday is my favorite because it's in autumn, the best season for travelling ever! Besides, it's my country's birthday; I always have a sense of pride towards this holiday.

New year: I guess new year is my top preference. It's the first day of a new year. I usually feel more alive. I mean I can think about new plans and goals.

Q3. What's the most important one?

Traditionally speaking, Spring festival is the all-time important day for every Chinese, since that's the time only for family. It really matters a lot to us.

Children and Music

Q1. Are you good at any kind of music?

People say that I've got a knack (诀窍) for music and that I have good musical instincts. I can often predict what's going to happen in a song because I know about musical theory. Despite this, I can't really play any instruments. I learnt the violin when I was ten years old but I felt it was too hard for me and I was going nowhere, so I quit after a short while. I sometimes think that if I'd make more of an effort then I might be a skilled violinist by now, but it was not to be I guess. Maybe I should take up playing the guitar instead.

Q2. Do you think it is good for children to listen to music?

Definitely. Scientists think that being exposed to music early in life increases a child's ability to think creatively and intelligently. Even if that weren't the case, music is a wonderfully expressive art form that should be enjoyed by people of all ages. If children listen to music (听音乐) then they can learn a lot about the world and other people through lyrics, and begin to understand some of the issues people face in life. Listening to music is also really good fun and can be a way for children to enjoy themselves. In fact, I can't think of a single reason why someone would think children shouldn't listen to music.

Q3. How do you feel about children learning to play a musical instrument?

Learning a musical instrument is a real challenge, but it's also extremely rewarding. Some may say that a child learning a complicated instrument is a bit over the top. They argue that a child's life is stressful enough without the added pressure of learning a musical instrument, but we actually learn best when we are children and I'm sure the child will appreciate it after a few years when they can play beautiful music. As adults we often regret not learning an instrument in school and feel that we have no time now to learn, or we are too old to start. Learning to play an instrument takes dedication and concentration, which are valuable skills to develop as a child. Learning to play an instrument is therefore a great way for a child to get a head start (赶在别人前面做) in life.

Q4. Do you think it's important for schools to have music classes for children?

Definitely. Music classes introduce music to children at an early age and to those who otherwise would have no access to music. By fostering an interest (培养兴趣) in music early in a child's life then they are set for life. They're more likely to (更容易做某事) take up a musical instrument or sing in a choir. Music classes can educate us about the role music plays in our daily lives that we might otherwise take for granted, such as soundtracks to movies or TV shows. Without music classes many children would grow up having very little knowledge of music beyond what they experience through the media or on the radio and this would waste a lot of potential.

The effect of Culture

Q1. What factors determine how people decide which country to go to?

Well it mostly depends on where their interests lie. People travel to places they find interesting for whatever reason. Most people choose a travel destination based on (基于) the local culture, the weather, the type of food, the quality of accommodation available, the tourist sights... there can be a whole shed load of factors involved. Other people may have relatives they want to see who live abroad (住在海外). A lot of the time and money also has a big impact on people's decisions. If you don't have much money then you can't afford to travel very far, and are more likely to go somewhere close to home.

Q2. When people travel to places that are different to where they come from, what effects does this have on these people?

Some countries are broadly similar to your home country. For example, Canada is very similar to America: they share the same language, continent and general culture. However, other countries can differ wildly from (不同于) your life back home. The feeling of discomfort and uneasiness this provokes is often called 'culture shock'. Strange new sights, smells and tastes can leave you feeling scared and make you want to go home, but after a while you get used to (习惯了) it. At other times the 'newness' of a place is refreshing (神情气爽的) and can make you feel like a new man.

Q3. What is the importance of experiencing different cultures?

It's incredibly important to experience different cultures. The world is a huge melting pot (大熔炉) of different ideas and cultures and we all have something to learn from one another. Experiencing different cultures enriches your life (丰富你的生活), giving you new insights into humanity and how people live. It can help us to be less self-centered and learn to focus not only on our own communities but people all over the world. If more people experienced different cultures then we'd understand each other a lot more and there'd be a lot less fighting and war. People may say that blood is thicker than water (血浓于水) and that our family home comes first, but that's not how I see it.

Q4. Why do so many Chinese people want to go abroad?

I think Chinese people want to go abroad for the same reasons anyone would: so see a new country and experience a different culture. They may also want to see what other people think about China. There aren't many foreigners living within China so it can be fine to find one to talk to. The Olympic Games recently exposed many Chinese people to (曝光于) the international community; they may have a new taste for international travel as well. Another reason may be to improve their English or to study at a foreign university. There are thousands of Chinese students studying for a degree or enrolled at language schools all across Europe and North America.

scared

Q1. What should people do when they feel scared?

Escape is the simplest way. When people feel scared, they should run away from the scene as quickly as possible. In addition, people can reduce their fear by calling their friends. People can fight with dread through interesting topics.

Q2. Is it OK to frighten others?

If the person is my best friend, I will frighten him. Because many funny things will happen such as the look and voice of his fear. But if not, I will not do that.

Q3. Why is it easy for some people to be scared?

I think the reason should be personal psychological quality. Some people are crazy about watching horror movies and haunted houses (看恐怖片, 去鬼屋) cause they have good psychological quality. However, some people with low mental quality, it is hard to bear some stimulating things. That's reason why it's very frightening.

Q4. Do children like to scare others?

Children are willing to mischief(恶作剧), including frightening. Because children think it is very interesting. However, people never get angry because they are children. Besides, children want to get more attention by frighten others. These are the reasons why children like to be scary.

Q5. How do people usually get frightened?

People are particularly fear when they are quiet or alone. Due to there is no interference factor, people's concentration will increase at that time. In addition, people are also easily frightened in the dark environment. They usually fear the unknown ahead(他们通常是对未知产生恐惧).

Memory

Q1. Do you think memory is important?

Yes, I do. If we couldn't remember certain things, life would be very awkward and difficult. Our memories hold a lot of important information we use all the time, every day, just to live.

Q2. Do you think it's important to have a good memory?

It can certainly help make things easier. If you can remember things easily and not forget them it can be very beneficial. Activities such as studying and learning seem much easier.

Q3. What are some of the benefits of having a good memory?

I guess some people think you are maybe more intelligent, or certainly smarter than most people, especially if you have an excellent memory and can remember everything. It can help you avoid embarrassing social situations if you never forget someone's birthday, or if you don't forget people's names when you haven't seen them for a long time.

Q4. Are there any things that are especially important for people to memorize?

I suppose it depends on the situation. Everything is important to some people. I mean... most people get upset if their friends or someone close forgets their birthday or a special occasion like an anniversary.

Q5. Do you think having a good memory is important for students?

Well, it certainly helps, doesn't it? I mean it's so much easier to remember all those facts, or formulas or information or whatever it is you're studying. It can save a lot of time if you can just recall most things you need in an instant and not have to review your books or look it up again each time you need some information.

Health

Q1. Who do you think should pay for health care?

Individual through insurance, companies as a benefit, government -people's right.

The key thing to remember is that health care has become very expensive for most people, even in richer, developed countries. Governments are becoming unable to finance state health care schemes.

Q2. Do you think that people take enough responsibility for their health?

Yes: many go to fitness centers, do yoga, visit a doctor regularly, and eat healthily. Sometimes many people helped with public health.

No: most people don't do enough exercise, eat poor diets, only visit a doctor when they are ill (curative medicine, not preventative).

Q3. Do you think that the government should promote a national health drive?

Yes, people need to be more aware of their health. It could reduce costs by preventing people becoming ill. People could live longer. It is the responsibility of the state to take care of people's health.

No, because people are already aware enough. People should be responsible for their own health and not rely on the government. A health drive would be too expensive and only waste money. Besides, it might encourage people to believe they have illnesses which they really don't have!

Q4. How has health services improved in your country in recent years?

Think about the staff (doctors and nurses), organization of medical facilities, use of modern technology, waiting times for operations, cleanliness, and speed (many operation can be carried out and the patient sent home the same day!).

Education

Q1. Do you think computer games are good for children?

Not always. I think there are some computer games that are very good for children. My younger brother and sisters used to play a computer game called Mathletes. Primary students were given user names and passwords, and they log onto the computer or a website. You progress the game by completing math questions and math tasks. It's an educational game. It helps you to exercise the brain. But there are also other games which I think are rubbish, not educational, not beneficial to children at all. For example, games like shooting games. They don't exercise anything except your reflexes. But you can do better by going outside and throwing a ball. I am more traditional in this sense.

Q2. Do you prefer to further your education or working practice after your graduation?

I will choose to further my education without any hesitation. It is true that working practice after graduation enables a person to get involved in the society earlier to gain social experience. However, further education offers more for me. As a matter of fact, nowadays more and more companies and organization prefer to hire graduate students because of their better self-study capability and unparalleled potential. Further education can help me go further.

Q3. Why do you prefer to pursue your future education overseas? What are the advantages and disadvantages of studying overseas?

On the hand, it is true that the education in China is very good, which lays a firm foundation for the children and contributes to the further development of students. On the other hand, we can't turn a blind eye to the disadvantages of it, such as too much pressure from the fierce competition in National College Entrance Examination, the low rate of environment of university and the lack of modern facilities and technology. I decided to study overseas which can help me obtain valuable and prestigious credentials which are essential for a promising career. I can also gain a different and globalized perspective on my field of study. In addition, it enables me to make life-long friends all over the world so that I can build a broad social network. However, the language barriers, the initial cultural shock and home sickness are inevitable when studying overseas. We need full preparation before starting the overseas study.

Q4. Could you compare the education systems between Asian countries and West countries?

The Asian countries emphasize a solid foundation of basic knowledge while the West countries lay stress on the ability to handle practical problems. Asian countries commonly use examinations to judge whether a student is excellent while Western countries concentrate more on the daily performance. Both systems have advantages and disadvantages. It is better that the two systems learn from each other to make progress.

Street Market

Q1. Do people in your country enjoy going to open-air markets that sell things like food or clothes or old objects? Which type of market is more popular? Why?

The people of my country usually shop their necessities from the open-air markets. It is like a culture for them to visit the markets once a day. So, it seems they enjoy much in shopping in those markets more than shopping at the concrete-build shopping malls. The shopping malls are popular among the top class people but most of the ordinary people like to visit the open markets for some specific reasons. The first cause is that a large variety of a single product is available there which is not found at the attractive shopping malls. Besides, the sellers in the shopping malls have no bargaining policy which is practiced and the common feature at the open markets.

Q2. Do you think markets are more suitable places for selling certain types of things? Which ones? Why do you think this is?

The markets are visited by most of the commoners and they are on their way to home. So, those places are suitable to sell certain types of things like small electronic gadgets, hair cut facilities, clothes for common use etc. The things are sold in the open markets as the products and things are frequently used and thus get damaged soon, but the people do not care about using those with care as they are less expensive comparing to the shopping malls and available in the open markets.

Q3. Do you think young people feel the same about shopping at markets as older people? Why is that?

In fact, the feelings of shopping differ from generation to generation in the country. The feelings of the old and adults are not the same for several reasons over using any product. When they are at the market, the adults may start recalling their past over any specific product – how it was, how they used the product etc. But it is entirely different for the younger people because they have no memories to recall any product as they are the fresh users of the products. Moreover, the choices may also differ from the older people for the age-group distance and gap.

Q4. What do you think are the advantages of buying things from shops rather than markets?

If you buy something from a shop, it could be easier for you to check the thing rightly before you finally purchase that. But in markets, you might not have that chance to check the thing properly and the sellers at the markets may turn reluctant to change the product or service. Moreover, if you want hassle-free shopping and without bargaining, shops are the best places for you rather than markets. Another difference between these two places is the prices of the products.

Q5. How does advertising influence what people choose to buy? Is this true for everyone?

Advertisements have great influences on the people. If someone is looking for any specific product at a shop or a market, s/he will look for the thing that they had seen on advertisements in different media. The advertisements subconsciously influence people to buy specific products. There is none who could avoid the influence.

Q6. Do you think that any recent changes in the way people live have affected general shopping trends?

Yes, definitely the lifestyle, socioeconomic conditions and advertising have greatly changed people's habit of shopping. Currently, the people have started for branded products and thus the markets are also providing them with the desired items. The changes are notable and it is done by advertisements. While people in the past mostly purchased products and goods they needed, people nowadays purchase more than they actually need. The range of necessity has also enhanced to a great extent.

After-school activities

Q1.Do you think it's important for schools to have after-school activities for school children?

Of course, After-school activities are extremely valuable. They provide a way for children to relax after working hard at school and build a community spirit amongst the students. They also allow students to learn many things they would otherwise not have access to, like playing a new sport or musical instrument. Some people think that taking part in after-school activities is a waste of time and that students should concentrate on their studies, but I think taking part in extra-curricular activities also shows people that you are enthusiastic and motivated about school-life. It shows you're motivated to do something with your time.

Q2.Do you think entertainment is beneficial to children?

Yes, of course. In my opinion, entertainment is beneficial to children's social development. When children play with other children outdoors, it encourages their social development. Play gives children opportunities to learn how to work in groups, including learning how to share, how to negotiate and how to resolve conflicts. Children who are allowed to explore through play can learn new skills and overcome challenges, which can promote self-confidence and self-advocacy, all of which can help children learn how to develop healthy relationships and to become leaders.

Q3.Are boys and girls interested in the same games or play activities?

Not really, most of the time girls and boys enjoy very different types of games. Girls tend to enjoy games where you pretend to be someone like 'making house' or 'mummy and daddy'. They often prefer talking rather than running around. Boys tend to play noisy, active games that involve a lot of activity. They are more interested in competition than cooperation and so sports are very popular.

Historical Event

Q1. Do you think museums should be free?

Um...yeah, ideally I think they should be, because they're great educational resources. But if it's not possible, then a small entrance fee I guess is acceptable, cos that will help a museum cover its costs and stay running. Alternatively, museums could be free and have a donation box, so that if you can afford to donate something towards the upkeep, then you have the opportunity to do so.

Q2. Are young people in your country interested in historical museums?

Yeah, I think most young people are, to a varying degree. So in other words, I think young people here have at least some level of interest in them, although it's probably fair to say that they're not that high up on the list of favourite things to do! You know, I'd say the young here are generally a lot more interested in stuff like computer games and foreign TV series, but history's deeply rooted in our culture, so I think it will always hold some level of interest for anyone in my country, both young and old.

Q3. How can more people become interested in history?

I'm not that sure, but I suppose um... the way it's taught at school could be improved, and possibly made more interesting. So for example, instead of simply staying in the classroom, teachers could take students out more to visit historical sites and anything of historical relevance. So that's one thing, and as well as this I guess, um..., increasing the amount of history documentaries on TV could also have a positive effect on developing people's interest in history. And finally I think parents can play an important role by introducing history and all its wonders to their children, and if they do it well, then I'm sure it's going to help children develop an interest in it.

Q4. Tell me some movies or music about history in your country.

There are countless! Um... where do I begin?! Let me have a quick think! Um... Ok, well, one that comes to mind is a film called Hong Gaoliang, which I think was directed by Zhang Yimou. And you might have heard of him, cos he also directed the Beijing Olympics. But anyway, going back to the film, it's set in the early 1900s and it's basically about what happened during that time, which included the War of Resistance against Japan. That's about all I can remember because it was ages ago when I watched it.

Q5. What do most people like to do when they visit a historical site?

I guess what the majority of people do is just, like, take photos of the place. That's really the main thing. But as well as that, most people will also look at the things on display and uh, what else? Um... Oh yeah, and maybe buy one or two souvenirs to take back home as mementos. So that's pretty much it really! Like – here, “like”, has no meaning, it's just said during a pause.

Q6. Would you say movies help people develop more interest in history?

Yeah, I'd say they can, because after all, movies are quite vivid and so they make history come alive. And another thing is that a lot of people can't be bothered to read a book about history, but they'd gladly

go and watch a film about it, simply because movies are a bit more entertaining. So yeah, I'd say they generally do help people become more interested in history.

Tourist Attraction

Q1. How has the way Chinese people spend their holidays changed in the past few decades?

Well, I believe there have been some enormous changes in terms of how Chinese spend their holidays. 30 or 40 years ago, when most Chinese people were still living in poverty, people didn't travel much. Instead, they just simply stayed at home and probably continued working in the fields. For those who were relatively richer, they might have been able to go to a movie theater or something like that. In contrast, nowadays, Chinese people tend to travel a lot more than before as we have higher disposable incomes so that we're more likely to enjoy ourselves during holidays. It's not uncommon to see Chinese touring around in foreign countries, especially America and some European countries.

Q2. In China, what are the different kinds of places that tourists can visit?

Oh, god, there are myriad different kinds of places tourists can visit in China because we are such a huge country, right, the third largest in the world. There are many historic spots where people can go and learn something about Chinese history and culture, such as the Forbidden City, and the Great Wall in Beijing and the Terra Cotta Warriors in Xi'an which used to be the capital of several dynasties in Chinese history. Additionally, if you want to visit some natural landscapes, there are tons we have to offer too. For example, I've been to Yunnan a couple of times before and there's a must-see place which is the rice terraced fields in Yuan yang where you can see the amazing sunrise over the terraces. When I was there, it was completely mind-blowing and it totally took my breath away. Everybody should go there. Of course, there are many other places one has to go to in China, the list just goes on and on and on.

Dream

Q1. What's the difference between dream and goal?

This is a great question and I have been thinking of it for a couple of years. We all enjoy dreaming, but dream can't become reality. All that you get from dreaming is the fantastic feelings. Goal is not that sweet. It might take effort and years of struggling, and then you can realize it. But it provides you with satisfaction and a sense of fulfillment that dream can never render.

Q2. Would you separate dream from reality?

I don't believe that there is a clear line between dream and reality. We never know when we are awake and when we are not. In our dreams, everything is so true and real, which causes confusion.

Q3. What kinds of goals do young people usually have?

I guess the answer differs from person to person. For the most of the boys, who are more likely to be aggressive and ambitious, they tend to have bigger goals, like changing this country and make a contribution to the society. But for the most of the girls, who tend to be more caring and considerate, they usually show the gentle side of their nature and they want to become teachers or doctors

not pay it

Q1. Do you like giving gifts?

Oh, yes, I really enjoy gift-giving because it is a perfect way to strengthen bonds with others showing interest and appreciation, expressing gratitude or apology and just letting other people know that I care. I like to bring joy and pleasure to people raising a smile on their faces and fulfilling their small dreams. Even a little present can cheer a person up because it is love and care that matter but not the present itself.

Q2. What gifts would parents give to children?

Well, I guess it, first of all, depends on the gender of a child and their preferences and needs. As far as I know, boys adore gadgets like smartphones and tablets, tech toys like different kinds of robots and, of course, radio controlled toys which are a great deal of fun to play with. They also enjoy getting toy cars, building and construction sets, different ride-ons(小车) and board games as presents. However, girls give more preference to something more creative and intimate like arts and crafts kits, collectible and plush toys (毛绒玩具) as well as something, emphasizing their femininity like clothes, accessories and beauty gift sets. So, I guess parents would choose something from the list of gifts I mentioned.

Q3. What factors do parents consider when choosing a gift for children?

Well, to my mind, the first factor parents take into account is the occasion. Keeping it in mind, they then set the budget and get to the next important factor which is the needs of their child. Parents also think about their kids' likes and dislikes, their interests at that specific period of time, their habits and, of course, their dreams. Considering all of them, parents make their final choice usually balancing between what a child really wants and needs. I guess it happens this way, at least in the families with kids that I know.

Patience

Q1. Is it important to be patient?

Yes, It's very important to be patient. If you are patient, you can control your mood and feel happy all the time. If not, you'll easily lose temper. Patience is the ability to tolerate waiting, delay, or frustration without becoming agitated or upset. It enables us to control our emotions or impulses when faced with difficulties.

What's more, it results in better decision-making. You know, When you're patient you take the time to assess the situation, see the big picture, and weigh any pros and cons.

Q2. Why is it difficult for children to be patient?

Children are impatient because they have unmet needs. For example: When they are hungry, they want something to eat. But not like most adults, who can wait, they just naively express their needs. If they can't get it, they would be upset, even frustrated. Being patient is a virtue, learned, developed, and cultivated through lifetime. Children are not programmed to be patient. They need time to learn how to be patient.

Q3. How to teach children to be patient?

Another good way to teach young children about patience is to talk about future events such as holidays, birthdays or family events that will be taking place. Sit down with your children with a calendar and count the days together until the day the event will take place. Point out how patience will play a role in waiting for that special event.

Handwriting

Q1. Do you often write things?

Yes. I have the habit of keeping a diary. When I have something to say, I'll write them down in my notebook. It is like my close friend with whom I feel free to share my happiness and sorrows.

Q2. Do you write every day?

Not really. At times I could be very busy with my study or work, then I could spare no time at all. But sometimes when I have got enough free time, I may write every day.

Q3. When do you need to write?

In general, I need to write in two situations. Firstly, when I have read a book or seen a movie, I'd like to reflect on it and later write down my own understandings and viewpoints. Secondly, when I feel depressed, I'll write down what is in my mind, and try to find the reasons of my depression.

Q4. Do you like writing?

Right! I am fond of writing very much. Through writing, I not only have a deeper and better understanding of life, also I know myself well. It is really an amazing process of finding out who you are, where you are from and where you are going.

Q5. What do you usually write?

Usually, I'll write some comments on a book or movie. Besides, I like to recall the unforgettable memories while travelling and record the meaningful details during the tour. Sometimes I even try to create short stories.

Q6. How many hours a day do you spend writing?

In average, I probably spend half an hour in writing per day. Before going to bed, I'll review what happens in the daytime and write down some sentences or paragraphs to express my views and feelings.

Q7. Do you think writing is important?

Absolutely! In my opinion, writing is a re-think procedure which helps train our abilities in logic, analysis and summary. We could always dig our more through writing.

Q8. Do you like writing to people?

Sure, and I like writing to people particularly on some special occasions. For example, when my friend's birthday is coming, I'll write some warm words which seem to be a little bit embarrassed to tell them at ordinary times.

Special Travel

Q1. What is the real meaning of travelling?

In terms of travelling, it is not important that where the destination is, it is more important that what scenery is on the way and what mood I am in, and most importantly, with whom I go travelling. Sometimes, when you travel, the person right beside you can make the whole travelling experience memorable and unique.

Q2. Where did you spend your last holiday?

It was in Australia. My whole family went there to spend the Chinese New Year. And it was summer down there. The weather was great, the view was amazing and we guys had a great time there

Q3. Are there any special places for visiting in China?

Some small towns in Sichuan are worthy of visiting. My hometown is one of the most placid(温和、平静) palaces in the province. They are hospitalized local people and there are a large number of green trees. Food in these towns is quite delicious and cheap, containing the original taste of Sichuan food. These towns are not so affected by commercial industry, like guides or advertisements, which causes them difficult to be found. I suppose people can know the true lifestyle of Chinese people by visiting these places

Q4. Do Chinese people like to travel aboard?

It depends. I suppose travel is mostly rich people's thing. They tend to go abroad for a vacation every other day because they are not worried about losing their job or the spending too much on travel fees. As for poorer people, even for those middle class, they are strapped (束缚) by a wide range of affairs, their children, loans, bosses and things alike. They just cannot afford to be off their work for such a long time. Briefly speaking, most Chinese people would love to go for a trip as long as they have enough money.

Q5. Do you like to travel on your own or with your family?

I am inclined to travel with my family members. For one thing, it is better for my safety since there are scores of frauds and even robbers who are targeted in visitors, which is extremely dangerous, especially for us young and naive girls. For another thing, I feel uncomfortable and isolated if I am alone on the way, without anyone to share my delight and thinking. And I think it is really happy to have both the delightful scenery and the beloved persons around you. That will entitle more interest to the trip, I believe.

Q6. Do you like to visit popular places or less-known places?

I tend to go to less-known places because there are too many commercialized things in those popular places. The vendors, guides and advertisers are ubiquitous, stealing your simple and sedate feelings away. It can dampen the whole travel, at least in terms of my experience in the Great wall, it is true. The less-known places are never transplanted some exotic things, which makes them much more fresh and vigorous, instead of something like decomposed meat. I am sure we can get a peaceful feeling in those

places.

Q7. What can people benefit from traveling?

For individuals, they can appease their pressure coming from their work and some daily affairs during travel time. They can indulge themselves in enjoying the magnificent buildings or some artworks and eating some new and unique food, which will surely refresh them from bottom to top. They can also have time to readjust their life and career plan in this interval because in their work time they are just too busy to think about change and improvement. Anyway, they may alter their values and widen their horizon during travel time.

Sport Events

Q1. What are the benefits for playing sports?

Well, in general, playing sports gives us physical fitness and psychological enjoyment. Sports help people to become stronger and healthier. Activities increase the heart rate, which will lead to several hours of alertness. Thus, people become energetic and can improve their working efficiency. Moreover, a regular exercise routine can make fatigue (疲劳) problems disappear.

Q2. What are the advantages for a country to hold major international sport events?

Well, holding major international sports events makes a country win a wider reputation. Now more and more people in the world have got to know that China is developed and powerful enough to hold the Olympics. Thus, it increases the opportunities for foreign investment, tourism, exports and other international cooperation.

Q3. What are the common ways for Chinese people to keep fit?

They are different among different groups of people. Young people would like to play basketball, football, volleyball in schools, while those working people prefer jogging or taking a walk. Old people usually go to the park to play Taiji or dance in the morning.

Q4. What are the sport facilities like in your city?

I am glad to say that we have more sport facilities in our city now. People can easily access those facilities and do exercise. In every community, we have outdoor facilities (户外设施) and they are free. Fitness centers or stadiums (健身中心或广场) are thoughtfully distributed in the whole city.

Q5. Do you believe that the sport a person likes can reflect his personality?

Yes, I think so. People who like participating in (参与) games are more competitive in personality. Some people like team sports, such as basketball, football, which require team spirit among team members. So people of this type are more cooperative (合作) in teamwork.

Weather

Q1: What types of weather do people in your country dislike most? Why is that?

In England, it rains all the time and it's really cold here on such days. I think that most people hate when it's raining and windy at the same time, because apart from the fact that they can't see anything and want to move forward, the pressure of the wind makes them go backwards. Something else that really gets me on my nerves is that my clothes get wet and I can't use my umbrella because of the wind.

Tip: You can also say that you don't like the hot weather or even the snow. Just think of the weather in your country and mention which is the worst one for you.

Q2: How do rainy days make you feel ?

- A. Well! Along with rain drops, rainy days bring ecstatic changes around us. We can enjoy variety of dishes sitting at home and seeing rain drops makes us feel blissful indeed. The precept outside elevates our mood. The tiny drops of water seem wrapping the happiness around them and more likely tend to be the lifeline for vegetation, along with sheer boon to draught prone areas and deserts.
- B. Frankly speaking, I feel slightly uneasy during rainy days. It's muddiness all around the street and every class of society gets the day to day life affected due to mud and water gathered all around. Sometimes heavy rainfall halts the life and people don't even have proper access to household commodities. From transportation to electricity everything has ceased to be stopped. In rainy season not only the quality of drinking water gets worse but also untimely rain affects our vegetation adversely. Many diseases like Malaria, Hepatitis and Diarrhea etc. also spread their tentacles during this weather.

Q3: What jobs can be affected by different weather conditions? Why?

It seems to me that different weather conditions can affect different occupations. Builders and farmers are negatively affected if it rains heavily. For example, if the weather is rainy people who works outside cannot work properly. Pilots and ice-cream sellers are two other professions that are affected by bad weather as well. In the first case, rain, snow and wind have a great impact on schedules while for the ice cream sellers, the volume of sales and whole business depends on the season and weather.

Q4: Are there any important festivals in your country that celebrate a season or type of weather?

I cannot recall such festivals or celebrations in my country. However, I am certain in many countries this is quite a common trend to celebrate different weathers and seasons. For instance, the first day of the year, Rainy season, autumn and spring are often celebrated in India and Bangladesh. If we look back in our history, our ancestors mostly celebrated different festivals which were based on different seasons and weathers.

Tip: Think of different kinds of festivals in your own country and mention few of them and how they are celebrated.

If there is no such festivals in your country, simply state that this types of festivals are not celebrated in

your country. Just remember, if the answer is negative, don't be upset that you said very few words. As mentioned, not all of your answers can be extended.

Q5: How important do you think it is for everyone to check what the next day's weather will be? Why?

It's very necessary to know the weather forecast because people should know the type of clothes they should put on. For example, if it's going to rain, they'll wear boots, jacket and of course take an umbrella with them. In addition, it's important for the means of transport they are going to use, for instance, if they want to go to work by car, bus or on foot. Finally, if they have any kind of plans they should be informed about the weather conditions because their plans can be ruined by bad weather. So I would say people's activity, dress and type of vehicles they will take depends on weather condition and that is why they should always check the next day's weather. From my experience I can say that people do not do that, often suffer and regret a lot.

Q6: What is the best way to get accurate information about the weather?

I would say that watching the weather forecast on TV or the internet is the best ways to be informed about the weather conditions. But, we should be very careful because the internet can provide inaccurate information so we must be sure that the site we have access is reliable. Apart from that cross checking different TV channels and websites is another good idea to get more accurate weather forecasting.

Q7: How easy or difficult is it to predict the weather in your country? Why is that?

It's really difficult to predict accurate weather condition in my country because the weather in England fluctuates a lot. For example, a few days ago when I woke up at 9 am, the sun was shining and ten minutes later it started raining heavily. Two hours later the wind was blowing and for the rest of the day, the weather was like that. The only thing that is standard is the low temperature in the winter. The weather forecast thus often quite tough and unpredictable in England.

Q8: Which months have the best weather in your country?

Well, I suppose it's a matter of personal taste really. I like it around the end of October and November, you know, the middle of autumn when there has mild climate, very agreeable weather. I'm not fond of scorching days we often get during the summer and it's not freezing cold during these months yet, we still get lots of sunny spells. It's kind of nice.

Describe a job

Q1. Is it easy to find work (employment) in your country?

Well, it really depends on what kind of jobs you're looking for. Like, if you want to work in state companies, it's quite hard to get in, since you have to have relationships and connections, people who introduce you for the job, but for something in private companies, it's quite easy actually, as long as you have a college degree and some relevant working experience, it's a piece of cake.

Q2. What changes have there been in recent years in employment in your country?

I think there have been many changes in the types of jobs that people do nowadays compared to 20 or 30 years ago. First of all there are much fewer jobs related to heavy industry such as mining or ship-building or even manufacturing. Secondly, there has been a big increase in the number of jobs in the service and leisure industries like shops, gyms, and hotels. And finally, since the launch of the internet there has been a big surge in the number of jobs related to IT, such as web development and design.

Q3. What jobs pay the highest salary in your country?

Well, I'm not exactly that sure, but my guess would be that things like banking and real estate are probably the sectors which pay the highest, because I mean, there's so much money invested in property here in China, so the salary's bound to be pretty good if you work in real estate. And as for banking, well, I think it goes without saying that most jobs related to banking are relatively highly-paid, which is one of the main reasons why so many graduates here wanna find a job in a bank!

Q4. Do you think changing jobs is a positive thing to do?

Yeah, I'd say it's perfectly fine to change jobs. I mean, I can't see any point in doing one job throughout your whole career if you're bored out of your wits! So for me I would say the main thing is to be passionate about your job, and if at any point you start to lose enthusiasm in what you're doing, then it might be a good time to consider moving on and doing something else.

Q5. What age do you think is suitable to start work?

Well, it's really kind of hard to generalize, because some people feel ready to start work as soon as they've finished high school, and a lot of people who've done this have ended up quite successful. But I guess it probably also depends on what job you wanna do, because highly-skilled jobs, like being a doctor or surgeon for example, require many years of training, whereas menial jobs, like working behind a till at McDonald's, hardly require any training, so probably any age from 15 would be suitable for that kind of work.

Q6. How do you think work will change over the next few decades?

That's a good question, and thinking about it, I guess one thing that could happen is that more people might start working from home, simply because it's becoming more and more inconvenient travelling to work due to traffic congestion. So that's one thing, and I guess it's also quite possible that work, in

general, will become more internet-based, because the influence of the internet on people's work has increased incredibly in the last 10 years or so, and I can't see this changing. I mean, more or less everything we do now can be done on the internet, and because it's so convenient, I would say it will play an even bigger role in our lives in years to come.

Q7. Is it easier or more difficult to get a job today than in the past?

Well, I would say it's definitely more difficult to get a job nowadays than it was in the past, and one of the reasons for saying this is that in the past, there was generally less competition for jobs, because not that many people went to university, whereas nowadays, there are millions of graduates looking around for jobs, which has made it extremely difficult finding a decent, high-paid job, unless of course you have good personal connections! And as well as this, another point I should mention is that 20 or 30 years ago, people were actually assigned jobs after completing university, so getting a job was pretty much guaranteed, whereas nowadays this is not the case at all.

favorite song

Q1. What would life be like without music?

Life without music would be quiet and dull. What would we do at parties besides eating and talking? That might as well be a meeting. Think about the best party you've ever been to, how vibrant and outgoing everyone was. Especially when everyone's favorite jam came on. Music helps me focus on projects when the house is soundless. In the past, I would drive around town aimlessly at night with nothing but music and my thoughts. This helped my creativity tremendously.

Q2. Which is more important to you, music or TV?

Although television takes up a big chunk of my life I could probably do without it. Music, on the other hand, is irreplaceable. I'm thinking to myself I could read the news & also read a novel that the blockbuster movie was adapted from. Consequentially, I cannot read a song. Novels are famously known for being better than the movie. There is no possible way to hear music in any other form. It all boils down to what can be replaced and what can't.

Q3. What kind of music do you like?

I've always had an infatuation with music since I was a kid. My family likes to remind me of the time when I was two & I learned to say "Jackson! Jackson!" then hobble/hop around when his songs were played. Although my taste for music has evolved & diversified since then, music still holds a special place in my heart. I listen to all types of music & I am open to new music. Having said that, as I am writing this I am listening to classical music because it helps me concentrate and be more resourceful. The most common type of genre I listen to is Hip-Hop or Rap. I really feel that rappers recite more contemporary poetry. There are a few R&B artists I listen to regularly.

Q4. What musical genre do you really hate? Why?

I detest American Country music. It has got to be the lamest and depressing music genre available to the public. I cannot pinpoint the exact reason why I abhor this heinous excuse for music but I will try. Country music is extremely patriotic, quite irritating. America is number one when most of the people that listen to that type of music probably have never left the proximity of their area code. Music CEO's realize that white American population are losing jobs to "foreigners" so country music artists use that and say white America should love a pure America. It's a clever way to be racist. When in truth no one is a True American. The lyrics are too simple but try too hard to be meaningful. Country music has a kind twang(弦声) that I loathe. It will never grow on me & I try my hardest not to judge the people who listen to country music.

Q5. What do you think of music your parents listen to?

My father has the same affection, if not more, for music as me. While I was growing up I have fond memories with the family & there was always traditional or classical Iranian music playing during these moments. Although I don't have any Iranian music on my computer & never choose to listen to Iranian

music I do like some of it. However, I am not crazy about some of today's popular Iranian songs because they always seem to be furrowing their brows while griping about love.

Q6. Why do humans like music so much?

Without looking up scientific facts why the human species is drawn to music I can muse that music has been a part of humans since the existence of man. Cavemen created drums and hopped around to the beat while circling a fire. Music evokes a feeling in people & I think that at its core that is why humans appreciate music so much.

Q7. Why is music important to you?

Music plays an important role in my life. Whatever emotion I am feeling or mood I am in, I pair it with music. Some people listen to Adele when they are sad or Pitbull when they are happy. Music is the soundtrack to my life. Certain songs come on and it teleports me back to a moment while I was listening to that same song, usually a happier time too.

Q8. What influence do you think music has on life?

Music doesn't influence me like it used to. When I was 12 I started listening to hip-hop and it slightly influenced the way I dressed and somewhat how I acted. Case in point, when I saw Dr. Dre wearing a black fitted baseball hat, I always wore one. Now I am older and music doesn't have that type of influence on me but some music does affect my behavior or mood. If I am listening up-tempo music it usually goes well with a party or my good music, whereas slower tempo music helps me relax and unwind.

Q9. What is the best time and place to listen to music?

That's the beauty of music; you can almost always listen to music. I feel the best time to have music is in social gatherings like when you are with close friends and you create a soundtrack for that occasion. At the same time, a meeting where you are trying to work is not an appropriate time to listen to any kind of music; even white noise.

A building you like

Q1. Is it important to conserve old buildings? Why?

The old buildings are the representatives of the history. They tell the past stories of thousand years and let us know about different issues like how they lived, how their living styles were, what they did, what sort of construction style they had and more other necessary information. If the historical buildings are not preserved, people will be unable to learn about their pasts. It is important to know about the origin, the forefathers and the past in order to live with dignity. If the important buildings are not preserved, the national history will go under oblivion. Moreover, the young generation of a country will be unaware of its history and the greatness of the nation. Usually, the old buildings contain the relics and people develop their idea over their past which is another cause for preserving the old establishments.

Q2. Is the history useful for the coming generations? Why?

History is always useful. It teaches us different important lessons and most of the people who have succeeded in life have taken their learning from the history. So, history is also useful for the coming generations. It may happen that they are in some sort of trouble and if they look back in history, they will find that there were some other people who also had the same troubles and got rid in any specific way. Thus, history helps them to get out of any troublesome situation. Moreover, if they are in any critical situations, they could take help of history, but it should be remembered that history does always not refer the events old about 100 years.

Q3. What is the difference between houses built in the past and now?

The basic difference between the house of past and current is space. Earlier, the houses were made more spacious and covered large spaces to be built. But with the increasing population, the houses are made in small space and the number of houses is on the increase. Moreover, the past houses were designed after different distinctive styles. There were ample spaces for recreation and entertainment for the residents. But in the current days, apartments are being made with lower space and even at times they do not have proper walking space in the staircase. Earlier, the houses covered horizontal space but now they are vertical.

Q4. What are the differences in sizes of houses? Why?

The house sizes are different for various reasons and the top most cause is the increased population around the world. To meet the demand of the growing population, the house sizes are becoming small. Currently, it is almost impossible to build a house covering a large space for the living of a family in a comfortable manner rather the large space could be used to build apartment blocks or residential towers that could house several families instead of one family. Accommodation is one of the greatest challenges in the coming days and already people are experiencing the problem in different cities of the world.

Q5. Do you prefer a big or a small house? Why?

I prefer living in a big house because the environment of a big house is comfortable. The houses are made

in such manner that light and air could pass easily. Moreover, the houses allow the people exercising some hobbies (I like gardening) and if there are spaces, the residents could make gardens before the house which will increase the beauty of the house. But if it is a small house, the options are rare. Moreover, the architectural style of the big houses is usually very attractive and good looking which attracts me more. But the small houses are made commercially to accommodate people, not to exercise their hobbies.

Book

Q1: How often do you read books?

Unfortunately, I don't read books very often. When I was younger my mom used to tell me stories from different books so this is the reason that I am aware of the fairytales. The only book I have read is 'Twilight' by Stephenie Meyer when I was 15 years old and the motivation to do that was the movie with the same name which was released in 2008. From another perspective, though, I read almost all of my books when I was at university but I was forced to do that. So I would come to the conclusion that, I don't read books in my free time but only when I have to.

Tip: You can either say that you don't or you do read books. If you are in the first category refer to the reasons why you don't do that. For example, you can say that you don't have time, many interesting books are expensive, you can't read online books because it's tiring and anything else comes to your mind. If you are in the second category, just think of the kinds of books you have read and try to describe them in a few words. You can also include your university books.

Q2: How books can impact on a man's life?

Books are good sources of knowledge and they actually enlighten us. Reading a book is a really good and helpful way whenever you are bored or stressed out. It is preferable to me reading a book than to surfing the internet (上网). Going further, in this way people can develop their imagination and nurture their mind and thinking skills. Moreover, there is a possibility for someone to change their view about specific things such as religious issues, gender parity, and culture and so on and become more open-minded by reading books. For instance, somebody who isn't romantic may change his opinion after reading a book with a romantic story or someone who is narrow-minded(心胸狭窄) and biased may change their attitude. Finally, it's a good and effective way to practice a foreign language and this is something I did before coming to England.

Q3: Name some of the famous writers of your country?

One of the most famous English writers is JK Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter fantasy series. Her books have gained worldwide attention, won multiple awards, and were sold more than 400 million copies so far. John Milton whose poetry has been seen as the perfect poetic expression in the English language for four centuries is also from my country. Agatha Christie who is reputedly known throughout the world as the "Queen of Crime" and Samuel Johnson who is known as 'arguably the most distinguished (著名的) man of letters in English history' are only some of the many meritorious English authors.

Q4: Have you ever thought about writing a book?

To be honest I haven't. My writing skills aren't so good so if I had decided to do something like that it would have been a moderate work. In fact, I wouldn't want that because I am a perfectionist. In addition, my imagination isn't that vivid to create a story myself so I would jump to the conclusion that I am not the proper person for this activity. Besides, my favorite types of books are biographies so this is the only plot

that I could have written. However, I prefer sharing my personal stories and experiences with my family and friends in verbal form than written form.

Q5: How reading books is different from watching movies?

It is quite different indeed! While reading a book you can imagine the characters and the scenes you are reading about and adjust them to your desires. Everyone makes an image about the main characters' outer appearance, inner traits and so on and personally when I read a book I have a specific actor or actress in my mind. So, I would say that books give someone the chance to make stories based on their personality. Movies, on the other hand, have some standards. There is the visual element which is absent in books and it can be either good or bad because in some cases watching a movie is much better than reading a book but the opposite can happen as well. Personally, I have seen movies having read the books before and some of them weren't as good as I expected.

Shoes

Q1. Do you like to buy expensive shoes?

Well, to be honest, I prefer to purchase comfortable and cheap shoes than expensive shoes. Because I am not a big fan of luxurious fashion.

Q2. When you buy shoes, do you prefer convenience or style?

Well, to be honest, I prefer to put on my feet pairs of shoes which is comfortable and practical rather than style. Because I am not keen on state-of-the-art fashion.

Q3. Why do you think some people buy many pairs of shoes?

Well, I suppose that a number of people purchase a lot of pairs of shoes because they have to put them on their feet every day for working or doing exercise or entertaining. Moreover, they could be showed their style by these pairs of shoes.

Q4. Have you ever bought shoes online?

Well, to be honest, I have not purchased shoes online although it is on trend. Because I could not try to put pairs of shoes on my feet and the quality of these online products could be worse than realistic products when they are delivered to me.

A leisure facility

Q1. What are some examples of ways that people use to relax?

Oh, I guess different people opt for different relaxation methods. Some people give preference to doing yoga. Meditating and stretching to relieve muscle tension. Others choose pampering themselves with a health spa, beauty treatment or a good massage. There are also people who just need to meet friends or spend time with beloved ones to relax. Active people opt for such rest as working out in the gym, dancing, or going shopping. I can also name such nice ways to relax as taking a bath cuddling (拥抱) with a pet, getting fresh air and listening to favorite music.

Q2. Some people say that, on average, there is more stress in people's lives today than in the past. Do you agree?

Well, I guess yes. Nowadays people devote too much time to work as they have too much responsibility and too many commitments. People want to achieve so many things that they just don't have enough time to do everything in advance and have to put extra pressure on themselves procrastinating things and doing last minute work, which is extremely stressful. What is more, these days people have too many expectations from everything and everyone they encounter and too many options to choose from, which is also not great as making the right choice takes a lot of energy and time. All these things add stress to people's lives and make them more stressed in comparison with previous generations.

Q3. Is the environment important for people to get relaxed?

I am more than sure it is. I just can't imagine how a person can relax when there are such environmental factors as excessive noise, busy traffic, uncomfortable living space, bad weather or natural disasters, problems with roommates or neighbors. Though I know what things can help people get relaxed fast. These are pictures of beloved people and favorite places on the walls, pleasant music, candles all around, greenery and colorful fishes in a fish bowl. So, yes, the environment is really important.

Q4. How can companies provide their employees with an opportunity to relax?

Well, I think the first thing companies can do is create break rooms, I mean special spaces with comfortable furniture, various magazines and books to read or just look through, relaxing background music, different games giving employees a chance to unwind (放松) and engage in an activity and a lot of free coffee with all the extras such as sugar, cream, sweets and stuff like that. What else? Of course, at least 1-hour lunch breaks and not too many deadlines.

Q5. What do people in your country do in their spare time?

Oh, nowadays a lot of people living in my country exercise after work and at weekends. I guess it's because more and more people understand that physical exercise is important for both physical and mental health as it gives a release after a day or week of stress. Many people devote quite a lot of their free time to reading and taking extra classes never stopping learning new aspects of the world around them. And of course, spend time with family and friends, surf the net, entertain and travel as much as they can afford.

An English Lesson

Q1. What qualities should a good language teacher have?

Well, I guess an effective language teacher should, first of all, be knowledgeable and competent to be able to answer all students' questions accurately and lay a good foundation for mastering the language. They should also be imaginative and innovative to break monotony as well as get students excited to learn the language and take lively participation in the class. I also guess it's vital for a good language teacher to be interactive to develop students' creative self-expression communicative skills, and, of course motivating to spark language learners to use target language whenever possible.

Q2. Why do people learn foreign languages?

Oh, I think they mainly do it in order to open up a world of job opportunities and completely transform their travel experience having a chance to communicate with people from all over the world without any barriers. I also know people who learn other languages to increase their brain power as language learning has a number of positive effects such as memory improvement and a reduced risk of age-related cognitive decline. Young people usually start learning languages for meeting new people and establishing deep cross cultural friendships, and often end doing it for studying or living overseas. I guess these are the main reasons.

Q3. Why do some people learn languages so quickly?

Well, maybe because they have a special gift or a so-called 'ear for languages' as some people say. Or because they have a more analytical mind which makes it possible for them to grasp the patterns and rules of different languages as is said by others. I would say it's not for one but for a score of reasons such as aptitude for language acquisition(语言习得), experience in languages, interest in learning them and a lack of fear of being unable to master them.

Q4. Do you think grammar is important?

Definitely, it is the foundation for communication and a mark of intelligence and good education. Grammar is of primary importance, to my mind, as it affects the meaning and clarity of an intended message both making it easier for you to understand the purpose and meaning of your interlocutors' messages and keeping you from being misunderstood by others. It also improves the development of fluency giving people the appearance of credibility. So, no doubt, grammar is vital for communicating with others.

influenced on you

Q1. What type of people influence the young in your country?

Well, thank you very much for asking such an important question. Usually, the youths are influenced by the teachers and sometimes they follow their immediate superiors. Most of the time they are out of the home and thus they do not have any close connection with their parents. When they are not in close contact, they do not show the urge to the directions of the parents. But the scenario is opposite for the teachers and superiors. The youths spend most of their times at the educational institutions with their teachers, mates and seniors. So, they are greatly influenced by the teachers and their seniors regarding their attitude and learning skills.

But the youth issues are of great concern for the parents and the society as well. The rate of unemployment in Australia has decreased to some extent in this year but it does not refer that the issue has been solved yet. The unemployed youths are covering a large portion of the total population and they are engaged into different unwanted and unethical activities sometimes whereas they are not supposed to get involved so. Though the rate of such unwanted events is not rapidly increasing, but it is still an alarming issue for all.

Q2. Why it is important to have role models?

Youths always want to follow. They experience a new world before them when they are out of their homes and consequently get influenced by the external facts. They need to have role models for several reasons.

I think you have the idea how the youths are influenced by movies or songs and the people who are performing in the movies. When they see something negative, they try to imitate the negative issues in their real life and as a result invite disorders for them with their family and friends. For instance, if they see someone smoking on television or on cinema, I can bet they will follow the smoking style immediately after enjoying the movie or the specific television series.

They get highly influenced and take them as role models for them. I'm talking about a negative aspect of role model that will teach them how to smoke cigarettes. But it could be used for positive aspects as well. When they will see someone of their ages is having an award for outstanding contribution to any social sector and the issue will be publicized, they will be inspired to be like the award-winning youths. Therefore, since they are out of control of the parents and influenced by the role models, I think it is important to create more and more role models for them.

Q3. Do you think the education system in your country influences young people's behavior?

Umm! Yes. Education has many things to do with the behavior of the young people.

The educational system in Australia does not teach the student to read and write only, it also plays a great

role to socialize the students. The course curriculums are made in different ways to teach them the right manners in different situations. But there are some youths – wicked by nature, do not follow the learning. The entire education system is formed in a way that if the students follow the system properly, they would be considered as assets for the country. But in reality, the scenario is different. Sometimes the learning process is not easier as it is imagined.

Besides, the teachers are cordial in spreading the learning and in many of the cases the students are unwilling to learn. As a result, the education cannot play its role in making law abiding citizens. I think you are well informed about the issue that education is a two-way process and ‘pushing knowledge’ on the students cannot bring the desired outcomes. They are also to be willing in learning newer attitudes and behaviors through the educational system.

Q4. What types of person (parents, teachers, friends etc) are best to influence young people's behavior?

As I said before, the teachers are the best people to influence the young people and their behavior. They usually imitate the attitudes and behaviors of the teachers and in some exceptional cases, they follow their friends. I think you will agree on the point why they are not influenced by the parents after my answer of your previous question.

Parents cannot control their kids as they stay less time at homes and spend more on out of home activities. They have a close interaction with the teachers and friends. When the teachers order them to do any specific thing, they perform the tasks happily while this is not possible for their parents to make them do.

Q5. What do you think young people will be most influenced by in the future?

Great question for me! Well, you know that the ages are advancing. With the advancement, the kids and youths are getting changed too. When you were a youth in your time, the global setting was not the same as it is today being experienced by the youths of the current days.

Further, the global setting will be changed in the future as well. Thereby, it is hard to predict how the youths will be influenced in the coming days. But I think it would be the mass media that will have the largest portion of influence on the youths. The idea crossed my mind. Due to the use of social networking websites, spending time on watching television events, reading the news websites on cell phones etc. are on the rise among the youths.

Q6. What influences social media has on young generation in your country?

The social network is the Network of Number of Peoples or Groups means it provides them a way to exchange their thoughts, knowledge, messages so that we can conclude social networks increase Awareness among the people and stay them connect for e.g. Facebook, twitter etc.

On the other hand, it has also some issues that are the issues of privacy, security as we see that some

nonseries Peoples uses images of others and make fake Accounts and start publishes some Vulgar things that send the wrong message to society in the form of violence, against the dignity of peoples of the country etc. So we need to be aware of all its pros and cons so that how we can use Social media in the right way with responsible manner. Overall friend message is If there is rose then there is thorn also.

Your friends

Q1. Do you think friends are important?

Of course friends are important! Without friends we would be lonely much of the time, and although sometimes it's nice to be left alone it would be horrible to have no one to talk to. With friends we can enjoy similar interests, talk about our lives and share experiences. Friends should be held closely, because they're some of the most valuable things we can have. A true friend will always be there for you when you need them most. A strong group of friends is as good as, if not better than, a family.

Q2. Do you prefer to have one or two close friends or a wide circle of friends?

I have a wide range of interests, so I think it's good to have a wide circle of friends because I'm always able to find someone who I can talk to about something. To be honest though, it's much better to have one or two close friends because those are the friends that count. Close friends will always stick by you through thick and thin(任何时候), and you can talk about more personal issues than you can with mere acquaintances. I've had many, many friends over the years but I've lost touch with most of them. Only a few have been my friends the whole time, and I think that's the mark of true friendship.

Q3. What do you think is the difference between a 'close friends' and a 'best friend'?

Some people attach great significance to the title of 'best friend'. Personally, I don't think it's possible to single one person out (挑选) as the 'best' and better than other friends. Sometimes it makes your other friends feel inferior because they are not given this title. The idea of a best friend is a good one though: it means someone who you absolutely trust, have known for a long time and get along with very well. It's a special relationship that means a lot to both people.

Q4. How can one distinguish between a close friend and an acquaintance?

It's easy to tell the difference. An acquaintance may be someone you enjoy spending time with and probably has similar interests to you, but you don't know enough about each other to really be good friends. Acquaintances are often made at school or work where people spend a lot of time with each other, and you probably like them and enjoy being with them but don't have much of a relationship beyond that. A close friend is someone who you've maybe known for a long time and know very well. A close friend is someone you can talk to about your thoughts and feelings, but you probably wouldn't do that with an acquaintance.

Losing Weight

Q1. Do you usually go to gyms? Why?

Yes, I do. I go to the gym every few days. You know, health is becoming more and more important. It is very hard to imagine how someone can survive without health! You know, health has already become the priority number one when it comes to almost everything and we are certainly going nowhere without it! Health has already become one of the very few things that can't be measured in terms of money. And certainly, going to gyms frequently is obviously a good way of keeping healthy.

Q2. Do Chinese do lots of exercise?

Yes, generally speaking, we Chinese do lots of exercise. Fitness, for the last several decades, had been used as a buzzword. Going to the gym to work out is frequently taken as one of the top New Year's resolutions, especially to young people. But it really depends. Depends on age and sex. Can you imagine a ninety-year-old lady going to the gym to build up nice figure and can you imagine a three-year-old little kid going to the gym to get in shape?

Q3. What do you think of losing weight?

This is being talked about like a buzzword among people, especially to those ladies who are dying to become more eye-catching and attention-grabbing. I think it is a good thing, but don't ever overdo it. It is like there is always a fine line, don't ever cross it. And I suppose being on crash diet of only tap water would be the very last thing that everybody wants to do and it will totally ruin your health.

Q4. Who would like to lose weight more, women or men? Why?

In China, women are definitely the demographic who are more likely to lose weight. It is one of the things that women like to do. They are always popping into beauty parlors, consulting, and plastic surgeries and losing weight, like liposuction, massage and acupuncture: they might as well rush into a pharmacy to grab the weight-reducing medicine. Even if they go to sports center to exercise, they are more likely to be doing aerobics, yoga to bum fat: but it would turn out to become totally another picture when it comes to men. They don't think losing weight would ever become an issue for them.

Eating at home

Q1. Do people in your country like to eat at home?

Well, I don't think it's a good idea to paint all people living in my country with the same brush as, to my mind, what they like, first of all, depends on their mood, preferences and finances. I would say many people do like to eat at home cause, on the one hand, it saves their time and money and, on the other hand, lets them enjoy nutritious and healthy food. What is more, it brings family together, lets people control their and avoid food poisoning. But there are various reasons for people to opt for going out too. Let's say, they don't time to cook or, what is worse, don't know how to do it. Some people just don't like to cook for themselves or enjoy only the feeling of eating food that someone else has made. Being at a restaurant also appeals to people because it invites them to interact with others in a social way, which adds to eating occasions, making them more enjoyable.

Q2. What's the difference between having meals at home and at a restaurant?

Well, to my mind, it's much faster & cheaper to eat at home, so the first difference is that having meals at home saves us time and money. What is homemade food is more nutritious and homemade food is more nutritious and healthy, which lets us control our weight and avoid food poisoning. One more thing that appeals to home cooking is the fact that it brings family together letting all family members enjoy both a delicious meal and communication with each other. As far as having meals at a restaurant is concerned, it makes life easier and more pleasant. People can enjoy the flexibility of choosing an eating whatever is offered on the menu. They don't need either to cook or clean up. They can take pleasure in food itself as well as in the outing and event eating out.

Q3. How often do people in your country like to eat out?

Well, eating out is more or less affordable in my country 'cause it's relatively cheap, so a lot of people do go to restaurants time and again. Some people do it quite often, I can even say almost every day either for business or for pleasure because they like a varied menu cafes and restaurants offer or just want to relax after a hard day at work enjoying not only the meal itself but also a pleasant atmosphere. Others do so quite seldom either because they think it's appropriate only for special occasions and celebrations or because they prefer to save money for something more important like travelling or making a big purchase.

Q4. Why do some people like to eat alone?

Oh, I guess they enjoy solo dining for various reasons. For some people eating alone is the only way to be totally on their own enjoying their own company as well as the peace and quiet of a nice setting. For others it's a perfect way of focusing on the dining experience taking their time to savor the food. It's also some kind of freedom for people as it gives them such benefits as ordering whatever strikes their fancy without opinions or influence from fellow diners, choosing how to spend their time while waiting for food either by reading a book or gazing the window, eating in any manner want or ordering the most expensive dish on the menu without feeling guilty.

Q5. Are there any disadvantages of eating outside?

Well, I think everything has both advantages and disadvantages and eating out is not an exception. The first thing that usually puts people off eating outside is that it costs a lot more than making food at home. Another unpleasant factor, to my mind, is that it can be unhealthy. I mean eating out is typically less nutritious than eating in. What is more, many restaurant meals are portioned excessively or just higher in calories, which is not under our control because of a limited ability to know food ingredients.

Noise Pollution

Q1. Is noise pollution serious in China?

Pollution or noise disturbance is the disturbing or most outdoor noise is excessive noise that may disturb the activity or balance of human or animal life. In China, mainly caused by construction and transportation (like motor vehicle , aircraft, and railway) systems

Q2. Do you like to live in a noisy place?

Absolutely not like. To be honest, I could hardly think of any reason why people would like to live in a noisy place. I can't stand noisy neighborhood with a lot of noise pollution. Poor urban planning may give rise to noise pollution, since side-by-side industrial and residential buildings can also result in noise pollution in the residential area. A place like that is never going to be in my list of buying a house.

Q3. Do you think there is more noise in people's lives today than in the past?

Yes. There is definitely more noise in people's lives today than in the past. Roadway noise is a typical example, because there are more and more cars in the street, the noise is increasing in the past years. And with the fast development of air flight, aircraft noise becomes a quite severe problem for people who live nearby the airport. Besides, industrial noise is also a huge challenge for all human beings.

Q4. What would you do if your neighbors were noisy all the time?

I would be very likely to knock on their doors and try to communicate with them. If it just lasted for a while, like decorations, then I think is ok for me. But if they were noisy all the time and would not make compromises, I would like to find a third party to help us negotiate on this matter. And if this method does not work either, then I would simply move out of this neighborhood, after all, no one can stand the noise all the time.

Photo

Q1. When and where do you take it?

I can't remember how many photos I have taken. Though time has gone, there is still something to be remembered. Photos always set memories at a certain time. I have a photo kept in my album which always reminds me of the happy time of my childhood. That is photo taken in 1987 when I went to study at the primary school. What I can see from the photo is the pure and brilliant smile. I remembered that was a sunny morning, my father took me to the zoo, because the next day I would go to school. He took the photo for me in front of zoo. When I see the photo every time, I find a little girl smiling at me, dressed a beautiful red skirt. When I grew up, it can't be avoided that there will some unhappy things happen. I will take out this photo to look at the little girl. I feel strong and happy; I know everything will be fine. That is a photo which could remind me what kind of person I will be.

Q2. Why do people like to take photo?

Some people like to take photos because they like to see what they really look like. Some people take photos just to memorize special occasions.

Q3. When will people use professional photographers to take photo for them?

People use professional photographers to take photos when there are big or important occasions and need to take seriously.

Q4. What is the role of camera play in modern time?

It plays a more and more important role. Nowadays, more and more people have their own cameras and taking photos become much common. People may have a lot to recall looking at the photos.

Q5. Is there any change for life taken by camera?

Yes, of course. You can tell from photos clearly the rapid changes of people's life. It has become more colorful and modern.

Chinese School

Q1. Tell me about the typical homework you had to do in high school.

Every day students get set homework by the teacher. It's really tiring having to do work every single night! Most of the questions are boring to be honest. They're mostly geared towards getting you to practice what you learnt in school that day. Sometimes it's so boring it can be something as boring as just copying an article. It's designed to make you remember facts rather than use your brain actively. This is a terrible way to learn! All it does it make you remember things; it doesn't make you more educated or more intelligent. More interesting homework like essay writing or creative projects would be much more useful.

Q2. Do you think students in China have too much homework?

Absolutely! All the Chinese people I know never stop telling me how horrible it was to do so much homework in school. Most of them have put it behind them now, but I can tell it still grates on them. They say that having so much homework ruined their social lives and meant that they never had time to do anything else. Personally I think they're right, and that it's dangerous to give children so much work to do. It means they can't develop socially or in other ways if they're always stressed out with(感到压力) homework. Some people even commit suicide because they are so depressed about their gigantic workloads.(巨大的工作量)

Q3. Do you think homework is necessary?

As much as I am loath to (不情愿的) admit it, yes I do think homework is necessary. Students need work to complete at home as well as in school for several reasons. It's important to complete extra work so you can really hammer home(彻底了解) what you have learnt from the teacher. Homework allows you to practice your writing skills in preparation for tests. You can research extra information you wouldn't learn from school lessons and improve yourself. There are simply not enough hours in the school day for someone to achieve their best; they need to do some homework as well to really push themselves to the limit.

Q4. How do you think modern science and technology has influenced education today in China?

Very little. Although new technology has come into the classroom, it isn't used to improve the teaching much. Education methods are still highly traditional, with rote learning(死记硬背) and repetition a common way of learning something. Outside the classroom I think many students are beginning to use technology to help them with their education by using personal computers or doing research on the internet. The internet especially is a god send to people who want to find out information or learn something not taught by their classroom teacher.

Home

Q1. How easy is it to find a place to live in your country?

Well, it depends on how much money you are able to spend and where exactly you want to live. Of course, if you have the money, it's very easy to find a place to live. However, house prices have been on the rise in recent years, and it is becoming difficult for young adults to buy their first homes, or even to pay rental prices in some areas, particularly in central London.

Q2. Do you think it's better to rent or to buy a place to live in?

I think it's better to buy your own home if you can afford to do that. Buying your own home is a better investment in the long term, because you can sell the home and perhaps even make a profit on it. The alternative is to pay rent to a landlord who can ask you to leave at any moment.

Q3. Do you agree that there is a right age for young adults to stop living with their parents?

I'm not sure what the 'right' age would be, but I do agree with the principle that young adults should try to live alone if they can. For some people, the right age is when they get their first full-time jobs and can afford to pay rent, and for others it's when they start university and move into a hall of residence with other students. This was what happened in my case; I moved out of the family home at age 18 when I started university.

Making Decisions

Q1. Do parents in China allow their children to make important decisions about the future?

I think it varies from person to person. For families living in big and modern cities, family members are tended to become equal and respect to each other, which means children will have more freedom in making their important decisions. However, when it comes to the rural areas with lower education level, the power and rights of making vital decisions are all parents'.

Q2. Do you think that parents should make important decisions for their children?

It is really hard to say. The parents are always more sophisticated (精明的) and experienced, and if they make decisions, the things would always go in the right away. The problem that comes along is that children are more likely to rely on their parents, which hinders their ability in judging. So I do believe that parents could give their children some suggestions instead of making final decisions for them.

Q3. Do you think that teachers should help students make decisions?

Teacher could provide students with references. But they should never interfere whenever the students are making decisions. They cannot take the responsibility if anything goes wrong. So they should encourage students to follow their own hearts more.

Big/Small company

Q1. What are the advantages of working at a big company?

Well, off the top of my head (我的第一反应是), you have tremendous room for growth (很大的提升/晋升空间). You may start out as an intern(实习生) and work your way up to a high-level management position. As long as you're competent (能力很强的) and highly-skilled (技能很强的) in your own field of expertise (专业领域), you will have many promotion possibilities. Plus, I think it feels good when you tell your friends where you work and they envy you for working at such a sizeable (big) corporation.

Q2. What do you need to do in order to increase your chance of getting a pay raise and a promotion?

Um, some practical things to do are to be the first person to come to the office and the last one to leave and ... also, make an effort to (努力) develop a good relationship with your boss. But of course, these are not enough. I believe the most important is to be the one others can count on (依靠, 依赖) and you need to be able to bring benefits to the company.

Colorful Place

Q1. What color is the least popular in your country?

Sample 1:

Well, I suppose that it would be probably white color, what I mean is, white carries the negative meaning in some specific occasions, such as funeral.

Sample 2:

Well, it is really hard to say, different people would have different taste for the color they least like. But, I suppose that the least popular color in China must be white, because people only dress in white when someone dies, or in the funeral ceremony.

Q2. Do you think this color will be popular in the future?

Sample 1:

Well, it is really hard to say the white would be popular or not in the future, what I mean is, the color people like would be influenced by many factors, such as age, gender, occupation, personality or even a specific event in the future, so it is too hard to say yes or no.

Sample 2:

Yes, it would be. Since white has been widely used in Chinese modern wedding ceremony, it carries the meaning of purity and elegance, especially when the bride dresses in white; she looks extremely gorgeous (漂亮的), brilliant, sensible and graceful.

Q3. What was the most popular color last year?

Sample 1:

Well, to be honest to say/frank to say, I really have no idea what color was most popular last year, because I don't like shopping at all and I am not sensitive to fashion, in other words, I am not fond of fashion although I like beauty.

Sample 2:

It was purple, definitely. Because purple represents elegance and gracefulness.

Q4. Do you think the color would reflect people's mood?

Yes, I do really think color does reflect people's feeling, some people would like to change the color of the clothing they dress when they feel different, for example, when they feel delightful or joyful, they generally wear brighter colors, such as red or yellow, however, when they feel depressed or frustrated, they normally dress in black or brown.

Q5. What color is mostly seen in Chinese buildings?

Well, it is really hard to say, because many buildings were painted in different colors/were colored

differently, there is no any answer coming up from my brain at this moment, so thanks for your question.

Q6. What color is most suitable for offices?

Well, I guess white is most suitable for the office, as far as I know, in the real life, the offices are painted in white mostly, since the white means professional, and the white makes staffs or employees more concentrate on their work, it is different from other kind of colors, such as red or yellow, which easily distract people's attentions from their work.

Q7. How differently do men and women look at the same color?

Well, I can not see any difference when males and females dress in the same color, personally, I think the educational background, physical appearance, social status and personality would more reflect one's looking, but not color.

Q8. How does color influence the advertisement?

Well, the color definitely plays an essential role in the advertisement, for the ads with brighter color, it would make the products advertisement more eyes-catching(耀眼的, 引人注目的)or attractive, and it would attract more customers to purchase this advertised item.

禁用手机

Q1. How can technology make our life easier?

Technology is the use of invented science and the uses of technological tools and that have made our life easier. For example, we are using watches to get time, watching television for different reasons, and using telephones for communication purposes etc and thus our life is made easier than before. But if there were no clock, television or telephone invented, certainly we should have stayed in the primitive age. The current advancement would not have been possible. Technology has changed that way we study, work or even spend our leisure time. With the help of the technology, we can have a better life standard with much more efficient tools and devices to help us in every way possible.

Q2. What are some greatest inventions you know about?

There are a large number of inventions have been done so far, but the most important invention appears to me is the invention of electricity. Then I should consider the invention of wheels which truly has made the communication system and travelling easier to us. Thirdly I should consider the invention of Internet, which has radically changed the world. Apart from that light bulbs, airplane, penicillin, telephone are some other greatest inventions of all time in my opinion.

Q3. Why should we restrict the use of mobile phone in public places?

Mobile phone, undoubtedly, is an important invention but it has some detrimental impacts too. Using mobile phones at public places may appear indecent. Mobile phone users talk about countless issues but sometimes the speeches may cause irritation to others existing on the public spots. Moreover, the speakers may also reveal their secrets inadvertently that may hamper their privacy. Moreover, since the public places are always crowded, the chance of accidents is more while talking on mobile phones.

Q4. Why mobile phones are gaining its popularity?

Mobile phones are gaining popularity as those are easy to carry. Moreover, someone can buy a mobile phone at an affordable cost and without any legal complexities. Besides, the tariffs are also economic. It is far more convenient than other means of communication system and faster to deliver the message. So, the mobile phones are gaining popularity gradually.

Q5. Can you do without your mobile phone?

In the current days, it is impossible for me to do without a mobile phone for a single day. I need the phone not only for communication purpose, but I also use the phone for passing my time by playing games, using internet applications and more other necessary issues. So it would be quite difficult for me not to use the mobile phone.

a polite person

Q1. In your country's culture, how do you show that you are being polite?

We really value politeness and good manners in the UK, and there are many types of polite behavior. One of the first things we learn as children is to say "please" and "thank you". As adults, I think we are careful not to be too direct in the language we use. For example, we would never say "Bring me the bill" in a restaurant because this kind of direct instruction would sound rude. It would be much more polite to say "Could we have the bill, please?"

Q2. Are we less polite with members of our families than with people we don't know?

I suppose it's normal to be a bit more relaxed about politeness with family members. Most people tend to speak in a more informal way at home; in the UK, we still say "please" and "thanks", but it's fine to use colloquial language and things like nicknames that you would never use with someone you didn't know.

Q3. What according to you is politeness?

Speaking Answer: According to me, it is just a way of interacting with people. Some people tend to be polite, means they speak softly and are less likely to use harsh words for others. It is for some the way that people treat others, the way they want themselves to be treated. I agree with it. It is also about saying please, thank you and sorry whenever required.

Q4. Who taught you to be polite when you were a child?

Speaking Answer: I think no one actually taught me. I learnt it by seeing people around me. My mother is very polite and she talks to people very nicely, no matter what the other person is saying I don't remember her losing her patience. She once told me, that don't raise your voice in an argument, but rather improve your point. I have kept these things in mind and have benefited a lot because of my politeness.

Q5. Why is it important to be polite to people?

Speaking Answer: I think because of two simple reasons: first most people tend to react the way you talk to them. SO, if you want others to be nice to you, you have to start it by yourself. Secondly: because we all are living busy lives and it feels good when people talk nicely to each other.

Q6. Do you think people have become less or more polite since the time you were a child?

Speaking Answer: I believe, people have become more of open minded, less formal and more bold in making statements. So, they tend to just say as it is. But, this does not necessarily mean that they don't respect their parents or elders. I think the problem is that people are not able to express what they feel in a better way.

Ambitions

Q1. What do you think of children having ambitions?

I'd say it's generally a good thing. You know, if they have an ambition, it kind of shows they've developed an interest in something, which should have a positive effect on their learning.

Q2. Do parents in your country want their children to have ambitions?

Yeah, for sure. I think most parents are very happy to see their children express ambitions. But I should also add that if the ambition doesn't accord with(符合) their own hopes for their child's future, then parents might not be so supportive. For instance, if, let's say, a child's ambition is to be a dancer or artist or something like that, then it's probable that many parents might try to quell (get rid of) such aspirations, as those kinds of careers are very difficult to succeed in, and I mean, no parent wants to see their children struggling through life, (do they)! (“对不对” , referring to parents.)