



2:16

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

When it comes to the idea of paradise, the first image that comes into my mind is a clean, wide stretch of sandy beach where there is twilight for eternity with coconut trees all around. The weather there should be pleasantly comfortable all year round. BBQ parties and bonfires with an endless stock of good quality beer and sodas should be offered free of charge. Singers with amazingly beautiful voices accompanied by guitar perform by the sea. It must be an environment so relaxing that no more matters would bother you. Everything is in one peace, and you can finally have a good rest in happiness and harmony.

## Transcript

Describe your idea of paradise.

2:45

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

As far as I am concerned, in order to best show hospitality to foreign visitors, the first and foremost thing to do is to commit to the development of tourism and hospitality industry which refers to the hotel and catering industries. The airport is the place where foreign visitors first set their foot on and have interaction with the country. Therefore, it is of critical importance to build decent airports in capital cities that make travellers feel they are welcome. To be more specific, brochures introducing the country to foreigners, containing the most relevant information they might need during their visit, and printed in different languages should be readily available at the airport. From the brochures, they can get a good idea of where to pay a visit and how to make their stay a pleasant one. Apart from that, it is highly recommended that citizens show kindness to any foreign visitors who come to them and ask a favour. This can range from asking the way to their destinations to asking you to take a photo of them.

### Transcript

In what ways can people show hospitality to foreign visitors in their country?

2:55

Speak the answer to the question you hear

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

### Answer

One can't help a friend if he or she retreats when problems arise. To be a good friend, one needs to be there for late night talks or tears. The number one goal should be to offer support. Just knowing someone is willing to listen or offer advice or cares can make all of the difference to a friend going through hardship. Call, text or write and just ask, "How are you? Is there anything you need or that I can do?" Even if they say they want to be alone, at least make the offer. However, you should not force them to talk when they are not ready to do so. Give them the space they ask for, then reach out again. Several times. Don't run away. Sometimes people aren't sure what to say when a friend is going through a hardship, so they say nothing or distance. This could hurt your friend more.

### Transcript

How can friends help each other through hardships?

2:55

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

It is an indisputable fact that photographic reproduction has profoundly affected how art is viewed today. The context that artwork is viewed alters how the work is perceived or understood. The reproduction of works removed and hence isolated from its original environment hence inevitably alters the meaning of the work as perceived by an audience viewing it through a digital screen or in a gallery. This undoubtedly negatively affects the success of the artistic intention of the viewers of the work in today's age. Our first meeting most works occur through reproductive elements, and we have increasingly become unable to truly appreciate work in its entirety. We are unable to encounter it in real life and directly respond to it without having been taught or initiated with the background of the artist, his/her motivations and intentions, the historical precedents and contexts.

### Transcript

It's common to find reproductions of famous artworks in public places. How is this beneficial or not?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

As far as I am concerned, education about personal hygiene should be taught in schools. This is because personal hygiene is an important form of self-care that will ensure that children will lead a healthy life. Forming good hygiene practice from early childhood can have a positive effect on children's growth and development. Children will also learn to be independent and boost their confidence and self-esteem. This being said, schools are the best places to teach students personal hygiene as it is within the community setting that the lesson learnt is put into practice. Specially designed lessons are given by teachers in a standard approach to ensure that every student fully understands them. And the peer pressure generated within the community can serve as a motive for better implementation of personal hygiene.

## Transcript

Some people think that education about personal hygiene should be taught in schools. Others think it is a family's responsibility. What do you think? And why?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Instead of a job for life, it's now generally accepted we will have a portfolio of careers — a series of roles and three to four different career paths. As people live longer, mature age is redefined, and people are increasingly changing careers at any age. For older adults who are looking at middle age, they often find themselves facing a different set of responsibilities and personal needs. Whether they have kids that they are caring for, their own aging parents who need help, or they are simply so settled into their familiar work routine that they are craving new challenges and ways to contribute to the world, many older workers are in a time of shifting focus and increased responsibilities. That being said, the need for flexibility and new passion constitute the two biggest motives for a middle-aged person to change to a completely different career.

## Transcript

What might motivate a middle-aged person to change to a completely different career.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

People are increasingly becoming overwhelmingly materialistic, especially the youth. That is to say, people nowadays are interested more than ever primarily in making money. The goal of making a lot of money obviates the need for people to develop a meaningful philosophy of life. As far as I am concerned, the rising tide of materialism should be stopped due to the following reasons. As people become more materialistic, their wellbeing, including good relationships, autonomy, sense of purpose and the rest, diminishes. Materialists tend to use possessions as a yardstick of success and seek happiness through acquisition rather than sharing and giving. If our brightest young people are overwhelmingly money-minded when they go to college, they will highly likely become indifferent to and irresponsible for their families and the society as a whole. There will be enormous declines in altruistic interests and social concerns. For instance, helping others, promoting interracial understanding, protecting the environment and participating in community-action programs. For a better world to live in, I urge our people to change the tide of materialism.

Transcript

Should we try to change the tide of materialism? And if so, how?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Antibiotics, first used in the 1940s, are certainly one of the great advances in medicine. But overprescribing them has resulted in the development of resistant bacteria, that don't respond to antibiotics that may have worked in the past. Taking antibiotics for colds and other viral illnesses not only won't work, but it can also have dangerous side effects — over time, this practice helps create bacteria that are harder to kill. Therefore, it is of critical importance to prevent the overuse of antibiotics. One must always bear in mind that: Antibiotics can only treat bacterial infection if taken for the full amount of time prescribed by the doctor. Talk to pharmacists if you're unsure about the use. The medicines take time to work, so don't expect to feel better after taking the first dose. Antibiotics must be taken for the full amount of time prescribed by the doctor. Otherwise, the infection may come back. Don't take antibiotics longer than prescribed. Do not use leftover antibiotics or save extra antibiotics for next time.

## Transcript

The overuse of antibiotics has become a serious issue. In what ways can we prevent this?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

When it comes to a prominent person in my country's history, the first person who comes into my mind is Du Fu, who is the greatest poet in China's history. Du Fu lived through the violent fall of China's brilliant Tang dynasty. As rebel armies sacked the capital, and floods and famine wrecked the country, he was forced to flee, taking his family on the roads as refugees. But out of these events he produced what Harvard's literature professor calls 'the greatest poems in the Chinese language', words that ever since have been seen as an expression of what it means to be Chinese. Du Fu's poem has resonated through the centuries, describing the experiences of ordinary people caught up in war, corruption, famine and natural disasters. In China, poets have always been seen as the trusted chroniclers of people's hearts and the nation's history, and for the Chinese, Du Fu is more than a poet. For generations, he has been the guardian of the moral conscience of the nation.

## Transcript

Talk about a prominent person in your country's history.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

As far as I am concerned, project-based classwork is more demanding than traditional book-based instruction, where students may just memorize facts from a single source. Instead, students utilize original documents and data, mastering principles covered in traditional courses but learning them in more meaningful ways. Projects can last weeks; multiple projects can cover entire courses. Student work is presented to audiences beyond the teacher, including parents and community groups. Students can go beyond the textbook to study complex topics based on real-world issues, such as the water quality in their communities or the history of their town, analyzing information from multiple sources, including the Internet and interviews with experts. I got this idea while conducting research on experiential learning. And I personally think introducing such approach in schools will involve a level of difficulty both in terms of the capacity of the teaching staff and the associated expenditure.

Transcript

Describe an idea that you have for improving something at work or school. Where did you get the idea? And do you think it will hard to implement?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

In today's society, medical technology has ameliorated many aspects of people's lives, among which the most noticeable one is the extension of life expectancy. As far as I am concerned, the disadvantages of prolonging human life by using technology or medicine outweigh its advantages. It should be pointed out that living longer does not necessarily mean health. This is because of the rate of getting ill increases with the growth of age. Apart from that, the financial burden of governments will be significantly larger due to the fact that everyone will be relying on medical welfare to live longer. To put it in a nutshell, considering all the factors outlined above, we may safely draw the conclusion that using technology or medicine to prolong people's life can bring adverse effects on society.

## Transcript

Some people want to use technology or medicine to prolong their lives. What's your opinion about this?

2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

### Answer

I would react gently when someone is being rude to me. It is partly because I am a mild and easy-going person, and thus I would hardly be literally angry to anybody. The other reason is that acting in an aggressive manner towards someone who is rude to me, in my opinion, would not help ease the situation but could potentially worsen it, which would be the last thing I would like to see. In that case, neither of the two parties would likely be able to step out of the tense situation in order to arrive at a reconciliation.

### Transcript

How do you react when someone is rude to you?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

If one day in the future when the fossil fuels have been replaced by the clean energy, the air we breath will be cleaner and there is no smog caused by the emission of the carbon dioxide. Nowadays, people living in my hometown are suffering heavily from pollution caused by the burning of fossil fuels, especially coal. In winter, we cannot see the objects 100 meters away and cough a lot due to air pollution. If fossil fuels can be gotten rid of, I don't need to worry about the rhinitis and cough any more. Moreover, the global warming phenomenon will also bee eased, which otherwise, will lead to the rising of the sea level. Some islands, such as Bali, would be submerged if current rising continues. If we take the action to stop using fossil fuels, I may still have the opportunities to travel to these islands.

## Transcript

How my life be different if we didn't need to consume fossil fuels for energy?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

A malicious gossip can cause serious mental damage to the person who is targeted. The first reason why people participate in spreading malicious gossip is that they are doing this to hurt those whose popularity, talents or lifestyle they envy. For instance, celebrities, such as actors and singers, suffer from malicious gossip from the public. Nowadays, people can just type letters and make comments online so that this gossip can be spread worldwide. Another reason could be that people who are gossiping want to gain the attention temporarily while divulging a piece of gossip. Due to the online platform, it is impossible to trace who publish the malicious, so they have no fear at all. Moreover, sometimes, people are under the pressure that they must spread the gossip to become part of the group since the others are all spreading it. But we must realize that the gossip we spread without careful thinking could directly or indirectly lead to the harms to others.

## Transcript

Why do people participate in spreading malicious gossip about others?



2:55

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Compared to cities that are inland, coastal cities enjoy the beautiful view of the sea and beaches while also burden server problems due to the position. The most serious natural problem is that coastal cities are more likely to suffer from the tsunami, which will cause significant damages to the property and infrastructure. Moreover, the dumping in the sea also threatens the life of people there. Most residents in coastal cities are depending on the sea for a living, but water pollution leads to the decrease of marine animals. Besides, if the coastal areas are famous as a scenic spot, local people and government should take more investments and money to process the garbage left by the visitors. Normally, many important industrial centers are situated on estuaries. Numerous pipelines, data and energy cables buried in the seabed. The damage caused by these construction engineering activities along the shoreline cannot be ignored since those damages are permanent and cannot be reversed.

## Transcript

What are some problems facing cities in coastal areas as opposed to cities that are inland?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The most noticeable feature of my hometown is its long coastal line with clean beaches. In my childhood, I often swam in the sea and collected shells with my friends. In recent years, the beaches in my city have been awarded with the most suitable place for surfing, which boosts its reputation further. The beaches here are famous not only nationally but also attract visitors from worldwide. There are several quality resorts built around to offer better visiting experience. A range of cafés, restaurants, shops serving local and exotic products are available there. I can also see couples who are taking wedding pictures there. Since last year, the government has built up a path for walking which connects most of the beaches. Moreover, there are markets with various themes every certain period. Especially in Christmas Eve and New Year Eve, there are great fireworks displays along the beaches.

## Transcript

What is the most noticeable feature of your town or city?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

No matter in study or work, teamwork and cooperation with others cannot be avoided. Some strategies required especially working with someone who is not compatible with us. The first and most important strategy is to put the team's goal at the highest priority, which indicates that we still need to show great attitude to share ideas and willingness to cooperate rather than simply giving up. Only focusing on the fight between each other may cause everyone cannot finish the tasks. Sometimes, we need to think from other's perspective to figure out whether their opinions are reasonable. It is likely that we have different plans and methods but all of them can achieve the same results. Moreover, when working together, trying to avoid direct conflicts is also a great strategy. Some issues that can be discussed further when we calm down and if necessary, we can ask superior for advice and guidance.

### Transcript

Describe some strategies for working with someone with whom you are not compatible.



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The global warming caused by the emission of carbon dioxide is a globally concerned issue in current society. From an individual perspective, we can reduce our carbon footprint by changing the ways we are living in. For example, we can take public transportation more frequently rather than private cars when commuting. Meanwhile, we can save energy at home by turning off lights when we are leaving the room and reducing the usage of air conditioning and heating. Moreover, it is also a great idea to install solar panels at home. Instead of purchasing unnecessary cloth and food, only purchasing necessary products can reduce the energy used in disposing of them. In daily shopping, we can bring a recycled bag with us rather than using plastic bags. Individual behaviors may seem immaterial on their own, but if we all work together in the long run, we can see the differences we made.

## Transcript

What are ways that individual people can reduce their carbon footprint?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

In human's history, the existence of supernature is always debatable. Some people insist that the abnormal phenomena they experienced are relevant to the power of god or ghost. For example, they may dimly see the dead family is talking to them at night. This is because people miss their beloved so sincerely and want to reunite with them. Moreover, it is possible that these people are religious or mentally vulnerable. On the other hand, the others claim they don't have experience with supernatural occurrences. They think all these phenomena are nothing but coincidence. All supernatural occurrences can be explained by science. From my perspective, supernatural occurrences give me a sense of mystery that human still have many fields to explore. And some supernature-related artworks are historic collections now since they represent human's boundless imagination. However, we cannot worship supernature power blindly. Too obsessed with supernature may be harmful to our mental health and daily life.

Transcript

Why do some people have experience with supernatural occurrences and others do not. What's your take on that ?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

One of the most significant advantages in life that wealthy children will have as they grow up is the education resource they can utilize. To be more specific, they are more likely to attend private schools and extra-curriculum activities, such as second language, fencing and instruments. While the children raised in poor families may need find a work to support the family. Moreover, wealthy children can afford travelling abroad, where they can communicate with locals and learn foreign cultures as well as history. These various experiences expand their horizon and transform their ways of thinking. Thirdly, the network formed by their families also benefits them in their career development. They tend to have friends who can invest their companies or cooperate in business. Supported by their family, they are not afraid of failure since they have the financial backup. In conclusion, the wealthy children can enjoy better education resources, more experience and network as they grow up.

## Transcript

What are some of the advantages in life that wealthy children will have as they grow up?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

From my point of view, when a person has completed study and found a decent job that can support himself and his family, he can settle down and start a family. That specific age to get married is different in different country, normally it is around 28 years old. The most important reason for my argument is that to start a family means more responsibility not only for ourselves but also for our partners and children. A decent job can guarantee the family with finance support. What's more, at the age of 28, after working and living in a place for several years, we are more likely to decide whether we are going to live here in the long term and how will our future develop. Therefore, it is more appropriate for us to plan the future and start a family. In conclusion, with the two reasons mentioned above, I think 28-year-old is a proper age for a person to settle down.

## Transcript

At what age do you think a person should settle down and start a family? Why ?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

When attending a dinner in someone's home, knowing and following proper etiquette rules is essential. Firstly, it is always good to show up bringing a gift for the host and it should be a thoughtful item that I know the host can use. About the time of arrival, 10 to 15 minutes before the designated time on the invitation is considered as appropriate. When I arrive, I will gently inquire about how things are done to avoid any misunderstandings. For example, whether I should take my shoes off or which area is private that guests are not supposed to enter. When having dinner, instead of staring at the mobile phone screens, I would spend more time participating in the conversation. Finally, at the time when I am about to leave, I will express my gratefulness to the host again and maybe send them a thank-you message when I arrive home. The basic but most important principle that I should bear in my mind is always keeping polite.

## Transcript

Describe the appropriate conduct when you are invited to someone's home for dinner.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

As the place where I live gets more prosperous and increasingly crowded, our engines continue to pump out dirty emissions, and the majority of the households have no access to clean fuels or technologies, the very air we breathe is growing dangerously polluted. The health effects of air pollution are serious – one third of deaths from stroke, lung cancer and heart disease are due to air pollution. This is having an equivalent effect to that of smoking tobacco. Air pollution is hard to escape. It is all around us. Microscopic pollutants in the air can slip past our body's defences, penetrating deep into our respiratory and circulatory system, damaging our lungs, heart and brain. As well as affecting our health, pollutants in the air are also causing long-term environmental damage by driving climate change, itself a major threat to health and well-being. In order to control the air pollution, it is strongly recommended that the government should develop affordable strategies to reduce emissions from energy, transport, waste management, housing and industrial sectors.

Transcript

Talk about environmental pollution in the place where you live. What causes it? And what are the effects? How can it be controlled?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The weekend is normally a period for me to relax and get ready for the next new week. The routine on weekends is a feast with family or friends, where I can share my study and life with them. Their comfort and opinions become the source of my courage facing challenges. After that, we normally stroll in the park or go hiking if it is a sunny day. Breathing the fresh air, I can definitely get rid of the hustle and bustle in weekdays. Otherwise, a new-launched movie would also be a great choice in raining days. Weekends are also an appropriate time for me to find new interests, for instance, playing guitar and skateboards. These activities help me to pause worrying about my study and deadlines and restore my energy. If unfortunately, I need to study on weekends to finish my assignments, I would still take a break for half-day to refresh my minds.

## Transcript

What do you usually do on weekends?



2:45

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Computer, nowadays, has definitely become an indispensable part of my daily life no matter for study or entertainment. In terms of study, I normally download the learning materials to my computer and take notes on the touchable screen by using the pen. Moreover, I can also record the lecture and draw my own thinking map, which improves my efficiency in study significantly. Most of the assignments I submitted during university study are digital version and some tests are turning to computer-based, so I also need a computer to write assignments and complete online tests. Especially in these times, every day I need to turn on my laptop to have the video chat with tutors or classmates. When it comes to entertainments, the computer enables me to browse web pages, play games and shop online with the help of the Internet. Even combined with virtual reality, computer games can offer players various experiences without physically being there.

## Transcript

What do you use a computer to do ?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

I like to watch detective shows. The lead actors must be smart and witty. Any show with great cinematography and fine performances is worth watching. My favourite show is Sherlock, which fall under crime or mystery category. Personally, I enjoy trying to solve the mystery alongside the detectives and thinking up all kinds of theories. I prefer thoroughly narrated and complex cases, where there is no surprise evidence, and all the facts are available to the viewer. It's kind of a puzzle, I find it fun. Generally, I lean towards shows that are a case per episode, rather than the same perpetrator being chased for a whole season or series. I don't really care for internal conflicts of the characters, dark secrets looming in their past or their romantic entanglements, that many detective shows feel compelled to tack on. I'm just there for the conundrums and the solutions.

## Transcript

What kinds of programmes do you like to watch on TV?



2:55

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

My best friend William has a typical Asian look. He has a youthful appearance, and thus he looks young for his age. He has a pair of round and big eyes, and his pupils are black. He has a fair complexion and short black hair. He is not that tall, possibly below average height. Besides, he hits the gym on a regular basis, so he is rather muscular, which makes him look quite stocky. Even wearing thick clothes, you can tell that he is keeping a good shape. And he looks extremely smart when he wears shirt, which I admire a lot.

## Transcript

Describe a person you know. What does he or she look like?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

The person in my family whom I really admire is my grandfather. To me, he is a hero, an ideal father, a benevolent person and a man of his honour. He is around 75 years old now. We live in a joint family and he is still the head of our family. Though he can't manage every aspect of our family due to his age, yet he is still the decision-maker for our family, and every single decision he has ever made involves a great level of kindness towards every other person. I remember him from my early childhood when he used to play chess with me. He taught me many things including the value of kindness. He told me some of his great adventures in his life through stories and those stories are still inspiring for me. He is a person of his word. He would not talk much but when he does it carries unparallel weights. He is a benevolent person as I have seen him helping many people in our locality. We never take his kindness for granted, instead, we very much appreciate all the things he has done for us. I revere my grandfather for his acute observation and great decisions. I like him so much that I want to become a person like him.

Transcript

Describe someone in your family whom you really admire.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Furniture serves various functions, but takes up lots of room, so we need to choose them carefully. Look for pieces that will be truly useful. This will give us as much space as possible for flexible instruction, and allow students to move around easily. Tables come in many shapes and sizes. They can accommodate small groups. While tables can work well, desks give more flexibility for forming pairs of students or accommodating individuals. And we'll need a number of chairs to go with the tables and desks. Simple wire shelving from a hardware store provides space for storing books and supplies and displaying projects. Wooden and plastic shelving work fine. And we'll also need baskets or boxes on shelves to store personal items, books, and classroom supplies.

## Transcript

What furniture and other things are necessary in a classroom?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The ways to enjoy leisure time vary from people to people. I prefer to spend my leisure time outdoors. To begin with, spending time outdoors allows me to play all kinds of sports, which helps me become healthier. And playing sports requires me to concentrate, which can benefit my working performance. In addition, outdoor activities allow me to enjoy the beauties of nature. Walking or jogging in a park allows me to breathe fresh air and appreciate the scenery, which is quite pleasing. After all, people nowadays are spending too much in the concrete jungle. Therefore, it is highly recommended to spend time outdoors whenever possible.

## Transcript

Do you prefer to spend time indoors or outdoors?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Parks are ideal for free or low-cost physical activities, for all ages and fitness levels. It's recommended that people do at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity each week, which will help control weight and keep fit. Walking is a free and easy way to get active, lose weight and improve heart health. Local parks surrounded by flowers, trees and birdsong are great places to walk and jog. Running with others can be motivating, while going it alone can be a chance to clear one's mind. Besides, a growing number of parks and green spaces have free-to-use gym equipment like pull-up bars, step-ups, static bikes and parallel bars. This readily accessible equipment encourages people to exercise on a more regular basis, which is good.

## Transcript

Talk about things people can do in a park.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

People in my country love to give gifts to others as a gesture of their good wishes and to show that they care. If someone invites a person to a birthday party, a wedding ceremony or a baby shower, the invited guest always brings gifts. We often buy gifts whenever someone invites us to their house even if this is just a social visit. Thus, gift giving is a part of our tradition. I must mention here that during Christmas time, people exchange gifts and cards more than any time of the year.

## Transcript

On what special occasions in your country do people give gifts?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The understanding of being adventurous has hugely changed in my life in recent times. Doing risky things without thinking twice and not taking into consideration of the consequences was what I used to think being adventurous is. That was the definition of adventure implanted within me. Now I believe being adventurous simply is 'getting out of comfort zone'. Whenever I do the things that I normally don't do in my comfort zone are the adventurous things for me. It's true that things such as going to unplanned trips, taking prompt decisions are certainly adventurous but that's not it. And in my case, I'm an introvert, so talking to strangers is an adventurous act for me. I have been trying to get out of my comfort zone and do acts which I am not familiar with. Therefore, I consider myself an adventurous person.

## Transcript

Do you consider yourself an adventurous person? Why or why not?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

Firstly, there are a number of government bodies as well as non-governmental organizations consistently working on the preservation of wildlife's habitats. Wildlife must have places to find food, shelter and raise their young. Parks, reserves and other open spaces benefit wildlife by providing habitat, while also providing us with great places to visit and enjoy. Programs of those organizations have brought some of these species back from the brink through captive breeding and reintroduction programs. Also, you can always see people in uniform that represents their organizations. They are there to give pedestrians a brief on the crisis wildlife in the country are facing, and persuade people to donate, even if the donation is as small as several dollars per week, which is just the cost for a cup of coffee, still, it would make a difference in the long run. Apart from that, to minimise the number of wildlife killed on roads in my country, road signage is being used on most of the country road. It reminds drivers to be conscious of animal behaviour near roadsides.

### Transcript

Describe the conservation efforts of governments and organizations in your country.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

We're all becoming more aware of the need to be eco-friendly, and these days many of us do the basics, such as recycling rubbish, without really thinking about it too much. However, looking at the wider picture, there are lots of different ways that will really go a long way to help us all become much savvier about our home environment and encourage a more sustainable way of life. Firstly, solar panels are an essential feature for any ecological home. They provide householders with completely clean electricity. They are a long-term investment, and although there will be an initial layout of money, in the long term you could potentially save more money than you spend. Secondly, one of the most important things that people need to do is to invest in the right lightbulbs. Not only do energy efficient bulbs use less electricity, but they also last longer, which means you don't have to spend money replacing them.

## Transcript

What are some ways we can make homes and lives more ecological?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Bad habits expose us to suffer that is entirely avoidable. Unfortunately, these bad habits are difficult to break because they are 100% dependent on our mental and emotional state. Anything we do that can prove harmful to us is a bad habit – drinking, drugs, smoking, and gambling are all examples of bad habits. These habits have negative effects on our physical, mental and emotional health. When we think, feel, and act in a particular way over a period of time, habits form, not only in our behavior but in our memory systems too. This is how habits are acquired: the brain expects to be rewarded a certain way under certain circumstances. Quitting negative behavior patterns and steering clear of them requires a lot of willpower. One of the reasons it is difficult to break habits is that a lot of them make us feel good. We want them because they give us comfort. They're familiar, and we don't even notice when we progress from just one extra cigarette to four. Moreover, bad habits could fulfil a need that may not be met any other way. Those are the reasons why it is so hard for people to quit a habit.

Transcript

Why can it be hard for people to quit a habit, like smoking or gambling?

2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

Jay Chou has been recognized as one of the most successful and influential Asian entertainers for his outstanding achievements in the Chinese music scene. Having sold more than 30 million albums, Chou is one of the best-selling artists in Mainland China. His mother noticed his sensitivity to music and took him to piano lessons at the age of four. During his childhood, he was fascinated with capturing sounds and songs with his tape recorder, which he carried everywhere with him. In the third grade, he became interested in music theory and also started cello lessons. At high school, he majored in piano and minored in cello. He showed a talent for improvisation, became fond of pop music and began to write songs. In 2000, Chou released his first album, and rose to fame with the release of his second studio album, Fantasy. The album won five Golden Melody Awards, including Album of the Year. It is from there, people started to notice his talent in music composition. Now, he is regarded as the greatest artist in pop music for the past 20 years.

### Transcript

Describe a talent that you or someone you know has.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

One of my ambitions that I have not yet achieved is to be able to communicate in Japanese. I have had this goal for a year now because I realized that nowadays, knowing more than one language is an advantage not only in our daily lives but also in work environments. In order to achieve this, I registered for a Japanese class for beginners, twice a week. I also downloaded an application on my iPhone which not only includes English test, but also helps people study foreign languages named Duolingo, so that I can study on my own at home. For the first two months, I did not skip any classes, and spent at least 30 minutes every night studying Japanese on Duolingo at home. Unfortunately, I could not keep up with the schedule for long since I was working full time, not to mention that I had many other social activities that distracted me from studying. There were days when I was so busy that I had to work overtime to finish my job. As a result, I wasn't able to go to class and I definitely didn't have any time to study at home. Moreover, my friends complained that I had been ignoring them, so I needed to arrange time to hang out with them. Just like that, I gradually lost my ambition to study Japanese and until now, I can only remember one alphabet table, even though Japanese uses three types of alphabets

Transcript

Describe a goal or ambition you have not yet achieved. How long have you had this goal?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

I think public education is really important for our society. Public schools can play a significant role in the general improvement of their respective communities, and can operate as a major platform for enhancing child welfare in the community. The importance of public education is to ensure that all members of society have a basic set of skills, including reading, writing, math, basic social interactions, ability to create and interpret directions and directives as well as to ensure that people are able to maintain a basic ability to learn, regardless of social status or wealth. For the rich, education has always been accessible. They can afford the private education; they can afford pay their children's entire life even if they don't work at all. But for the lower and middle classes, education has been a pipe dream for most documented history. Creating free public education is one way to equip people with the tools to escape poverty, and to improve the basic skills that they will use throughout their lives

## Transcript

Do you think public education is important? Why or why not?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

Well, an advertisement I remember well was the one selling beverages. It's a brand called Hainan Coconut Tree which is famous for its coconut milk. I remember it was during the Spring Festival Gala of 2008 that I got to know this advertisement for the first time. The time during the Gala of TV was very precious, and usually companies from all industries wanted to bid for a chance to show their products. I saw this coconut milk commercial right before the gala began, so it is conceivable that the advertisement fees would be costly. Honestly, the art design of the advertisement was inferior to their counterparts, but it stood out from other ads all by its impressive way of presentation. It just showed up the Chinese words of Hainan Coconut Tree coconut milk with a huge logo. I couldn't see any animation, but can only hear a broadcaster announcing the brand name. The voice announcement was actually three seconds in length but was played for three times in one go, which lasted for nine seconds in total. At that time, I thought it's the worst ad design I had seen in my life. However, it really worked as when I woke up in the morning in the following days, the repeated magical voice was still lingering in my head.

### Transcript

Describe an interesting advertisement you saw. What was it promoting? And why was it so memorable?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

North China is a geographical region of China, consisting of the provinces of Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shanxi and Inner Mongolia. It lies in north of the Qinling Huaihe Line, with its heartland in the North China Plain. In modern times, the area has shifted in terms of socio-political and economic composition. Nowadays the unique North Chinese culture is partly influenced by Marxism, Soviet systems of industry while preserving a traditional Chinese indigenous culture. Northern China is widely known to be the area that Chinese civilization began, along the infamous Yellow River that encompasses Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Henan, Hebei and Shandong Provinces through this region. For a large part of Chinese history, northern China was economically more advanced than southern China. It has been home to many different Empires stretching back several millennia. Northern China has been the witness to many invasions from different empires including the most notable one by the Mongolian Hordes of Genghis Khan and the Manchu Tribes of the Northeast. Northern China has always been an agricultural and industrial based economy with many manufacturing and energy plants being built here.

Transcript

Describe the land and culture of the people that live in the northern part of your country.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Speaking of the most rewarding experience I had recently, the first thing that jumps to my mind is a volunteer job I did a few days ago. My school provided many chances for us to participate in social justice activities, and I enjoyed partaking in that whenever I could. I helped to organize a fundraiser for the homeless. I was named the team captain and was responsible for recruiting participants and overseeing others' work in maintaining the budget, booking the venue, creating the itinerary, and promoting the event. It was extremely challenging and stressful as well, but very rewarding. We ended up raising \$22,000. I think this experience is rewarding because I get the opportunity to help others, which is meaningful. As the saying goes: 'The more we give, the happier we feel.' Volunteering increases self-confidence. You are doing good for others and the community, which provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity.

## Transcript

Describe a rewarding experience you had recently.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Bank regulation is a form of government regulation that subjects banks to certain requirements, restrictions, and guidelines designed to create market transparency between banking institutions and the individuals and corporations with whom they conduct business, among other things. Regulation helps make sure that banks have good management so they don't make bad investments or are too risky. Several ways are accounting for the regulation of the banking industry. Firstly, the government should try to prevent bank failures and losses to depositors by strictly regulating the financial system and by close supervision and detailed bank examinations. Banks are required to maintain deposit insurance, minimum capital requirements, and to restrict their holdings to less risky assets, such as government bonds. Moreover, banks must adhere to standard accounting procedures and disclose certain information that may affect their viability. In conclusion, banks are essential components of any modern economy; therefore, strict regulations should be adopted to the banking industry.

Transcript

In what ways do you believe the banking industry should be regulated.

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

Some people hold the view that networking is vital in success, I totally agree with this view. Experts agree that the most connected people are often the most successful. When you invest in your relationships – professional and personal – it can pay you back in dividends throughout the course of your career. Networking will help you develop and improve your skillset, stay on top of the latest trends in your industry, keep a pulse on the job market, meet prospective mentors, partners, and clients, and gain access to the necessary resources that will foster your career development. As you network with people at your company, in your industry, and even outside your field of interest, you'll uncover opportunities to connect with different types of mentors and advisors, increase your visibility with senior management, further develop your areas of expertise, and improve your soft skills. Therefore, we have the reason to believe that networking plays a significant role in a successful life.

### Transcript

Many people believe networking is vital to being successful in life. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

There's no denying the fact that employees need more autonomy in the workplace. Autonomy in the workplace refers to how much freedom employees have while working. For some organizations, autonomy means employees are allowed to set their schedules. In other organizations, autonomy means employees can decide how their work should be done. No matter which concept is being applied, higher levels of autonomy tend to result in an increase in job satisfaction. Research shows that when employees are given the freedom associated with autonomy, job satisfaction rises. It's theorized that this increased level of job satisfaction in employees stems from a feeling of greater responsibility for the quality of their work. Autonomy has also been shown to increase motivation and happiness, along with decreasing employee turnover. From what has been discussed above, we may safely draw the conclusion that employees will have better work performance if they are given more autonomy.

Transcript

Do you think employees need a lot of supervision or that they should be given more autonomy? Give reasons to support your answer.



2:55

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The Chinese Red Cross Foundation (CRCF) is the largest organization in China. It is a national public fundraising organization. The mission of CRCF is to raise funds and to carry out various charity projects to assist the people with the most needs. The Chinese Red Cross Foundation was registered in 1996, but its development has rocketed in the past three years with the appointment of a new management board. Since the change in 2018, the foundation has achieved dramatic increases in fundraising, project execution, and brand building. The reason for its large membership lies in the aim of this organization, which is making our country a more beautiful place to live. More than 10 million people had benefited from the clinics, schools, and libraries the foundation had built throughout the country by the end of 2019. Besides, with the development of the economy, more and more people are willing to help others and contribute themselves to the development of our country.

## Transcript

What groups or organizations have large memberships in your country, why do you think that is?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

While time spent at university is a fond memory and a happy experience for most, university life is not without its rough patches. Every student's situation is unique, but there are a few problems that almost all university students deal with at least once during school. The first challenge is the study pressure. University is academically challenging. For many, university courses require much more efforts than high school classes. Unlike most high schools, universities often pack two years of content into one year. At times, it seems impossible to stay on top of it all. The second obstacle should be money. Tuition costs are rising at alarmingly high rates. Add to that the cost of meals, supplies, transportation, and textbooks, so you will have a university student's worst nightmare. There are a lot of university students drop out of school every year because they cannot afford the price. Others are forced to juggle full academic schedules with full-time jobs to make ends meet. It is becoming increasingly difficult for students to graduate debt-free.

Transcript

Discuss some obstacles that students might face in completing a degree at a college or university.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

We all go through rough patches at different times in life. When a family member or a friend is dealing with a tough time, it's not always easy to know how to support them. Sometimes, it can be hard to know if your friends or relatives are going through a rough patch or whether there might be more severe issues like anxiety or depression. You may notice that they are not hanging out with their friends as much or are always tired and feeling down. They may be snappier or perhaps look a mess. When you notice these changes, check in with them to see if they're OK. Sitting and quietly listening is the next step. Don't rush to offer advice. Let them know you are there for them and that you want to help where you can. If they don't want to talk about it, respect that. Let them know you are worried and that you are happy to listen when they want to talk, or suggest other people. By listening and responding in a non-judgmental and reassuring manner, you are helping in a significant way.

Transcript

In what ways can a person be supportive of a friend a relative who is going through a difficult time?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

It's no accident that two of the greatest portraits of women in modern literature come from Civil War novels. *Gone With The Wind*'s Scarlett O'Hara and *Little Women*'s Jo March live on opposite sides of the Mason-Dixon line, come from different backgrounds, and their personalities evolve in different directions. Work is really the point at which Scarlett and Jo's lives begin to move in opposite directions. Scarlett's work makes her an outcast because she isn't willing to work within feminine ideals. While other Atlanta women do acceptable things to make money, whether painting ugly china or baking pies to sell to the occupying Union army, Scarlett refuses to play within acceptable boundaries. Not only does she work within rough industries, but she chooses deliberately unacceptable methods, hiring convicts to work in her mills, and letting one of her supervisors kill several men in the name of profitability. Jo, on the other hand, finds a path through writing and work to be the kind of woman she found it so difficult to be in the earlier sections of the novel. Her friend and eventual husband encourage her to write a sensitive memoir instead of trashy fiction.

Transcript

Contrast two famous female characters from movies or books.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Homelessness is the most egregious violation of human rights. Homeless people live in the harshest conditions, without anything. They are subject to horrific violence, discrimination, criminalization, and stigmatization, with life expectancies far lower than the housed population. It is the government's responsibility to deal with the issue of homelessness. To begin with, governments must make an immediate and bold shift. They will need to embrace human rights and adopt rights-based housing strategies. A human rights framework has the capacity to recognize that homelessness is a matter of life, death, and dignity. At the same time, its central aim is to protect vulnerable populations against inequality and the conditions that breed inequality. Governments can prevent more people from becoming homeless. It must enable people to access accommodation by increasing rent supplement to match market rents, introducing tax breaks for landlords, so it is feasible for them to lease properties; and provide greater security for tenants by regulating rents.

Transcript

How can governments deal with the issue of homelessness ?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

In many areas, massive new tourist developments have been built - including airports, marinas, resorts, and golf courses. Overdevelopment for tourism has the same problems as other coastal developments but often has a greater impact as the tourist developments are located at or near fragile marine ecosystems. As a result, developers should try not to develop areas such as coastlines and jungles. Massive influxes of tourists, often to a relatively small area, have a huge impact. They add to the pollution, waste, and water needs of the local population, putting local infrastructure and habitats under enormous pressure. For example, 85% of the 1.8 million people who visit Australia's Great Barrier Reef are concentrated in two small areas, Cairns and the Whitsunday Islands, which together have a human population of just 130,000 or so. In conclusion, to reduce the adverse effects on the environment, one of the easiest and most effective ways is to preserve the places where wild animals live and stop developing new coastline and jungle areas.

Transcript

Should developers be allowed to develop untouched areas, such as coastlines or jungle, so that more people can visit them?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Record

Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

From my perspective, a successful negotiation usually requires preparation and understanding. Preparation is vital to a successful negotiation. Research the topic and think through your options before you hold the discussion. You can't make accurate decisions without understanding the other side's situation. The more information you have about the people with whom you are negotiating, the stronger you will be. We have a tendency to focus on our own pressure, on the reasons why we need to make a deal. If you fall into this trap, you are working against yourself. The other side will appear more powerful. When you focus on your own limitations, you miss the big picture. Instead, you will feel more powerful when you recognize the reasons for the other side to give in. Successful negotiators always look at the situation from the other side's perspective. Everyone looks at the world differently, so you are way ahead of the game if you can figure out their perception of the deal. Instead of trying to win the negotiation, seek to understand the other negotiator and show them ways to feel satisfied. My philosophy of negotiation includes the firm belief that one hand washes the other. If you help the other side to feel satisfied, they will be more inclined to help you satisfy your needs. That does not mean you should give in to all their positions. Satisfaction means that their basic interests have been fulfilled, not that their demands have been met.

### Transcript

Discuss some tips for a successful negotiation.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

There really is a wealth of wisdom to be had in the old advice that our grandparents used to share, as well as other pearl drops of life advice from yesteryear. But as time changes, some old school life advice may not be useful today. There is an old-fashioned belief that "we should respect everyone no matter who he is." However, there will always be times where someone doesn't deserve to have our respect. Respect is something earned, not something that is a given. So when we teach our children to learn about respect, they will need to work out people for themselves by their actions and deeds and will know whether those people have earned their respect. Not everyone will deserve to have it. Another old-fashioned belief is loyalty, that older generations always tell us loyalty is a good value, and we should be loyal to other people. However, we also need to know about the difference between loyalty and blind loyalty, as loyalty to other people can be blind and misguided. For example, blind loyalty to a good boss may work fine 98% of the time, but if the boss had a temporary lapse in ethics or discretion, our unwitting compliance could lead to bad consequences that harm the innocent and injure our career.

Transcript

What are some beliefs you think are old fashioned?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

If I am about to recall a time when bad weather disrupted my plans, I would definitely tell you about the trip in New Zealand. It was last year that I had a trip to New Zealand with my friends, it was during winter, and we have planned to ski as we have never tried before. After we arrived at the hotel, we watched the weather forecast that it was going to be a nice day, which is suitable for skiing, skating, or snowshoeing hiking. We felt so excited that we even couldn't sleep, as we have planned and expected for months. We kept talking about it until midnight. However, the weather forecast has given us a big joke; it was snowing heavily! It seems that there was countless snow anxiously to fall on the ground. Trees, buildings, cars, everything was covered in white, and it was a snow-filled sky that we can hardly see the sun. We turned on the TV, the news was telling people that it was going to snow all day, and people are recommended to stay at home. It was obvious that our plans have been disrupted by this unexpected snow. So we have to make another plan instead and stayed in the hotel. We ordered pizza delivery and played board games, video games, and chat. It turned out that staying in the room and playing games was also a very good option as we laughed and talked like we were never going to stop. Although we didn't have the chance to ski, it was still a memorable moment for us.

### Transcript

Describe a time bad weather disrupted your plans. What did you do instead?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Media is very important and essential in our life because we can know some information about news, events and what happened in our country or all over the world rapidly. Personally speaking, surfing the internet is very convenient, and it is my favorite form of media. The internet is not just a place to find information. You can use it to chat with your family and friends through social networks, such as Facebook, Twitter, or WeChat, and many other options available on the internet, which let you stay closer with others than ever before. Checking in with regular video chats or sharing photos online is a great way to stay connected when you can't be together in person. The internet has been a great discovery in recent years, and nearly everyone is using it, especially young generations. Young people who are interested in music, writing, or art can find loads of useful resources and ways to practice online. From starting a blog to following your favorite artists on Instagram, the internet can be an excellent way for young aspiring creatives to get started.

Transcript

What is your favorite form of media? Is it television, print, radio or the internet. Explain why?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

I have always believed that being brave means being afraid of nothing. Today, I would like to talk about someone who is courageous and not afraid to face his fear. The brave person is a distant cousin of mine, who is about 35 years old, and I have always found him to be very positive, confident, and brave. Whether it is with standing up for a person who is being picked on unjustly, standing against racism or prejudice, or taking a stand against the unfair social and economic practice, my distant cousin has always proved his worth as a courageous man. My distant cousin is a journalist – a brilliant and courageous journalist with a very strong heart. Trust me, being a good and objective journalist is not an easy thing these days because there is always a risk of being targeted unfairly by some crooked and anti-social people. However, a journalist chooses to run his pen, even knowing that there are risks. I would like to say that it is his determination to always remain truthful and objective in all kinds of adverse situations for the sake and benefit of our society that makes him a courageous person in my eyes.

Transcript

Describe someone you think is courageous. What makes them so brave?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

I am glad that this topic is only about participating in a competition rather than winning a competition because if it were about winning, it would be really embarrassing for me since I have never really won any major competition in my life. Anyway, talking about participating in a competition, I took part in one about seven years ago from now when I still was a high school student. It was the time of the annual sporting event, and I took part in a friendly volleyball match. The game started between the two teams which included both the senior and junior students of my school in both the teams. The first four sets of the game were drawn, but the final set was really competitive as both teams tried their best to score points. I also tried my best to return the ball over the net when it had come on my way, but unfortunately, I had failed to return the ball on a few occasions. As a result, my opponent team had a little edge over my team. The game had continued like this for some more time, with everybody trying to hit and punch the ball over the net on the opposite side of the court, and I was getting tired. Suddenly, another "serve" came on our way, which, we thought, was going to fall outside of the court, but my whole team was proved wrong. Little later, my opponent team was declared the winner. I felt really great about the completion, even though I was on the losing side because it made me feel competitive. I also felt really good, when my fellow team members were cheering me and encouraging me to play well because it made me really confident about my ability.

### Transcript

Describe a competition you are part of or that you watched.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

A summer picnic in the park would be a lovely choice of activity with friends or families. There are a few steps that you can do to prepare for a picnic. Firstly, take some fruit. During summer, fresh fruits and vegetables are plentiful. They are also really good for you! Fruits and vegetables are naturally low-calorie, and a guilt-free way to bulk-up your meals. They also contain lots of antioxidants and fiber, which aids in digestion. Fruits can include watermelon, apples, strawberries, and green beans. Fill up your picnic basket with a colorful fruit salad paired with vanilla yogurt dip. Secondly, add a dash of activity. To work up an appetite, incorporate physical activity into your day in the great outdoors. Physical activity not only can protect against weight gain, but it also lowers the health-related risks associated with obesity and abdominal obesity. Toss a Frisbee, throw a football, or play a rousing game of bocce. It is fun and good for you. Last but not least, keep the food safe. Prepping, packing, and transporting food to a picnic should be done carefully. Giving your date food poisoning is not a great look. There are tips on how to keep your food safe when you don't have a refrigerator or freezer available, such as put cold food in a cooler with ice or frozen gel packs or keep your cooler at 40°F or below to prevent bacterial growth.

Transcript

What should you do to prepare for a picnic ?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

When it comes to the factors contributing to a high mortality rate in a region or a country, I suppose we need to discuss the mortality rate of infants and adults separately. Many factors are contributing to lower infant mortality rates, though they can be broadly grouped into factors associated with economic growth and poverty reduction, and expanded social services including improved standards and access to health care. In developing nations, household income and a mother's education level are key factors determining infant and child mortality rates. Increased immunisation rates are also an important factor. On the other hand, mortality rate among adults is associated with noncommunicable diseases. And it is increasing in many countries due to increases in life expectancy, you know the population ageing, and the associated health transitions which are contributing to increased incidence of noncommunicable diseases, which are called NCDs for short. Rising income in some countries also appears to be increasing the prevalence of risk factors for NCDs, such as high blood pressure and obesity. Smoking also continues to play a large role in NCD rates throughout the world. Nonetheless, in many developing nations, and notably in the tropical areas, communicable diseases remain a significant health burden.

Transcript

What factors might contribute to a high mortality rate in a region or a country?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

I still remember that old couple from my last journey in Australia. They are excellent hosts whose attention to details made my stay at Bathurst, an inner west town 4 hours' drive from Sydney, most pleasant. I made the room reservation on Airbnb, which is an easy-to-use application mostly travellers nowadays are using to reserve accommodations prior to their arrival at the destination. The room I was offered was comfortable and nicely furnished, and the bathroom is large and well equipped. That was my first visit to Australia. The first day when I arrived at their place, it was already dinner time. I was surprised to find that they deliberately made me rice and beef stew, knowing that I am from China. However, they did not have chopsticks, so I used a fork and knife to eat rice for the first time in my life. The next morning, they served me a nice and fresh Aussie style big breakfast, which was delicious. I very much appreciated the hosts' suggestions for cafes and restaurants in the area, as well as their help with my visit to the nearby tourist attractions, such as blue mountain. The location of their house was convenient for me because I went from there to the National Park for hiking and kayaking. The lovely courtyard was such a nice place to enjoy a glass of wine while viewing the amazingly beautiful scenery. I feel extremely privileged to have the old couple as my hosts. I am genuinely grateful for everything they had done for me, they had been much more than simply hosts, but more like friends.

### Transcript

Talk about a time you were extended hospitality while you were travelling.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

I suppose one of the main reasons for relocation is the need for a suitable work force. Companies may experience a shortage of qualified workers, especially those requiring technical expertise. For firms that need specialized employees, it may be well worth it to relocate to an area where you can easily find these kinds of employees. Moving business to another country helps unearth brand new business opportunities. Moving in on a niche that's still less developed in another country before the competitors get there could give you the opportunity to become a brand that country trusts. By the time your competitors catch on, you'll have already become an established provider, giving you an edge. One of the most obvious and compelling reasons to move is the desire to increase profits. By relocating to other countries, companies have the opportunity to capitalize on attractive government incentives and tax breaks. For example, corporations in the U.S. pay an average corporate tax rate of 20 percent, which is the third-highest rate in the world. This difference alone could save a business owner thousands of dollars. But a move like this comes with potential costs however. Long-distance logistics both during and after the relocation can be costly. Besides, companies risk damage to their reputation – including accusations of tax avoidance and unethical behaviour, while the countries they move to face increased scrutiny.

### Transcript

Why do some companies choose to relocate to other countries? What are the positive and negative consequences of this?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

One of the best qualities I see in myself is my kindness to other people around me. I am friendly, generous, and considerate. While some would argue that kindness has a connotation of meaning someone is naive or weak, that is not the case. Being kind often requires courage and strength. Kindness is an interpersonal skill. Kindness is not a relatively common characteristic in today's society, because it usually involves devoting resources to others, rather than being self-interested, which means having more and more for myself. Nonetheless, kindness actually brings lasting well-being for me. I am always active when you see people in need. After being helped, people will appreciate your kindness, show you respect, and probably return the favour later when I need a hand. A sense of community is created when I am being kind to those who need help, and by helping others, I get a sense of fulfillment.

## Transcript

Describe a quality of your personal character that you find important. Is this common characteristic? How does it help you?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

Obesity is not just a cosmetic consideration. It is a chronic medical disease that can lead to diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease etc. The balance between calorie intake and energy expenditure determines a person's weight. If a person eats more calories than he or she burns, the person gains weight as the body will store the excess energy as fat. Therefore, the most common causes of obesity are overeating and physical inactivity. Obesity does not just happen overnight, it develops gradually from poor diet and lifestyle choices. Unhealthy food choices may include eating processed or fast food that is high in fat, not eating fruit and vegetables, as well as drinking too much alcohol because alcohol contains a lot of calories, and heavy drinkers are often obese. Lack of exercise and physical activity is an important factor related to obesity. Many people have jobs that involve sitting at a desk most of the day. They also rely on their cars rather than walking, or cycling. When they relax, people tend to watch TV, browse the internet or play computer games, and may not regularly exercise. Even though medications and diets can help, the treatment of obesity cannot be a short-term "fix" but has to be a lifelong commitment to proper diet habits, increased physical activity, and regular exercise. The goal of treatment should be to achieve and maintain a "healthier weight," not necessarily an ideal weight.

### Transcript

What are some of the causes of the increase in obesity worldwide? What are some solutions?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

There are lots of places where disposable cups have become the norm. Near the water cooler at work, at kids' birthday parties (or adult birthday parties), or even while vacationing. Any time people want to avoid washing dishes, paper cups will become the go-to choice. First of all, paper cups are microwave safe. They are environmentally friendly and come at a reasonable cost. Most paper cups and other accessories are made of natural substances, meaning that they are recyclable, and therefore are a great way to reduce your carbon footprints. Even if the cups are made from recycled materials, they generally can't be recycled after this; both paper and plastic cups are difficult to recycle. Paper cups are plastic lined, so they don't soak in the liquid you put in them. That means that very few recycling facilities can handle this type of recycling process, which requires separating or breaking down the paper and plastic.

## Transcript

Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of disposable consumer goods, like razors and paper cups.



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

Teaching in different educational institutions is a job that helps make the world a better place. Many different jobs put great contributions making the world better, but in my opinion, the contribution teachers make to educate people is very noble and has a really great contribution towards society and civilization. My mother is an English teacher in high school. I asked my mother many questions about the jobs that teachers do and why they did it, and I have learned a lot from her. It is an inevitable fact that education is the main power and backbone of a nation, and teachers are the craftsmen to make a nation educated. From childhood, we start learning from our family and surroundings and later on, we go to different educational institutes to learn and acquire knowledge. Teachers not only teach us the academic lessons but also teach us the importance of educations. On top of that, teachers inspire us, motivate us, teach us morality, honesty and many other aspects of life. The things we learn from our schools and teachers shape us what we become. Without their hard work and contributions, we would have been savage, uneducated, and uncivilized. The teachers are the human engineers who are continuously working on creating the next leader, scientist, writer, architect, doctor, researcher, pilot, artist, musician, and composer, etc. who would navigate the nation. Without their unmatched efforts and contributions, the world would have been a different place with a lot more problems. Possibly no other profession contributes to making the world a better place as much as the teaching profession does.

### Transcript

Talk about an occupation that helps make the world a better place. Do you know anyone with this job? Why does it help so much?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

My hometown has totally changed in the last few years. Fields I used to go early morning playing with my Dad are now industrial units, where we went horse riding is a massive car retail park. Housing and other developments have concreted over the countryside where we played. The town center is totally different too; the old market has disappeared, there are now only multinational companies and a big shopping center. Even the lovely old wobbly building where I went to ballet has been pulled down and replaced with a conference center. Seriously, any empty space that existed within the town borders has been filled by shopping/living space. The changes are constantly shocking to me, and I really hope the government will do something to stop those changes.

## Transcript

What are some noticeable changes that have occurred in your hometown or country in the last few years?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

School communities are increasingly becoming places where healthy habits can flourish. The responsibility for teaching children about good nutrition does not fall only on teachers though. Children who attend a healthy school can make informed, healthy decisions that affect their own lives and the lives of their families. Personally, it won't take a lot to create a healthier school. Firstly, schools can incorporate healthy eating and lessons about good nutrition across the curriculum in fun and creative ways. Secondly, schools can create partnerships with the broader community, for example local food growers, sporting clubs, library etc. Thirdly, schools can provide professional development opportunities for teachers and other support staff to teach and promote healthy eating and being active.

## Transcript

What role should schools play in teaching children about good nutrition?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

When it comes to a great triumph in the history of medicine that changed the world, I suppose it would be the invention of antibiotics. Antibiotics are powerful medications that help our bodies ward off diseases caused by bacteria. When antibiotics are used appropriately, they can quickly and effectively eliminate infections, making us feel better in a matter of days, and in many cases, antibiotics can save people's lives. Antibiotics can slow the growth of and kill many types of infection. In some cases, such as before surgery, antibiotics can prevent infection from occurring. Antibiotics are fast-acting; some will begin working within a few hours. They are easy to take: most antibiotics are oral medications. Your doctor may decide to give you an injection, if it is imperative that the medicine gets into your system quickly. Antibiotics have greatly changed the world in the sense that they can help fight diseases and infections, and even save lives with strong effects and quick actions.

Transcript

Describe a great triumph in the history of medicine that changed the world.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Although climate change is an inherently global issue, the impacts will not be felt equally across the planet. Impacts are likely to differ in both magnitude and rate of change in different continents, countries, and regions. Some nations will likely experience more adverse effects than others, while others may benefit from climate changes. In my country, human basic needs, such as food, water, health, and shelter, are affected by the changes in climate and weather. They may threaten these needs with increased temperatures, sea level rise, changes in precipitation, and more frequent or intense extreme events. From what I know, certain groups of people in my country are particularly sensitive to impacts of the changes, such as the elderly, the infirm, children and pregnant women, native and tribal groups, and low-income populations. The changes also threaten key natural resources, affecting water and food security. Conflicts, mass migrations, health impacts, or environmental stresses in my country have raised economic, health, and national security issues.

Transcript

How are changes in climate and weather threatening parts of your country?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

I believe community service is a necessity. There are certainly benefits to mandatory community service work. It's so important to give back to the communities around you. Students who make a commitment to volunteering in their community gain exposure to people from different cultures, backgrounds and ages. For example, a student who chooses to work with the elderly can gain invaluable life lessons that can be learned from sharing time with the older generations. So many people are less fortunate or not as able-bodied as we are. Providing helps to those individuals really makes a difference in their lives and makes students more grateful for what they have, or they are able to do. Depending on what community service the students take part in, they learn what life is like for the less fortunate and how they can play a role in providing for their needs. There is also a sense of social responsibility that is gained from community service projects. Community service also helps students build character and prompt future community involvement. It can provide networking opportunities for future employment and students may feel compelled to continue their actions even after exceeding the required amount of hours. Finally, community service helps to boost academic achievement.

Transcript

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? All high school students should be required to complete one year of community service. Explain your position.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

If I was asked to recall a time when I was praised, I would tell you a story back in 2010 when I was about 10. It was Mother's Day, I surprised my mom by giving her a bunch of flowers as a gift. I planned it beforehand and asked the delivery man to send it on that day's morning. The moment when my mom opened the door and saw the flowers, she was so surprised that she couldn't even believe what she is seeing, and she asked the delivery man twice to make sure that the flower was rightly to be received by her. She then saw the card in it, on which I wrote "I love you, mom!" She was so delighted and touched that I could see tears almost coming out from her eyes. She hugged me tightly for a long time, and said to me "I love you, too." Both of my parents praised me on that day and made me my favourite dishes. They said to me that I am the most precious treasure in their entire lives. Since then, we were even closer and get to understand more about each other.

## Transcript

Describe a situation when you have given or received praise.



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

There are jobs in high demand in a wide range of industries, meaning jobseekers can find one of them that suits their interests and skills. The four fields that have experienced rapid growth in the past few years in my country are health care, information technology (IT) and education. Firstly, healthcare and education sectors are the fundamental parts of our society. Healthcare and educational workers spend their time making a difference in others' lives, which can increase their motivation and overall job satisfaction. There are a wide variety of different career options within the healthcare and educational industry, and many professionals can even change their positions multiple times to try different things before deciding on a specialty. However, as these jobs are heavily service-based, people working on these positions sometimes may be treated inappropriately, despite the fact that most of their daily tasks are not that easy, particularly for the health workers. Their jobs may require them to work night shifts which are more tiring. Secondly, when it comes to transformation and innovation, no other career pushes the boundaries more than information technology, otherwise known as IT. Almost all IT jobs depend on strong technical knowledge. But each has a different emphasis, whether the job centres on coding, managing hardware, applying software, data science or managing systems or people. Technology is constantly shifting, changing and improving. Because it's a fast-paced industry, IT workers will never stop creating, designing, learning and growing. Nowadays, nearly every company needs computers — which means IT workers are highly employable, no matter where in the world you go. As soon as you graduate, you're highly likely to find an employment.

### Transcript

Discuss the types of jobs that are in high demand in your country.

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

### Answer

While there are certainly valid viewpoints that advocate the privatization of public services, such as healthcare and public transport, on the contrary, I strongly believe that they should not be privately owned. First of all, without privatization, public services can be made cheaper and better due to the constantly fierce competition. Privatization means that the control of service delivery will shift to the private sector. In theory, privatization approaches are based on the premise that the private sector can deliver goods and services more effectively and efficiently than the public sector. However, such move will give the private sector the power of monopoly. The public sector has other values besides efficiency that a private sector organization may not have, including effectiveness, responsiveness, and trust, which may not be the core value of the private sector, and hence quality delivery of services cannot be assured. What's more, privatization may facilitate financial exploitation. If privatized, the service owner would inevitably lose the commitment in pursuing better quality, whilst it could increase the prices of their service which customers would have to pay for, as there would not be any other options. Therefore, the public would be put at a disadvantage, which violates the original intention of serving the public good. In conclusion, I am convinced that services like healthcare and public transport should not be privatized.

### Transcript

Some people believe services like healthcare and public transportation should be privatized. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Many people hate advertisements, but without it, the world would be totally different. First of all, It would be easier to form monopolies, since competitors cannot advertise. There would be some back room deals with suppliers and distributors, and it is easy to put a new competitor out of business. And without advertising, no one will know the new company or product or service even exists, making it almost impossible to launch. So the lack of advertising would give an incredible advantage to incumbents. And incumbents would start behaving more and more like monopolies, such as increasing their prices, reducing the quality of their services and treating their employees poorly. Secondly, Products would deteriorate in quality and be packaged in plain packaging. If factories do not advertise their products, customers would simply go to the store and buy whatever is on the shelf. Without advertising, there would be no way for consumers to compare which product is better. This means manufacturers can make deals with retailers for exclusive distribution deals, and retail would accept them, since there is no consumer pressure to carry other brands (mostly since they are unaware there are other brands since there is no advertising). Last but not least, most free content and information would be gone. People would need to pay for everything now. No more free articles, websites, online newspapers. No more free TV over the airwaves either. And most of the free services like Google Maps and Gmail would disappear too. Certain things might persist, like Wikipedia and public broadcasting (PBS), but they would be constantly asking for donations to stay alive. Advertising may not be pretty, but a world without competition and innovation is pretty ugly too.

Transcript

How would daily life be different if there were no advertising?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Well, based on my observation, overcrowding in schools only happens in big cities, and I guess the primary cause of this phenomenon is the massive influx of rural migrants who flock to cities in search of better education opportunities. To stem the tide of rural depopulation, I believe that we must first address its root causes. At the heart of the matter is the disparity between services and facilities in the country and those in the city. I believe that urban and rural dwellers alike would find the idea of country life far more appealing, if high quality libraries and schools were more readily available in the country. One further method of attracting people to the country would be for the government to provide financial incentives to professional teachers and trainers who willingly relocate to rural areas. (

Transcript

What leads to overcrowding in places like prisons or schools? What can be done about it?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Well, speaking of natural disasters, they can occur at any time. Some disasters would give a warning, such as a storm preceding a flood. While others, such as earthquakes, give little or no warnings. Once a disaster happens, there is no time to prepare for it. Therefore, the best way for me to cope with a natural disaster is to prepare by having a plan before it strikes. It starts with identifying the types of disaster we are exposed to, whether it is from bushfires, floods, severe storms, droughts, cyclones or earthquakes, the likelihood of these occurring and their potential impact. After that, it is important for us to review our insurance policy and confirm we are covered against such events. Following a natural disaster, insurance companies can pay claims to policyholders with the right policies who are affected, allowing our homes and cities to rebuild. (

## Transcript

What precaution should be required to reduce damage to homes and cities in natural disasters?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

Firstly, I will make a plan. Decide how clean I want my house to be and how much time I have. This will help me decide how to set up my cleaning schedule. Be honest with myself about what I can do, how much time I have, and how motivated I am feeling. Secondly, I will make a checklist and a plan of attack. Know which rooms I plan to start and finish my cleaning in (generally back to front door works best). This will help expedite the process and ensure I am not duplicating my efforts, especially if more than one person is involved in the cleaning. Then, I will dust each room, including the topsides of all the furniture, undersides of shelves, and all handrails, as well as picture frames, TV screens, and knickknacks. To get rid of fingerprints, dampen a microfiber cloth with warm water. After that, I will go through the house, strip and remake beds, andneaten any pillows or furniture blankets. Brush furniture surfaces with a vacuum extension as needed. Finally, I will clean the bathroom and kitchen. Spray cleaner on tubs, sinks and toilets. Then, in the kitchen, wipe down the inside of the microwave and cabinet and appliance doors.

Transcript

How do you clean your home?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

The job I would love to have is to become a teacher. The reasons for becoming a teacher are various. To begin with, it is to improve the quality of education. The demand for great teachers is a tangible pressing need. While our country has come a long way in education reform, we still have a long way to go. School administrators and government officials have an impact at the legislative level, but it is teachers who have a direct effect on students in the classroom - that is, after all, where learning takes place. As a teacher, you may not be able to improve the quality of education for all the students in China, but you will be able to for your students. Helping just one student is worth it, but over a long and productive career, you have the chance to help thousands of students. Another reason lies in the fact that teachers can change the lives of students. Teachers do more than teach, and their impacts extend far beyond the classroom. As a teacher, you are more than just an educator; you are a mentor, a confidant, and a friend. Teachers have the potential to interact with students at all stages of development and from all walks of life. A great teacher wants to help students along this path and to play a part in shaping the person they will ultimately become. Essentially, becoming a teacher lets you take part in shaping the next generation.

Transcript

What's a job you'd love to have?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

Threatened and endangered wildlife are in particular need of our help. Firstly, there are a number of government organizations as well as non-government organizations consistently working on the preservation of wildlife's habitats. Wildlife must have places to find food, shelters and raise their young cubs. Parks, reserves and other open spaces benefit wildlife by providing habitats, while also providing us with great places to visit and enjoy. Programs of those organizations have brought some of these species back from the brink through captive breeding and reintroduction programs. Also, you can always see people in uniform that represent their organizations. They are there to give pedestrians a brief on the crisis wildlife in the country are facing, and persuade people to donate, even if the donation is as small as several dollars per week, which is just the cost for a cup of coffee, still it would make a difference in the long run. Apart from that, to minimise the number of wildlife killed on roads in my country, road signage is being used on most of the country roads. It reminds drivers to be conscious of animal behaviour near roadsides.

### Transcript

How is the preservation of wildlife and land achieved in your country?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

The controversial issue in respect of whether to waive the cost of healthcare, in today's society, has drawn tremendous public attentions, and hence created a heated debate. In my view, healthcare should be freely available. First of all, a nation should take actions that save the most lives and protect the most people. Free healthcare saves lives and protects people and can lead to less inequality. Poorer segments of the population tend to be more prone to illness and disease. They have less money to spend on healthy, organic food items. They also have less time to exercise, less access to health education, and are more likely to work in jobs that carry a high risk of illness or injury. In a for-profit health system that requires citizens to pay for the services they use, lower economic classes end up spending a much higher percentage of their salary on healthcare costs. They are less likely to have health insurance that can lighten the financial burden, leading to a greater financial gap between the lowest and the highest economic classes. In addition, free health care prevents financial exploitation. If you know nothing about cars and you go to a mechanic for assistance, you are more likely to be ripped off. The same logic applies to healthcare. Doctors study for many years to become experts in human anatomy and illnesses. It is unrealistic to expect the general public to know enough about medicine to protect themselves from financial exploitation. Therefore, the public will always be at a disadvantage. Some people will inevitably exploit this disadvantage for financial benefit. Considering the factors above, I am convinced that medical services should be free of charge.

Transcript

Many people believe that healthcare should be freely available. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

I would like to talk about a funny incident that happened to me a while ago. In fact, it was a birthday party for one of my little nephews. Everybody, including all my family members, relatives, and the little friends of my nephews, was invited to the party. The party formally started at around 8 pm, and we began by opening the presents. Finally, we were ready to cut the birthday cake except, of course, the cake had already been cut! Without having a clue about what had really transpired, we all started to look at each other's faces until we suddenly noticed two little boys who had already managed to cut the birthday cake way ahead of others and eaten up the cake before the party. The boys spared no time in divulging their secret about eating their "fair shares" of cakes with an incredibly happy face instead of waiting for others! We all burst into laughter. (

Transcript

Talk about a funny incident that happen to you. What happened and who else was there?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

There are so many people that I love and adore, but one person I would love to meet someday is Scarlett Johansson. She is the most successful Hollywood actress of our times. She entered Hollywood when she was a teenager, and she has by far swept us by her amazing acting. Her films have grossed over \$14.3 billion worldwide. The reason I want to meet her is that she has taught so many people, in so many ways, that if one is ready to work hard on their dreams, the world is all theirs, and there is nothing in this world that is unachievable, and one should never stop. Not only is she amazing at her work, but she has also been associated with a lot of philanthropy work that helps people around the world in education and better living facilities. (

Transcript

Who is a famous person you would like to meet one day? What are they known for, and why do you want to meet them?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear

Re-practiceSubmit

### Answer

Well, there are many advantages. Firstly, being bilingual exposes me to diverse customs, ideas, and perspectives from different cultures. Of course, people would say you can still learn about other cultures without knowing a second language, but language learning really allows me to have a more immersive experience. Moreover, being bilingual also makes travel easier. I love traveling. Knowing what food to order without pointing at pictures and asking for directions when I am lost really makes my traveling more enjoyable. Lastly, being able to communicate with foreign clients or customers is also considered a big advantage in the job market. Taking myself as an example, I have received several job offers this summer because of my proficient English skills. (

### Transcript

What are the advantages of growing up bilingual?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Well, I guess that once an organization has merged with another, it instantly gains a new market share that it may not have had before. It creates a source of income for both companies. Customers are also benefited because they can access to new products and services. While mergers can also create distress within the employees, there could be a high chance of layoffs. Many people are forced into high levels of anxiety because they do not know what will happen to them. Besides, employees may find it hard to adapt to a new corporate culture.

## Transcript

What are the advantages and disadvantages when two companies merge?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

Although celebrities are expected to speak and behave correctly to a high standard because their fans will look up to them and imitate them, famous singers, actors, and other celebrities can provide unhealthy role models. Personally, celebrity influence on body image and substance use is often detrimental to teen mental health. A large proportion of teenagers compare themselves to images they see of celebrities. Moreover, almost half of them said that celebrity images make them feel dissatisfied with the way they look. Therefore, appearance is among teenagers' top concerns, teen girls in particular. Body dissatisfaction is linked to mental health challenges, including eating disorders, depression, and low self-esteem. Young women who consume media with many images of an unrealistic "thin ideal" are more likely to exhibit symptoms of disordered eating. Nearly half of teen girls wish they were as skinny as the models in fashion magazines. Besides, celebrities can have a leading effect on teenagers' endorsement. Hence, many influencers advertise a broad range of goods. The associated problem is that not all the goods influencers sell have been tested for their real effect, and influencers are simply reading lines and get paid by companies that hired them. And in some cases, the goods can actually have an adverse effect on teenagers' health or other aspects.

### Transcript

Some people think celebrities are not good role models for teenagers. Do you agree or disagree? And why?

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

### Answer

When it comes to giving my opinion on them, I always try to avoid them for some obvious reasons. But, today, I would like to talk about an occasion when I felt that letting my opinion be heard was important. The survey I took part in involved collecting opinions on whether public smoking should have been criminalized or not, and one could just say either "yes" or "no" when giving his or her opinion on this issue. I found the survey organized by a famous national NGO of my country to be an important one because I also considered public smoking to be a severe problem for the city in which I was living in back then. In fact, in its introduction of the survey, the NGO concluded with various statistics that almost 80% of the adult males in my home city were a smoker. The NGO also mentioned how smoking had led to a gradual increase in the number of people who were becoming affected by respiratory problems one way or another. Even more dangerous was the fact that many high school students were becoming addicted to smoking. So, all in all, it was a dangerous trend for the people of my home city as far as their health was concerned. By the way, I was asked to take part in the survey, primarily because I fell in the category of non-smoking people who had graduated from a university, and my response in the survey was that I wanted public smoking to be criminalized. I felt really great about giving my opinion in the survey as it would help my city to raise some awareness against public smoking. I also felt glad that this survey would go a long way to saving our city government in its health costs, which could then be used to address other problems in my city. So, all in all, it was a great feeling for me.

### Transcript

Describe a time when you were asked to give your opinion in a survey or poll. What was it about? And what did you say?



2:56

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The first reason why people don't vote is simple: they just are not interested. Another reason lies in that they don't understand enough about the government, the election process, or individual party policies. The most effective way to encourage people to vote is to find issues that people really care about. For example, changes in medical systems or education systems. Providing guidance for them on how to vote is also important

## Transcript

Some people choose not to vote in government elections, why do you think this happens? What can be done to address this problem?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

#### Answer

Governments should take the responsibility of taking care of homeless people. The top four causes of homelessness are (1) lack of affordable housing, (2) unemployment, (3) poverty, (4) mental illness. Governments should work with social workers to provide special support for them

#### Transcript

Who is responsible for dealing with and resolving the issue of homelessness?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

A large family has some very strong advantages. First of all, members can help each other in bad times, and children can enjoy the company of all the members, they are never alone. There are several disadvantages of having a large family. First of all, there is hardly any privacy. In a large family, you may have to share bedrooms with your sisters or brothers. In addition, a large family often has more expenses than a small family

## Transcript

What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a large extended family?



2:54

Speak the answer to the question you hear

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

### Answer

Governments should make efforts to improve the living conditions of low-income families. They can provide free early childhood services for children from such families. Besides, providing free groceries such as milk and eggs will also be helpful

### Transcript

What types of subsidies do you believe that government should provide and to whom?



2:46

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Driverless vehicles have the potential to provide significant road safety, economic, environmental, and social benefits, including improving social inclusion. This technology will reduce emissions and ease congestion. It will also make driving easier and safer, allow people to be more productive and offer greater mobility to a broader range of people than ever before

## Transcript

What could the future be like if everyone started using driverless cars?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear

[Re-practice](#)[Submit](#)

### Answer

One of the essential safety regulations in the construction industry is that a safety helmet must be worn at a construction site if there is a risk of being struck on the head. This regulation is effective in eliminating risks for people working in the construction industry. It is the employer's responsibility to keep the safety of each employee

### Transcript

Give examples of important worker safety regulations in occupations such as transportation, factory work or construction.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

My dream job is to become an early childhood teacher. Early childhood teachers help children to develop language and vocabulary skills as well as elementary numeracy, physical and social skills. To become an early childhood teacher, I will need to complete at least four years of tertiary study, including an accredited teacher education program, at a recognized university or higher education institution. The hardest thing about this job is that you have to be really patient to children because sometimes they can be annoying and keep bothering you.

## Transcript

Describe your dream job, what does it involve? What qualifications or experience do you need? What would be the hardest thing about this job?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

I would like to see a natural phenomenon in Denmark, called "black sun". During March and April, in the southwestern marshlands of Denmark, you can experience the "sort sol", which literally means black sun. Sort sol is the event when up to one million birds flock to the sky during sunset and the sun is actually blocked by the birds, hence the name "black sun"

## Transcript

Describe a natural phenomenon that you would like to see or experience, and explain why.



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The most beautiful natural scenery I have ever seen is a natural reserve in my country, which I visited with my family about a few years ago. The place was surrounded by green mountains and forests. There was no ocean in that reserve, but the beautiful lake there was no less impressive and inviting than an ocean. The place looked so beautiful, and the natural smell of the luscious green there was so intoxicating that I felt like I could spend the rest of my life there. Besides, the calming effect of the beautiful lake on my mind and body felt like a supernatural experience to me.

## Transcript

Describe the most beautiful natural scenery you have ever seen. Where did you see it, and who else was with you?



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Yes, I believe military service should be compulsory. Firstly, compulsory military service offers young adults a chance to learn a wide range of skills, morally, psychologically, and physically, which parents may not be able to offer. If teenagers enlist for the army, they will be taught valuable lessons that will be useful to them later on in real life. Secondly, it creates a strong defensive force. If every single citizen enlists in the military, it allows a country to be able to defend its land and its people adequately. There will also be enough trained soldiers to protect their nation and meet the demands of a conflict. In other words, a country that mandates compulsory military service will have sufficient protection at all times.

## Transcript

Do you believe military service should be compulsory? Give reasons for your answer.



2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Well, as far as I know, stress, anxiety, illness, and other sleep disorders such as restless legs syndrome are the most common causes of insomnia. An irregular work schedule can also cause insomnia as well as excessive use of alcohol or illicit drugs. Speaking of combating insomnia, I think establishing certain set routines can help. Examples of these routines include going to bed and getting up at the same time every day, avoiding napping, avoiding caffeine, nicotine, alcohol, and eating massively late in the day. Exercising regularly, and relaxing during the hour before you go to sleep and creating a comfortable environment suited for sleep can be helpful. Finally, if you still cannot fall asleep, I suggest you do not toss and turn all night. You can get up and read or do something that is not overly stimulating until you feel sleepy again.

## Transcript

What are some causes of sleeplessness? How can a person try to combat it?



2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

Well, due to a random combination of genes, I ended up looking like a cross between my mom and dad. I am softer looking than my mother and harder-edged in personality. I am less stubborn than my father, but I have cheekbones and a prominent chin. I have my mother's hair color, my father's skin color. I have a nose that looks somewhere between the two. I am of average height. I am not tiny and skinny like my mom. I am not tall like my dad. I am not overweight like my aunts on my father's side. I escaped the worst of the mental illness on my mother's side. I inherited my father's chronic kidney stones. I do not know how it works. I think genetics are weird.

## Transcript

Whom do you most resemble in your family? In what ways do you resemble this person?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

The old person I admire most is my grandfather. To me, he is a hero, an ideal father, a benevolent person, and a man of honor. He is around 75 years old now. We live in a joint family, and he is still the head of our family. Though he can't manage every aspect of our family due to his age, yet he is still the decision-maker for our family. I remember him from my early childhood when he used to play chess with me. He taught me many things, including the value of honesty and punctuality. He told me some of his great adventures in his life through stories, and those stories are still inspiring for me. He is a person of his word. He would not talk much, but when he does, it carries unparalleled weights. He is a benevolent person, as I have seen him helping many people in our locality. He was an educated person and a successful father, as all of them are successful professionals and businessmen now. I revere my grandparents for his acute observation and significant decisions. I like him so much that I want to become a person like him.

Transcript

Describe an older person that you admire. How long have you known them? And why do you look up to them?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

All relationships take time and effort to establish and grow. A friendship is a two-way street of patience, endurance, trust, kindness, communication, and compromise. Some individuals have an easier time establishing and maintaining friendships than others. Some of us long for closer friendships or try to figure out why an existing or promising relationship fizzled out. In these cases, we may jump first to judge a friend's behavior, rather than our own. Friendships and relationships are two-way streets and not one party can take all the blame when things go south. Firstly, it is important to always communicate with your partner or friend how you are feeling and what you are thinking. Your friend or partner cannot read your mind and it is not fair to assume they can read in between the lines. There should always be a clear dialogue between both parties. Secondly, kindness should be practiced on a regular basis and should be the foundation of our thoughts, actions, and words when we are in a relationship. Last but not least, you must be honest with yourself and with your partner. We must speak openly from the heart and incorporate objectivity into our words.

Transcript

What are reasons that some friendships are long-lasting?

Speak the answer to the question you hear



**Re-practice**

**Submit**

### Answer

We all want to be happy and live a good life. We may have lots of ideas about how we want to make this happen, for example, with hard work, we can become whatever we want, but the problem is that life shows us something different. Life is quite fragile and uncertain. Circumstances change, things happen beyond our control, and we never know what the next day will bring. There are extraordinary events, such as terrorist attacks and travel catastrophes. On top of that, some numerous illnesses and diseases can invade our bodies. We might have an unsupportive boss; the economy might go into recession. In terms of how we can prepare for uncertainties in our life, there is undoubtedly a list of things we can do. Firstly, setting up expectations means that you are setting yourself up for disappointment. Therefore, rather than expect the future, focus on the moment, and know what to do to achieve your goals. Do something specific and learn to achieve your goals rather than sitting and planning all the time. Secondly, prepare for possibilities by learning about other's experiences and making yourself a list of what may come to you in achieving your specific goal. For instance, you can generate a contingency plan for any uncertainties that can potentially happen and their associated solutions. What you need to do is to ask yourself what worst can happen? Think about and find the possible solutions to the problem; keep yourself prepared; it will help to make uncertainty a bit easier for you.

### Transcript

What are some uncertainties in life? And how can people prepare for them?

2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

One day I was assigned to complete a time-consuming work, reviewing and sorting out all the reports, and then writing a summary. I realized that the reason the process was slow was that I had to work with multiple spreadsheets of data. It would be faster if I could combine the data and then pull reports from the consolidated sheet. I documented the process to demonstrate how it was inefficient and to provide a comparison with the proposed change. I also wrote down what the data needed to look like and how often it needs to be refreshed from the sources after the data is consolidated in one place. I talked with my boss about the proposed change. I then created a template for the consolidated sheet and the scripts necessary to import the data. Then I saved the template to the cloud drive so that my colleagues could access it as well. I also wrote down what needed to be done to maintain the new sheet and pull reports as new standard operating procedures. Once we rolled out this process to all of the analysts, we saw an immediate improvement of 20% less time needed to research bills. We also saw a 10% increase in our customer satisfaction surveys.

Transcript

Describe a time-consuming process you went through.

2:58

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

Answer

In my opinion, technology has positively affected our communication and the way we make relationships and maintain them. Despite some adverse effects, most of us enjoy the positive things the technology has brought for us. In the past, the ways of interaction were limited. Unleash your imagination; if you want to speak with your friend, you will have to go directly to his house or send him a mail, which may take a few days to get a response. Nowadays, it is quite easy to interact with your relatives -and even with the government and organizations- either by emails, mobiles, chatting, etc. and I think that this has improved the relationships and enhanced them. Besides personal communications, official and business communications have also become easier. Email campaign offers a good marketing opportunity for business owners, and people can complain about a certain thing using emails without exposing their identity.

Transcript

In what ways has social media made networking easier or more effective?

2:57

Speak the answer to the question you hear



Re-practice

Submit

## Answer

The job crisis is undoubtedly one of the most critical problems for almost all countries. I believe there are many prudent steps that government can take to reduce the level of unemployment. First and foremost, I think the government should build more learning centers to improve human capital to make the workforce more employable. Entrepreneurship and innovation should also be encouraged to create new products and market demand, which will generate new employment opportunities. Lastly, lower employment taxes should also be offered to increase labor demand. The challenges faced by implementing these measures are many. I think the main issue here is that it usually takes a long time and a lot of debates among policymakers in some countries to make a sound decision. It will be too slow to make social changes.

## Transcript

In what ways can society assist the unemployed in finding work? What are the some of the challenges in doing this?