

安小雅 雅思口语素材 Part1

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其实外国人在生活中有一些常用的口头上的表达，看起来很奇怪但实际并没有错的，国内老师也不会懂这些。所以呀！如果你觉得素材有错，我们是非常欢迎您来询问我们滴！千万不要觉得不好意思哦！

下面举两个例子：

“Anna is two years my elder.” 安娜比我大两岁。“She is four months my younger” 她比我小四个月。

这是一种比较现代的说法，当然我们平时都会讲 “ Anna is two years older than me” 和 “ She is four months younger than me.” 但其实外国人都会用前者多一些的。

“The majority of the girls were content discussing about how handsome or how affluent their boyfriends were.” 女孩子们都在热烈地讨论他们的男朋友有多帅。

这是现代英语的另一个特征，就是现在外国人在口头上都常常会省略掉介词。这里就把 were content with discussing 的 with 去掉了。这在口语上是没问题的，但大家在写作中就尽量要避免哦。

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1: Work / Study

Work

大公司版本

1. Where do you work?

I work in an office for a large company in the inner city. It is a tech company that specializes in security and antivirus software. I work with hundreds of other people and we supply our service across the country.

2. Is it a good place to work?

I think it is a very good place to work. I have a decent pay and there is a large team I work with so it never feels too stressful. There are always co-workers who can help me with difficult tasks and we bear the load together.

3. Would you like the place where you work to make any changes?

I am mostly happy where I work but there are definitely some improvements that could be made. My office does not have a good staff room or a communal area for us to take our lunches. I think these are major changes that would greatly improve working conditions.

打零工版本

1. Where do you work?

I work in a small café in a suburb on the outskirts of the city. My job is mainly waiting tables, making coffee, and delivering food. I have worked there for a year or so now while I finish my studies.

2. Is it a good place to work?

It is not the best place to work as the pay is not very high and I do not find the work very stimulating or rewarding. My coworkers are nice, as are the customers, and the place is very pretty, but I would prefer a more exciting and rewarding job sometime in the future.

3. Would you like the place where you work to make any changes?

There are no changes I would want made to the place I work. The staff are nice and the managers are respectful. They care about me, the clients are sweet and kind, and the place has a wonderful energy to be in. For what the job is, it's great!

家庭主妇版本

1. Where do you work?

I am a stay-at-home mom and so my place of work is the house. I spend a usual day in the house, cleaning, cooking, and looking after my children. Caring for a family takes many hours of work.

2. Is it a good place to work?

I can't complain about my workplace to be honest, since I am lucky enough to work at home. As I am in charge of the housework and caring for the family, I do not have to report to anyone or deal with ineffective colleagues. I control my daily work.

3. Would you like the place where you work to make any changes?

If I were to make any changes to my housework I would like for my husband and older children to take on a larger portion of the house chores. The cleaning and housework is never ending and there is often far more than I can do by myself in a single day. It would be nice if my family pulled their weight.

Study

通用版本

1. Where do you study?

I study at USST which is the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology. I am studying engineering with a minor in software development. I moved away from my small hometown to study here so it is a very big change to the lifestyle I am used to.

2. Is it a good place to study?

I think USST is a brilliant place to study if you are interested in my area of study. Things like engineering, software development, and the study of science and technology are brilliant subjects to study at USST. Obviously, it is not the best place to study art or music.

3. Would you like the place where you study to make any changes?

If I could I would like to make some changes to the place I study. USST is a very intense University. They set a lot of work and there are constantly more exams and essays. There is too much work and it would be nice if there was more time for relaxation.

艺术版本

1. Where do you study?

I study at one of the art colleges in the city I live in. There are a few art colleges but the one I study in specializes in modern art and performance art which is the field I want to create my artworks in.

2. Is it a good place to study?

I do not know if my college is the best place to study! It is full of wonderful people and I am making great connections but the teaching is very casual and relaxed. They kind of let us just do our own thing, which is great for creative freedom but not too good if you want to study.

3. Would you like the place where you study to make any changes?

The biggest changes I would want to make to the place I study would be the introduction of more teaching hours and a focus on teaching new technique and art history. There is a little too much freedom in the place I study and it would be better if there was a stronger sense of structure.

2: Where you live

住家的

1. How long have you lived in your area?

I have lived in my area only a few years. I came here from my small hometown. I now live in a very large city so this is a new experience for me and sometimes it can be overwhelming! Copy right by An Xiao Ya,

2. Do people of all ages live in your area?

Yes, people of all ages live in my area. This is a large metropolitan city so there are people from all walks of life, young and old. My specific neighbourhood is where a lot of the university students live, so there are many 20 year olds.

3. Is the area where you live a friendly place?

I think where I live is a friendly place but with all cities there are some parts that are more dangerous and less friendly than others. Most people are nice but there are parts of town where people go to drink and these are not always the friendliest places.

住宿舍的

1. How long have you lived in your area?

I have lived in this area for about three years now. I first moved here when I came to study at the university. I have been living in the dormitory of the university with the other students ever since I arrived.

2. Do people of all ages live in your area?

No, there is quite a specific age range to the people who live in my area. As I live in the dormitory of a university pretty much everyone who lives here is between the ages of 18 and 22. We are all studying our degrees and will move away once we have graduated.

3. Is the area where you live a friendly place?

Where I live is a very friendly place! We are all students so there is a great sense of camaraderie between us. We are all doing the same thing and all have to study hard, so we respect each other and get on well. We like to play games and watch TV to relax together.

3: Work and Study (新题)

Work

Programmer

1. What do you like about your work?

My work is enjoyable because it allows me to be creative in my own way. I think programming is fun because my job basically involves set challenges that I must solve with code. This lets me come up with interesting and creative ways to solve problems.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

To improve my efficiency at work what I need the most is a nice working environment. I would like to work in a modern office with a comfy staff room and a decent coffee machine. A good environment like this would really boost my mood.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

Programming is a well-paid job but it does require me to work overtime frequently. I have to spend too much time working every week. I would say I spend around 10 to 12 hours working each day. It is tiring and exhausting to continue this job.

Bank Clerk

1. What do you like about your work?

The thing I like most about my work is it is very well paid. Being a bank clerk is not the most exciting job, and the hours are not very good, so the best thing about it is that it pays well.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

To do a better job at work I need more sleep and time off. Being a bank clerk is very tiring, and often I can feel my efficiency decrease because I am sleepy and overworked. Having more hours of rest would greatly improve my circumstances.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

I spend a lot of time working every week. As a bank clerk, my day starts at 7am and I do not finish until 6:30pm. So, I work 11 and a half hours a day for 5 days a week.

Housewife

1. What do you like about your work?

The best part of my work is that I get to spend a lot of time with my family. I am a stay-at-home mum and what that means is I spend each day raising my children and making sure the house is in order.

2. What do you need to do your work better?

The most useful thing for improving my work is the support of my family. It is hard managing a household, and it is almost an impossible thing to do alone. When my children help me with chores and my husband helps me with the housework, things are a lot better.

3. How much time do you spend working every week?

It is hard to say how much time I spend working a week because there is no time off. From when I wake up to when I go to sleep there are things I need to do around the house and children to look after. So, I spend a lot of time working every week.

Study

Finance

1. What do you like about your studies?

The most enjoyable thing about studying finance are all the opportunities it opens up for my future. Finance is a very lucrative sector to work in and there are so many businesses and industries that need finance. I could work anywhere!

2. What do you need to study better?

The thing that has the biggest impact on my ability to study is whether I have people to study with or not. I am terrible at working alone, and I struggle to focus without other people to work with. So, I always need study partners.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

Finance takes a lot of work, so I spend a lot of time studying. But there are also a lot of projects and group work which also take up my time. I'd say I spend about 20 hours studying a week.

Art

1. What do you like about your studies?

In my degree I get to express myself and use my creativity to make beautiful things, this is my favourite thing about studying art. It feels meaningful to contribute to all the beautiful artwork and creativity in the world.

2. What do you need to study better?

The main thing I need to study better is access to materials and resources. Studying art is all about making things, whether they are paintings, drawings, sculptures, or any other type of artwork. It is impossible to make things without materials and resources, and they are very expensive.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

I don't spend that much time studying every week. There are classes on technique and art history, but it is much more important to practice my own art and to use the studio to create things. So, I probably study as

little as 10 hours a week.

Law

1. What do you like about your studies?

I enjoy studying law because I think the thing I am studying has the power to do a lot of good in the world. Law can be used to fight for environmental protection, to defend human rights, and to prosecute evil people. That is really exciting.

2. What do you need to study better?

To improve my ability to study I need quiet spaces such as libraries and study rooms. I find it impossible to study in loud places or when I am surrounded by distractions. So, I need places that are dedicated to study and quiet.

3. How much time do you spend studying every week?

I spend a lot of time studying every week. Studying law means that I must read lots and lots of books on different law and different cases. This is time consuming and requires me to study for at least 30 hours a week.

4: Hometown (新题)

live in the north of China

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

The name of my hometown is Beijing, it is a huge, vibrant city and the capital of China. I have lived here from a very young age and feel very comfortable in my hometown. As one of the most **populous (人口众多)** cities in the world, Beijing has a large population. Therefore, there is a vast array of different people and cultures which keeps my hometown constantly interesting.

2.Is that a big city or a small place?

As it is the capital of China, Beijing is a very big city. So it is the industrial and economic heart of the country, and throughout history many people have **migrated (迁移)** here from other parts of the country seeking opportunity. Therefore, there are currently over 20 million people living in Beijing so it has to be very big to accommodate everyone.

3.How long have you lived there?

I have lived in Beijing almost all my life. I was actually born in Tianjin but my parents moved to Beijing when I was a very young child, only a couple of years old. So it feels like I have lived in Beijing my entire life, so almost two decades. I could not imagine living anywhere else.

live in the south of China

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

I am from Guangzhou, capital city of Guangdong Province China. It is called "Flower City" where flowers are **blooming (盛放)** in all seasons of the year.

2. Is that a big city or a small place?

Well, Guangzhou of course is a big city. Actually, it is the fourth largest city in China. And it is the political, economic and educational center of southern China. It's an international city. It is busy and exciting and yet you can find quiet places to spend time too.

3. How long have you lived there?

Since I was born, I have been living in Guangzhou for about 20 years. This is the place where I live and study. I love this city and I think I will continue to live there for many years because I have got used to the climate and the lifestyle of the city.

5: The area you live in (新题)

Living in a city

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have lived in Shanghai for a little while now, but not too long. I moved here around five years ago when my father got a new job at one of the tech firms in the city. I am settled, but there are still a few places I don't know very well!

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

I think the best things about the area I live in now are the range of restaurants, shops, and events I have access to. Each week, my family and I try a new type of food, we go to see the latest films, and we shop at all the exciting stores in the mall.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

I would like to see some changes made to the city of Shanghai. It is a fun place to live, but it can be too busy! The city is often very noisy and there is a real problem with litter and pollution. I think something should be done about that!

Living in a community

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have lived in my community for my whole life. This is the city I was born in, and it is where my parents raised me. I know most of my neighbors here and enjoy living here.

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

My favourite things about the community I live in are its peaceful atmosphere and the friendliness of my neighbors. My community is so quiet, it does not have any of the noise and chaos of the big cities. Also, most of the residents in my community are polite and kind to each other.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

I love my community, there are not many changes I would like to see, but maybe it would be nice if there was a little more to do. I think it would be fun if there was a cinema or a sports centre near my community.

University Dorms

1. Have you lived in your area for a long time?

I have been living in my dormitory for three years. I live in a large building with many of my fellow classmates and students. Only when the summer and winter vacation come, I go back to my hometown.

2. What do you like about the area where you live now?

The good qualities of the area I live in now are its location and the convenient services it offers. The dorms are right next to the library, so I do not have to travel far to do self-study. Also, there are sports facilities, canteens and cafes all within a five-minute walk from my dorm.

3. Would you like to see any changes in the area you live?

There are many improvements I would make to the dorms that I live in. For one, they are quite messy, so I would like it if my fellow students were more cleanly. Also, the dorms are very simple. The beds and desks are quite small, which is inconvenient.

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6: Libraries

1. How often do you visit a library?

- 1) I visit the library very frequently. I am in the middle of my studies at university and I am constantly writing essays, studying for exams, and learning new materials. Therefore, I am in the library almost every day doing something related to my studies. My friends tell me I practically live there!
- 2) I do not visit the library very often at all. To be quite honest, I am not that much of a bookworm. I find reading tedious and boring. Therefore, spending time in the library is my idea of hell! I would go as far as to say I actively avoid the library at all costs.

2. Do you like to work in a library?

- 1) Copy right by An Xiao Ya, I could see myself working for a library sometime in the future. On the one hand, I am a studious person and I like reading books, so a library is my idea of heaven! On the other hand, libraries are very relaxing places and the job is not stressful. That sounds like a good deal to me.
- 2) Working in a library is one of my least favourite things to do. I find the atmosphere in a library very oppressive. It is always so silent and the energy in the air is quite tense. This makes me uncomfortable and I find I work quite poorly in most libraries.

3. Did you use a library more when you were younger?

- 1) I did not use a library more when I was younger. To be honest, when I was growing up I spent most of my time watching TV or playing video games with my friends. I did not read a lot as a kid, so I did not spend a lot of time in libraries. Now that I am a student, I spend far more time in libraries.
- 2) I would say that I used libraries a lot more frequently when I was younger. When I was a kid, the library was a fun place where I could discover a new picture book or children's book and relax with it. So, I went to the library a lot. Nowadays, the only thing I do in the library is study, so I do not want to go there as often.

4. How common is it for children to visit libraries in your country?

- 1) I think it is very **usual** for children to visit libraries in my country. In China we have a strong culture of hard work and self-improvement, this is first taught to us when we are children. So, many parents will often take their children to libraries to foster good reading habits and encourage them to study.
- 2) It is not all that common for children to visit libraries in my country. Nowadays, most kids spend their time playing mobile games on their phone or watching TV. Children do not want to spend time reading and certainly do not want to spend time in libraries anymore.

7: Staying up late

1. Do you often go to bed very late?

- 1) I must admit, I have a bad habit of staying up very late into the evenings. Sometimes I stay up late because I have a big exam and I need to study. Sometimes I am just mindlessly scrolling on TikTok. Whatever the case, I wake up tired and grumpy every time!
- 2) I have a very healthy sleep schedule and so I seldom go to bed very late. I am what they call an early riser, so I am normally awake each day by 7:30am at the latest. This means that I get very tired in the early evenings and I am normally asleep in bed by 9pm or 10pm!

2. Did you stay up late when you were a child?

- 1) Yes, I used to stay up late when I was a child. I was quite rebellious and I always hated going to bed! But even when my parents sent me to my bedroom, I would stay up late into the night reading and playing games. I would always feel so restless and excited when the sun started going down. So, I could never go to sleep early.
- 2) No, I never used to stay up late when I was a child. I had very strict parents when I was growing up and my bedtime was one of the things that was non-negotiable. As soon as it was 8pm I was supposed to be asleep, in bed, with the lights out. So, I would normally go up to bed a little earlier than that to keep my parents happy.

3. How do you feel the next morning after a late night?

- 1) To be honest, after a late night I do not feel the worst. I know some people who are miserable after a late night, or who cannot concentrate and become easily irritated all day. For me, I am just a little sleepy and maybe a bit grumpy until I get a mug of tea or a cup of coffee!
- 2) I feel horrendous the next morning when I have not had a proper night's sleep. If I have a late night, I am miserable and I cannot focus on anything all day. I lose all productivity and become frustrated at the slightest inconveniences.

4. What do you like to do when you stay up late?

- 1) When I stay up late my favourite thing to do is to watch my favourite TV programs or play on apps like TikTok or Honor of Kings. I have some friends who also stay up late and sometimes we play games together or chat to each other late into the night. I work and study very hard during the day so in the evening I like to relax and entertain myself.
- 2) When I do stay up late, I like to do something relaxing such as listening to music or reading. Even if I am not going to sleep, I still get very tired in the late evenings and so I cannot do anything strenuous or too engaging. That is why reading or listening to music are perfect late-night activities for me.

8: Chocolate

1. How often do you eat chocolate?

- 1) I must admit a vice of mine, I have a very sweet tooth. I think I probably eat chocolate at least every day, sometimes I eat it multiple times a day. There are so many different types of chocolate and almost all of them taste delicious to me! I know it is a bad habit but I just can't control myself.
- 2) Compared to most people, I eat chocolate very infrequently. I have never particularly had a taste for desserts and sweet foods. I much prefer savoury and umami flavours. So, I only eat chocolate every once in a while when the opportunity arises.

2. Have you ever given someone chocolate as a present

- 1) I have often used chocolate as a gift to give to people on special occasions and times of celebration. I think chocolate makes an excellent gift because everybody loves chocolate! It is far less complicated than presents such as nice watches, new clothes, books, or gadgets, of which it is very easy to accidentally buy someone a gift they do not like!
- 2) No, I have never used chocolate as a gift before. Personally, I think a box of chocolates is a pretty bad gift. Giving somebody chocolates is so impersonal and lazy. Anyone can give somebody a box of chocolates. If I am going to give someone a present, I would put more thought in and gift something personal to them.

3. Did you like chocolate when you were younger?

- 1) Yes, when I was a child I adored chocolate! I could never get enough of it! My parents would use chocolate as a reward for me completing my homework or helping them with chores. I was always trying to find more housework in the hopes of receiving chocolate as a reward.
- 2) No, I never much cared for chocolate when I was a child. Most children love chocolate and cannot get enough of it, but I was different. I would much rather have some fresh fruit for dessert than a chocolate cake or pudding. I always found the chocolate far too rich!

4. Why is chocolate so popular in many parts of the world?

- 1) I think chocolate is so popular in many parts of the world because it is versatile and has such a unique flavour. On the one hand, there are all different sorts of chocolate and ways of preparing it. From simple bars of chocolate to truffles and mousse. On the other hand, chocolate is such a unique blend of bitter and sweet that there is nothing that compares to it!
- 2) Personally, I think chocolate is so popular all over the world mainly because it is overrated. Chocolate is not actually that good. The only reason we eat it everywhere is because it was a product of colonialism. When Europe colonized the Americas, they exported huge amounts of chocolate and sold it as a luxury item. That is why it is so popular everywhere.

9: Music

1. What kind of music do you enjoy?

- 1) My favourite type of music is classical music. I think classical music is the perfect form of music. It is so precise, well-crafted, and elegant. I frequently listen to classical composers such as Bach, Chopin, and Mozart. But I also like modern classical musicians such as Tan Dun and Chen Yi.
- 2) My favourite type of music is K-pop and J-pop. I got into this type of music when I was younger and first downloaded TikTok. So many TikTok's would be made using the music of groups like BTS and I thought the vocals and the beats were incredible! Copyright by AnXiaoYa

2. Is there any kind of music that you don't enjoy very much?

- 1) Yes, there are a few genres of music that I really don't enjoy very much at all. All of my friends have started listening to K-Pop and J-Pop. I find this type of music boring and irritating and it frustrates me how much I have to hear it. It is in commercials, TV shows, and my friends play it all the time.
- 2) To be honest, I like most genres of music. I think there is something to be enjoyed in all genres of music. Sometimes certain genres just have to be listened to in the right mood. For example, classical music when you are sad or relaxed and rap music when you are angry.

3. Are there any musicians you would like to see in a live concert?

- 1) Ever since I was a small child it has been my absolute dream to go to see LangLang's piano concert. He is a brilliant pianist and has earned endless praise from all over the world. I heard he will hold several live concerts in Shanghai this year and I am eager to buy a ticket.
- 2) I have always wanted to see BTS perform a live concert. The thing about a BTS performance is that so much money goes into the production and the performance. They always have the best lighting, the best visual effects, and the best choreography money can buy! But tickets are so expensive I don't know if I will ever be able to go.

4. Have you always listened to the same kind of music as your friends?

- 1) No, I have never really listened to the same kind of music as my friends. Throughout school and in my adult life I have always stood out as having a strange and uncommon music taste. Most of my friends listen to more modern and popular music.
- 2) Yes, for the most part I have always listened to the same kind of music as my friends. It isn't really surprising, my friends and I watch the same TV shows, use the same social media, and go to the same places so we are all exposed to the same types of music.

10: Art

1. Which one do you like, modern art or traditional art?

- 1) I prefer traditional art to modern art. Personally, I think that modern art is very confusing and a lot of the time I cannot tell the difference between the work of a famous modern artist and the drawings of a five year old child. I believe that traditional artists have far more skill, discipline, and craft.
- 2) I have always really liked modern art. I think modern art is daring and exciting. You never know what to expect with modern art! In contrast, traditional art can be pretty boring and repetitive, it does not excite me at all. I just wish there were more modern art galleries in China.

2. Did you do much art when you were a child?

- 1) I did not do a lot of art when I was a child. I did not grow up in a very creative household and my parents encouraged me to study more rather than engage in painting, crafts, or drawing. So, I hardly did much art at all while I was growing up.
- 2) I was always doing art when I was a child! I did all sorts of different art. I used to love drawing and painting. Then when I got older, I started getting into more complicated forms of art such as pottery and collage making. Most weeks I would end up making some kind of amateur artwork.

3. Do you want to be an artist?

- 1) No, I don't think I would like to be an artist. I do not think I have the personality or sense of creative inspiration that is needed to become a talented artist. It seems like a lot of pressure to me. Moreover, I believe that most people who attempt to become artists are not very successful and end up very poor.
- 2) I would love to be an artist; I think they are the coolest people! Artists are cool, creative, and thoughtful people and I would love to be somebody like that. I believe it would be a lot of fun to spend my days in a studio coming up with new artworks and practicing different artistic techniques.

4. Would you go to an art gallery if you had time?

- 1) To be quite honest, I would not go to an art gallery if I had some free time. I know this opinion may seem uncultured, but I find most art galleries to be boring. I would much rather spend my free time at the cinema or at a good restaurant with my friends.
- 2) Whenever I have the time, I try to visit art galleries. I think passing an afternoon in an art gallery is a great use of time. Not only do you learn about different artists and art history, but you can also become inspired by the beautiful artworks you see around you. You never know what sort of experience you will have in an art gallery.

11: Being happy

1. What things made you happy when you were a child?

- 1) When I was a child I was always happiest when playing with my friends or with my pets. I loved animals as a child and I had a pet dog who was the most playful dog I have ever known. My friends and I would take him to the park and run around and play fetch. They were my happiest moments.
- 2) When I was a child, the thing that made me the happiest was honestly just playing video games. It may seem like a silly answer but I found video games so exciting. I would play them with my little sister and we would have so much fun fighting dragons, solving puzzles, and completing challenges.

2. Do you feel happy when you buy something new?

- 1) I do not always feel happy when I buy something new. To be honest, I am not the kind of person who is into **retail therapy** (花钱买乐). I buy things when I need them and I try to be **sensible** (理性) in my purchases. Therefore, buying something new doesn't make me feel particularly happy.
- 2) I must admit, I am quite the **shopaholic** (购物狂), and I always feel **ecstatic** (疯狂的) when I purchase a new item. I love going to the mall or surfing the web looking the best deal or the hottest new items. It makes me so happy to receive the new item and to use it for the first time!

3. What makes you feel happiest in your studies now?

- 1) What makes me feel happiest in my studies is when I overcome a particularly tricky problem. Sometimes I will be set a task by my boss/professor that I have to complete by a tight deadline. At first this is stressful but I rise to the challenge and I am so happy when I overcome it!
- 2) I would say that the thing that makes me happiest in my studies now are the friends I have made and the people I have met. During my studies I have been exposed to some brilliant researchers and professionals. Meeting these impressive people is always exciting and fills me with joy. I also cherish all the friends I have made along the way.

4. What do you think will bring you happiness in the future?

- 1) I think my future successes will bring me happiness in the future. I am a very ambitious person, and I am driven to succeed and prove myself in all aspects of my life. I look forward to excelling in my job, in my relationships and in my personal growth. I think this will bring me a lot of happiness.
- 2) I think a good social life and a good family life will bring me happiness in the future. I strongly believe that the most important thing in life is the people who are around you. I look forward to having a close group of friends and a strong family unit to support me through all the ups and downs life has to bring.

12: Jewelry

1. Do you often wear jewelry?

- 1) I wear jewelry probably most days of the week, I definitely wear it every weekend. I love to accessorize and I consider myself to have a good fashion sense. I am normally wearing a couple of rings or a necklace as part of my outfit. At the weekends I like to put on several pieces of jewelry when I go out.
- 2) I seldom wear jewelry as I believe it is flashy. I don't like drawing attention to myself and prefer to go unnoticed in a crowd so I do not like wearing bright and eye-grabbing items of jewelry. I will only wear jewelry on very special occasions such as attending a wedding.

2. What kind of jewelry do you like to buy?

- 1) I like to buy good high-quality jewelry but I do not need items that cost thousands of dollars. I know some people like very expensive jewelry but for me as long as it is well made, and I think it is pretty, then it is good enough for me.
- 2) As I rarely buy or wear jewelry, I think it is appropriate that when I do buy jewelry it is expensive, fine-quality jewelry. I will only wear my jewelry a handful of times a year and to very significant events so it is important to me that I am wearing the best jewelry that money can buy.

3. Have you ever bought jewelry for other people?

- 1) Yes, I have bought jewelry for someone else, I do it quite often. I think jewelry makes a wonderful gift and I believe myself to have a very good taste in jewelry. So I have bought jewelry as a gift for my friends and family, especially for my mother. My gifts are always well received.
- 2) No, I do not ever buy jewelry for other people. I believe that jewelry is something very important and very special. Therefore, I think it is only appropriate to buy jewelry for people you love the most in the world, such as a husband or wife. So, I only buy jewelry for myself at the moment.

4. Why do you think some people keep a piece of jewelry for a long time?

- 1) I think some people keep a piece of jewelry for a long time because it is very easy to attach sentimental value to jewelry. I think most people become attached to jewelry and will associate it with an important moment, a special place, or with a person they love. This is why they will keep it for a long time.
- 2) People keep a piece of jewelry for a long time because jewelry is expensive. In some ways, a lot of jewelry is like an investment. A very expensive piece of jewelry can be kept and passed down through the generations, to be sold if anyone ever desperately needs money.

13: Sports

1. Did you often do sports when you were at school?

- 1) When I was at school, I did a lot of sport. I was always a very competitive person at school and on top of that I had quite an athletic build (运动员的体格). Because of this I was always the favourite for sport's teams. I played soccer, basketball, tennis, and did long distance running.
- 2) I very rarely did sports when I was at school. I must admit that when at school I did not have the most athletic build. I was slightly overweight and not very strong. So, I was not good at sports at all and I did not have fun playing them. Therefore, I avoided sport in general.

2. What was your favourite sport when you were at school?

- 1) When I was at school my favourite sport was soccer. At my school, soccer was the most popular sport. Everybody wanted to be on the team and those of us who were on the team all became very close friends. There is so much teamwork and sportsmanship involved in football.
- 2) To be honest, I did not have a favourite sport because I hated almost every sport I played. But, if I had to pick one I would say my favourite was running. The only reason for this is that at least running was not a team sport so there were no teammates I could disappoint.

3. Is it important for children to do sport at school?

- 1) I think it is very important for children to do sport at school. Across the world, childhood obesity is becoming a rampant (泛滥的) problem. I think one of the reasons for this is that children don't exercise properly. This is why it is so important for children to do sports at school.
- 2) I think people often overvalue the importance of children doing sport at school. Sure, it is important for children to exercise but that isn't necessarily something they should have to do at school. School should be about study and learning.

4. Were any of your school friends very good at sport?

- 1) Loads of my school friends were very good at sports. I was on a lot of the school sports teams so most of my friends were people from these teams. Because of this, most of my friends are athletic, sporty types.
- 2) No, the majority of my friends were not very athletic or sporty people. We were more focused on our studies and paid little attention to playing sports. I must say very few of them were proficient at sport.

14: Weekends

1. Is the weekend your favourite part of the week?

- 1) The weekend is by far my favourite part of the week. I am not the sort of person who loves to work or study. I like to have fun and hang out with my friends, which is what the weekends were made for!
- 2) Honestly, the weekend is not my favourite part of the week. I really enjoy my week days! I have a job I love and I study a degree that interests me. And most weekdays I spend the evenings out to dinner with my friends before I go home. My weekends I use to do grocery shopping and laundry, they are kind of boring! Copyright by AnXiaoYa

2. What did you do last weekend?

- 1) Last weekend I tried out a new restaurant in Beijing with my friends. We went to Choy's Seafood Restaurant, which is a highly recommended restaurant with great reviews! We had an incredible meal and we will definitely go back another weekend.
- 2) Honestly, last weekend was the same as most of my weekends and wasn't very interesting. On the Saturday I went out to the local supermarket and bought my weekly groceries, I then went home and prepared my lunches for the following week. On Sunday I did my laundry and cleaned my house.

3. Do you like to plan how to spend your weekends?

- 1) I like to plan how I spend my weekends. There is always so much I want to do, so many people to see, and so many places to go to. If I do not make a plan I will become overwhelmed and end up missing out on things that I want to do!
- 2) I do not really need to plan how I spend my weekends as I normally spend them in a pretty similar way. I know that in general I am going to do my shopping and do my cleaning but I do not feel the need to plan it out meticulously. I try to be quite relaxed at the weekends so I don't follow plans.

4. Do you ever work or study at the weekends?

- 1) I do not ever work or study at the weekends. I think it is very important to have a clear division between work time and personal time. I will only work or study on weekdays and even on weekdays I do not work or study in the evening.
- 2) I frequently study and work at the weekends. I use my weekends to complete my reproductive labour and ensure that I have food and clothes for the following week. This often leaves me with quite a bit of free time during the weekends which sometimes I use to work or study.

15: T-shirts

1. How often do you wear T-shirts?

- 1) I wear T-shirts very often as I think they are a convenient and comfortable item of clothing. I own a lot of T-shirts, some plain, some multicoloured, and some with designs. I find you can wear T-shirts for many different occasions.
- 2) I seldom wear T-shirts as I am more frequently dressed in slightly more formal wear. I have nothing against T-shirts in general but during my work and studies I think it is appropriate to wear a proper buttoned shirt. Then, during the weekends I normally wear things slightly more high-fashion than T-shirts.

2. Do you like T-shirts which have pictures on them?

- 1) I like T-shirts with pictures on them. I think T-shirts with pictures are a good way for people to express their interests and identity. Some T-shirts have musical designs, some are merchandise (产品) from films and TV, and some just have silly designs and drawings.
- 2) I dislike T-shirts with pictures on them, I think they are silly and childish. Fashion is very important to me and I think the way that a person presents themselves through fashion says a lot. T-shirts with pictures on them are very unserious and immature.

3. How fashionable are T-shirts for older generations in your country?

- 1) T-shirts are even fashionable with older people in my country. For one, T-shirts have been fashionable for many decades now so it is not surprising that older people like to wear them. Moreover, T-shirts are comfortable, easy to wear, and convenient, which is suitable for the elderly.
- 2) T-shirts are considered very unfashionable for the older generations in my country. This doesn't surprise me at all. Older people grew up in a time where everyone was dressed a little more seriously and sensibly. People would wear proper shirts every day. So, T-shirts are very unpopular with the elderly here.

4. Have you ever bought a T-shirt as a souvenir from a vacation?

- 1) Yes, I have bought a T-shirt as a souvenir from a holiday, I have done it multiple times in fact. I think tourist locations often have funny and interesting T-shirts which make good souvenirs. One of my favourite T-shirts is one that I bought at Disneyland, when I went to Shanghai with my family.
- 2) No, I have never wasted money on a T-shirt as a memento (纪念品) from a vacation. I think there are far finer and classier (更时髦的, classy 比较级) souvenirs than a T-shirt. You can buy wonderful postcards, magnets, notebooks, even tea towels with wonderful designs and pictures. I will always buy these over a T-shirt.

16: Keys

1. Do you often carry lots of keys with you?

- 1) Yes, I usually carry a lot of keys with me. There are so many keys I need on a daily basis. I have my room key, the key to my building, my locker key at school and my locker key at the gym. And these are on a chain with all my other random keys.
- 2) I try my best not to carry a lot of keys with me. I find that keys are cumbersome and can be annoying to carry in your pocket. They are uncomfortable and can make a lot of noise when they jangle. Therefore, I try to only take out the keys I need like my housekey.

2. Do you often forget to take keys with you?

- 1) I rarely forget to take my keys with me when I go. There are so many important keys I have that I need to use on a daily basis. Therefore, it would be detrimental (不利的, 有害的) if I ever left my keys at home.
- 2) I quite frequently forget to take my keys with me when I leave the house. There are so many things I have to remember to take that it is easy to forget one! Luckily, I live with a group of flat mates so there is always someone to let me in when I have forgotten my keys.

3. Have you ever lost any keys?

- 1) I have only ever lost my keys once and that was when I was quite young, in fact it was my first set of keys. When I was 12 years old my parents entrusted me with a set of keys for the house. I left them in a park and was severely punished.
- 2) Oh I have lost many sets of keys! I am quite a forgetful and careless person. So, I will leave my keys in cafes, on the bus, at the university, all over the place. Sometimes, I lose my keys and I have no idea where I have even lost them!

4. Do you think it's a good idea to leave a home key with a neighbor?

- 1) Personally, I think it is not a good idea to leave a key to your home with a neighbour. I think it is more important to be responsible with your keys and self-reliant. People should not start bothering their neighbours when they are locked out!
- 2) I think it is an excellent idea to leave a home key with a neighbour. You never know when you might forget your key at home or lose your key somewhere in the city. It costs hundreds of yuan to get a locksmith (锁匠) out to unlock your door for you. It is much better and cheaper to leave a key with your neighbour.

17: Small businesses

1. Are there many small businesses where you live?

- 1) Where I live there are many small businesses. I live in a part of the city where business is local and people like to support the community. Therefore, small businesses thrive (繁荣) here.
- 2) There are not too many small businesses where I live. I live in a very central part of the city where the streets are dominated by international brands and large businesses. It is simply too expensive around here for small businesses to afford the rent.

2. Have you ever worked for a small business?

- 1) Yes, I have worked for a small business before, in fact, my first job was with a small business. I think it is nice to work for small companies as the team all know each other very well and there is a good working relationship.
- 2) No, I have never worked for a small business. Because small businesses are small, they do not hire a lot of people. Small businesses are made up of a small handful of people and sometimes people who all know each other already like a family business.

3. Would you like to start your own small business in the future?

- 1) It is a dream of mine to start my own small business one day. I want to own a business that brings jobs and money to my community. I think that is a very prestigious and respectable role to have in society.
- 2) I don't think I would like to start my own small business one day. That seems like a lot of stress and uncertainty. It is hard to make a business work and to make it profitable. I would rather just earn a good salary from a large company.

4. Do you prefer to buy things from a large company or small business?

- 1) I prefer to buy things from small businesses. I think it is much nicer to give your money to people in your community and to people who will also spend money in the community. Besides, it is much cheaper and more convenient to buy things from small business.
- 2) Personally, I prefer buying things from large companies rather than small businesses. Large companies are always able to offer you the most competitive prices. Also, these companies normally have decades of experience in what they do so their products are good quality.

18: The space and the stars

1. Have you ever learnt anything about space and the stars when you were at school?

- 1) Yes. I have learned a lot about space and the stars while I was at school. We were taught about the solar system in primary school and after that I had a huge interest in physics and astronomy.
- 2) No, to be honest I do not think I ever really learned much about space and the stars when I was at school. I was never too interested in physics and didn't pay a lot of attention during the lessons. Besides, most of the learning was to do with forces and maths rather than stars and space.

2. Would you like to know more about space and the stars?

- 1) I am always interested in finding out more about space and the stars. The universe is so unknown and there is always more to learn so I am excited by any new findings published by astronomers. I subscribe to many physics journals and magazines about space.
- 2) I have no desire to learn more about space and the stars. In my opinion, there is no point to learning about it. We live on planet earth and for millions of light years around us there is no other life in the universe, so what is the point of learning about a bunch of lifeless rocks?

3. Do you like science-fiction movies set in space?

- 1) I am a big fan of watching science fiction films set in space. I have watched every movie and TV show in the Star Wars franchise and I am always looking for new content. I am currently very excited by the recent Dune films.
- 2) I **detest** (厌恶) sci-fi movies and really dislike the ones set in space. I prefer realism and historical movies. I like watching things I can relate to and I find films set in outer space far too **alienating** (格格不入) for me to enjoy them properly.

4. Do you want to go into outer space in the future?

- 1) Outer space is very scary but it would be a mind-blowing experience to visit outer space. To see the earth from outer space has been described by so many astronauts as a life changing experience. I would like to have that experience myself one day.
- 2) Why would I ever want to go into outer space? Outer space is one of the most inhospitable places we know in the universe. It is cold, dark, and a total **vacuum** (真空) with no oxygen. I would be terrified the entire time I was in outer space and I would not enjoy it at all.

19: Fixing things (新题)

1. Do you generally try to fix things when they stop working?

- 1) I always try my hand at fixing things when they break or stop working properly. Most of the items we possess have quite simple mechanisms and are not too tricky to fix yourself! In my opinion, it is an important life skill.
- 2) No, when things break, I cannot be bothered to try and fix them, I just throw them away. I do not think it is worth the hassle to learn how to fix things when it is so easy to replace broken items with new ones.

2. Do you think everyone should learn how to fix things in the home?

- 1) Without a doubt I believe it is so important that people learn how to do general repair in the household. Nothing lasts forever, and it is common for things to break or malfunction in your house. Learning to fix these things yourself will save you so much time and money.
- 2) Why should everyone learn how to fix things in the home when there are professionals who can do it for you? When people try to fix things themselves, they often make a problem worse. People should leave it to those who are trained to fix things.

3. Did anyone teach you how to fix things when you were young?

- 1) Yes, I was lucky that my father was quite a handyman and would always show me how he would fix objects around the house. That way, I slowly learned how to repair loads of different household objects. I think these were very valuable lessons.
- 2) Nobody taught me how to fix things when I was young, my parents thought it was more important that I focused on my schoolwork and traditional education. Learning to fix things is a waste of time for someone in school who has exams to prepare for.

4. What do you do with broken things?

- 1) With broken things, my first response is to see if I can fix it. A lot of things I already know how to fix, and if not, I will just watch a video online teaching me how to fix it. If I can't fix it, I will donate it to someone who can.
- 2) I tend to throw away broken things and buy new ones. When something breaks there is no point fixing it because it is likely to just break again and again. So, I always replace broken things with new things.

20: Ice cream (新题)

1. How often do you eat ice cream?

- 1) I'd guess that I have ice cream at least two or three times a week. Ice cream is one of my favourite desserts, I eat it quite a lot! Whenever ice cream is on a dessert menu or if I pass an ice cream store on a sunny day I will get myself some!
- 2) I do not have a sweet tooth and so I don't really eat ice cream that frequently. I like an ice cream on a very hot day, but otherwise there are different deserts that I prefer, such as cakes and chocolates.

2. Would you like to try making ice cream?

- 1) I have always been curious about making my own ice cream. It seems like a complicated process but I don't mind the challenge! That way I could experiment with loads of different flavours and try new things! That is very exciting to me.
- 2) I have never had any interest in trying to make ice cream myself. It seems like a very complicated process and I would probably end up making slop in the end instead of ice cream. I think I will leave ice cream making to the professionals. Copy right by An Xiao Ya,

3. Is there a good place to buy ice cream where you live?

- 1) There are some amazing ice cream stores in my local area. There is one just down the street from me which is huge and has over a dozen different flavours of ice cream! There are also smaller places with really good ice cream and nice staff.
- 2) No, there aren't really any specific places to buy ice cream where I live. If I wanted ice cream I would have to go to the supermarket and get it from the freezers there. I do not live in the warmest part of China so ice cream is not very popular here.

4. Did you eat a lot of ice cream as a kid?

- 1) My parents bought my siblings and I a lot of ice cream when we were growing up. Whenever it was a sunny day and we were walking through a park my father would always buy us an ice cream each if we had been very well behaved that day.
- 2) I rarely ate ice cream when I was a kid. My parents were very healthy and they thought it was better if children didn't eat a lot of sugar. So, we only had ice cream on very special occasions.

21: Concentration (新题)

1. Did you always pay attention in class when you were a kid?

- 1) I was very attentive in the classroom when I was a child. My parents raised me with a lot of discipline and taught me to always respect my elders. Therefore, I focused hard and listened to every word my teacher said when I was in school.
- 2) No, to be honest, I always struggled to focus when I was in class as a kid. I am very easily distracted and especially when I was a child, I would get bored of things easily. This meant that I did not pay a lot of attention in class.

2. Do you find it easy to concentrate in noisy places?

- 1) I do not struggle to focus when I am in loud and distracting places. I have always been good at concentrating no matter what the circumstances are. If the noise is really loud, I simply put on my headphones and listen to music, then I can focus again.
- 2) I find it incredibly difficult to focus when I am in loud and distracting places. I struggle to concentrate. So, when there are conversations and noises happening all around me I am constantly distracted by them. It takes me ages to complete tasks.

3. Do you want a job that requires concentration?

- 1) The only sort of job I want is one that requires me to focus. I cannot stand idle work or tasks that I do not find challenging. When I work, I want jobs that require a lot of focus and attention to detail, otherwise I will die of boredom.
- 2) Having a job that requires concentration is my worst nightmare. I am continually distracted by things and find it really difficult to stay on task longer than 15 minutes. I would rather have a job that requires less focus from me.

4. What can you do to help you concentrate better?

- 1) There are some techniques I practice that help me concentrate better. One of them is writing lists of the things I need to complete. This way, I get to tick off something every time I finish a task. This keeps me focused and driven to complete my goals.
- 2) The thing I need to do to make sure I can focus is to remove all distractions from my environment. When it is really important that I concentrate, I turn my phone off and find a quiet space by myself far away from my friends and other distractions.

22: Dream (新题)

1. When you were a child, what job did you dream of doing?

- 1) When I was growing up, I desperately wanted to become a scientist! Back then, I thought being a scientist was a really beneficial and great profession for society. But as I grew up, I realized I might not be smart enough for being a scientist, so I've given up on that idea now.
- 2) My dad is a doctor, and when I was growing up I wanted to be just like him and become a doctor. Unfortunately, as I got older I realized that biology and medicine were not my favourite subjects. So, I no longer want to be a doctor.

2. Do you think you are an ambitious person?

- 1) I have always had a real drive to succeed and improve myself. I think I am a very ambitious person. Ever since I was a child, I have wanted to become famous and successful. I think one day I am going to make it.
- 2) I would not consider myself an ambitious person. I want to do well in life and succeed in some of my goals, but I think too much ambition can be a bad thing. It is important to find a balance in life.

3. What kind of job do you want to do in the future?

- 1) I'm majoring in finance, and I also want to work in this industry in the future, like as a bank employee or an investment banker. I hope to land a decent, high-paying job so that I can attain a better social status and have more disposable income.
- 2) To be honest, I haven't figured out which industry I want to work in the future, but I hope to secure a stable job without overtime requirements. It could be a regular corporate job or even a government position. Since I don't have big ambitions and I love traveling, having enough free time and holidays is essential to me.

4. Do you have any dreams or hopes for your life?

- 1) In the future, I dream of being a successful entrepreneur. I don't see myself working a regular job forever. Once I gather enough work experience, I'll start my own business, aiming for bigger breakthroughs and achievements.
- 2) My dreams and hopes in life are simple. I want to get a good and stable job that brings me security. I want to find someone I love and start a family with them. I want to live a happy life, that is all.

23: Language (新题)

1. Did you like learning languages at school?

- 1) Languages class was always one of my favourite lessons at school. I had very inspiring and charismatic languages teachers who would take the time to make their lessons both fun and educational. Luckily, I was also quite good at learning languages.
- 2) I hated languages class when I was at school. I have always found languages really difficult to learn and the classes were very stressful. They made me feel like I was stupid and bad at learning.

2. Which languages did you learn at school?

- 1) The main language we learned at school was English but there were also some other options. For students who were good at languages we also had the option to learn Russian and Japanese, since my school was in the north east and those languages are useful there.
- 2) When I was at school, I tried to learn English but I didn't really manage to. The only language my school taught was English and I had English classes for many years, but I never learned the language very well.

3. Is it a good idea to learn other languages?

- 1) I think other languages are one of the most important and useful things to learn. Speaking multiple languages not only increases your employability but it also opens up a whole new world of cultures and experiences to you!
- 2) I don't think learning other languages is as important as people make it out to be. Nowadays translation technology has become very good, and anyone can look up how to say something in a different language from their phone. It takes seconds to find out online, so why learn?

4. Which language do you want to learn in the future?

- 1) I have always wanted to learn Korean. I think Seoul is a fascinating city and Korea has a very unique and interesting culture that I would like to explore. Also, a lot of my favourite music is sung in Korean!
- 2) There isn't really any language I want to learn in the future. I find learning languages really stressful and so far I have done just fine in my life without speaking any foreign language. So, I have no desire to learn a new one.

24: Bags (新题)

1. When you were young, did you have a school bag?

- 1) Yes, when I was growing up, I had a school bag. In fact, my parents would get me a new school bag every two years or so because they would get old and worn quite quickly. I always loved the bags I would pick out for school.
- 2) No, I did not have a specific school bag when I was a child. At my school we had lockers so we would keep all our books, pencils, and other things in the lockers. Sometimes I would use a bag to bring things in, but this was just a random bag.

2. What kind of bag do you use when you go on holiday?

- 1) When I go on holiday, I have a very specific bag that I use. Planes have detailed size requirements for the bags that you can take as carry on. So, I bought a bag that matches the size dimensions perfectly. It is very useful.
- 2) I use all sorts of different bags when I go on holiday. For short get aways I just fill a backpack with the things that I need. For medium length trips I use a travel bag that fits in the overhead locker on the plane. And for long visits I use a large suitcase.

3. Would you be happy if someone gave you a bag as a gift?

- 1) I think bags are very useful and some are fun and interesting, so they make great gifts! I would be overjoyed if somebody gave me a cool bag for my birthday one year. It makes both a practical and an exciting gift.
- 2) I think I would be quite upset if someone gave me a bag as a present. A bag is a practical item which someone should buy for themselves when they need one. I think bags make a quite unsuitable gift as they are not special and are not very interesting.

4. Do you often take your bag with you when you go out now?

- 1) I do not leave my house without a bag! It is so useful to have a bag to carry all your things such as your phone, your keys, a water bottle, and other necessary items. It is also useful to have a bag incase you buy things and need to carry them home.
- 2) I rarely take a bag with me when I leave the house. I find bags quite cumbersome, and they are annoying to carry. I prefer to keep all my important things in my pockets when I go out. I rarely feel as if I need a bag when I am out.

25: Teachers (新题)

1. Is it easy to remember your teachers in elementary school?

- 1) Oh, I could never forget the teachers I had in elementary school. Elementary school is such a formative stage of a person's life and the teachers you had you would see every day. My teachers were probably some of the most influential people in my childhood.
- 2) I do not really remember most of the teachers I had in elementary school, it feels like such a long time ago. When you are a young child there is so much to learn about life and it is hard to remember details like all the different teachers in your school.

2. Did you want to be a teacher when you were young?

- 1) When I was growing up being a teacher was one of my dream jobs. I really admired and looked up to my teachers. I thought that when I got older, I would like to be like them. It seemed like a meaningful job to help shape the next generation.
- 2) Oh no, I never even dreamed of being a teacher when I was growing up. I did not really like school and I did not like my teachers either. They always seemed grumpy and stressed, so it was not a job that I thought looked fun or exciting.

3. Do you think teachers are different now than when your parents were at school?

- 1) Yes, I think there have been a lot of changes to the job of a teacher since my parent's time at school. On the one hand, everything we teach changes as we make new discoveries and different subjects become more important. Also, teaching style changes with the differences of the time.
- 2) I do not think there have been that many changes to teachers now compared to when my parents were at school. The role is much the same. Teachers are just meant to transfer knowledge to their students and keep the class in order.

4. Did you have a favorite teacher at school?

- 1) My favourite teacher at school was my math teacher I had in lower school. Math was not the easiest subject for me, and I struggled with it a lot. But I had the nicest teacher who took the time to teach me and help me understand. They were my favourite.
- 2) I did not have a favourite teacher while I was at school. I did not like most of my teachers and I would often get in trouble with them. There aren't any that I particularly remember or that I think I liked more than the rest.

26: Wild animals (新题)

1. Are there many wild animals in your country?

- 1) There is an abundance of wildlife in China! We have animals like the giant panda which are iconic of China. But there are also many other wild animals such as elephants, tigers, leopards and monkeys.
- 2) Yes, China has a rich biodiversity with a wide variety of wild animals, like the giant panda and golden monkey. But they are not very common in the areas that humans live. The only place we can see wild animals are the zoos in the city.

2. Have you ever been to a zoo or safari park?

- 1) Yes, I have been to many zoos and was even lucky enough to once visit a safari park with my parents. There is a zoo in my home city, and growing up I would visit often. Once, my parents took me to the Guangzhou Chimelong Safari Park as a reward for doing well in my exams.
- 2) I have never visited a zoo or safari park because I don't really like them. I find it sad to see animals kept in cages, and fenced into small areas. I know it isn't all bad, but I would rather see animals in the wild than kept in a zoo.

3. Have you seen any shows about wild animals recently?

- 1) I am always on the look out for new wildlife documentaries and I watched one recently. A short while ago, I discovered David Attenborough's collection of shows on wild animals. I watched one called 'Frozen Planet' which was about penguins and polar bears.
- 2) I don't really watch TV shows about wild animals, I think they are boring. Most nature documentaries are the same, they show predators and prey in their natural environments. It feels too much like a school lesson to me!

4. What kind of animal would you like to see in the wild?

- 1) My favourite animal is the giraffe and it is my dream to see one on the wild! I think giraffes are such fascinating and unusual creatures. It would be an amazing experience to watch some in the wild and see how they act in their natural environment.
- 2) I have always wanted to see wild dolphins. I saw a video on TikTok a couple years ago of dolphins leaping out of the water near some people on a boat. It looked incredible! I would like to see that for myself one day.

27: Rain (新题)

1. How often does it rain where you live?

- 1) I live in a very wet part of the country, and it rains all the time! Some parts of the world have wet seasons and dry seasons but where I live it seems to always be a wet season. I would go as far as to say it rains most days!
- 2) I live in an area of China that does not get a lot of rain. Most of the year it is dry and there are only a couple of months or so when it rains infrequently. Rain is a very rare thing in my parts.

2. Would you like to live somewhere very wet or very dry?

- 1) If I had things my way I would live in a very dry place. Living in a wet place is so annoying and you always have to remember to carry an umbrella or wear a raincoat. I would like to live in a place that was dry.
- 2) I think it would be wonderful to live somewhere lush and wet. Where I currently live is a quite dry and arid climate. Because of this there is not a lot of plant life and foliage. I would love to live somewhere thriving and green.

3. Have you ever changed your plans because it rained?

- 1) Yes, I frequently have to cancel my plans because it has started raining. Whenever I plan outdoor activities such as taking a nice walk or playing sports outside, it is always such a shame to cancel them because of the rain. There are some activities you just can't enjoy in the rain.
- 2) It rarely rains where I am and when it does, I do not let it spoil my plans. A little bit of rain never bothers me, so no matter what I have planned for the day, I will just put a coat on and go ahead with it.

4. Do you enjoy going out in the rain?

- 1) It is not fun to be wet and cold, so I do not like going out in the rain. When it is raining, I like to stay inside and wrap up warm. It is too much hassle to go out in the rain, I just wait for it to stop.
- 2) I think going out in the rain is a wonderful and exciting experience. Everywhere looks so pretty in the rain and I think it is fun to see people walking around with their umbrellas in their hands and their raincoats on.

28: Favourite day (新题)

1. What's your favorite day of the week?

- 1) I think Saturday is the best day of the week, I look forward to it all throughout the working week. It is the first day of the weekend, so everyone is excited and energetic. The most fun things always happen on a Saturday. Copy right by An Xiao Ya,
- 2) It is hard to say which day of the week I like the most, but it is probably Sunday. Sunday is always a day of relaxation. Nobody makes a lot of plans because we have to go back to work the next day. So, I can just lounge about and relax.

2. What's your busiest day of the week?

- 1) The first day back to work, Monday, is by far the most hectic day of my week. I am always so busy catching up with all the things that happened over the weekend. I am exhausted by the end of a Monday.
- 2) My busiest day of the week is always Saturday. I am a very social person, so when the weekend comes around, I always have dozens of plans and people to see on a Saturday. I am always running around the city, going from place to place.

3. If you could change what you do each week, what would it be?

- 1) The thing I would like to change the most about my weekly routine is when I start work. My workday begins at 8:30am every day, Monday to Friday. This means I have to wake up really early to be ready in time and I am always so tired by the end of the day.
- 2) If I were to make a change to what I do each week I would give myself an extra day off in the middle of the week on Wednesday. I find it so hard to get through the working week and I feel like I do not have enough time to relax and socialize.

4. Would you do the same thing on the same day every week?

- 1) I would be quite happy to do the same thing on the same day every week. I like routines and I am what people call 'a creature of habit'. I find it easier to follow set schedules and to know what to expect. So, I like having the same things to do on the same days.
- 2) I would never be able to do the same thing on the same day every week, that would drive me crazy! I hate routines and I think that doing the same thing gets boring really quickly. I always need my days to be different and full of new things.

29: Friends (新题)

1. Is it easy for you to find time to see your friends?
 - 1) I do not struggle to find time to spend with my friends. I think it is important to have a social life and to have fun with your friends. So, I make sure that I find time at the evenings and weekends to hang out with people.
 - 2) I struggle to make time in my life for hanging out with my friends. I work a job and study which means most of my free time is spent looking after myself. After all the cooking and cleaning is done, there isn't a lot of time to socialize.
2. What do you like to do when you are with your friends?
 - 1) I do all sorts of different things with my friends, depending on who I am hanging out with. Sometimes we go to the cinema, sometimes we go to the arcade, sometimes we go out to eat food at restaurants and street markets. There are so many fun things I do with my friends.
 - 2) Because I am so busy and often really stressed, when I hang out with my friends, I like to do relaxing and simple activities. Sometimes we will play board games or watch a movie at someone's house. I really like cooking with my friends.
3. Have you known some of your friends for a long time?
 - 1) I have some friends that I have known for practically all my life. I still live in the same city I was born in, so most of my friends are people I went to school with and grew up with.
 - 2) To be honest, most of my friends I have only known for a little while. I moved to a new city for university and did not have a lot of friends growing up. So, most of my friends I have only know for a year or two.
4. How important are your friends to you?
 - 1) I think my friends are the most important thing in my life. Aside from my family, I cannot think of anything more important than the bonds and memories I have formed with my friends.
 - 2) I think it is good to have friends, but it is not the most important thing in the world to me. I am more interested in my own development and success as a citizen. It is nice to have people to hang out with, but that is not my focus in life.

30: Day off (新题)

1. When was the last time you had a day off from work or study?
 - 1) My last day off was just a few days ago at the weekend. I think it is very important to separate your work life from your personal life. So, on the weekends I never do any work or any study. So, I get two days off from work or study every week.
 - 2) It has been ages since I last had a day off, it has probably been a month or two. I work a full time job and study at the same time, so I do not have a lot of time off. I only get to take a break during public holidays. During the week I work, and at the weekends I study.
2. What do you usually like to do on your break?
 - 1) During my break I like to do relaxing and fun activities. I try to do things that are low effort such as watching comedy videos, listening to podcasts, or having light conversations with my friends and colleagues. It is important to relax and switch off during your breaks.
 - 2) During my breaks I eat a light meal to re-energize myself and sometimes I will also have a cup of tea or a coffee. I only take a short break each day and the most important thing to me is that I am well fed and no longer hungry. Then I get back to work.
3. What would you do if you had a day off tomorrow?
 - 1) Copyright by AnXiaoYa I would do so much if I had the day off tomorrow! I would plan fun activities with my friends such as bowling or going to the movies. If the weather was nice I would go on a long walk through the local park. And I would eat lots of good food!
 - 2) If I had the day off tomorrow I would catch up with all the chores I normally do at the weekend. I would do my laundry and tidy my house. If I had extra time I might even cook a few meals in advance to eat during the week.
4. Do you prefer to spend a day off with friends or family?
 - 1) I like to spend my free time with my friends more so than with my family. I love seeing my family often, and during holidays, but I have a lot more fun with my friends. My friends are all my age and interested in the same things as me, so it is more fun to hang out with them.
 - 2) When I have a day off I like to spend it with my family. I do not get a lot of time off and I miss spending time with my family very much. So any chance I get, I visit my family and spend the whole day with them.

31: Health (新题)

1. What's your favourite kind of exercise?

- 1) Basketball, of course! I absolutely love it! It's not just a workout; it's an interesting and exciting game that includes fast-paced action, teamwork, and the joy of sinking a perfect shot. Plus, it's a fantastic way to stay fit and improve my coordination.
- 2) My preferred way of staying in shape are gentle exercises such as jogging or fun things like playing Ping-pong with my friends. I think exercise can be part of a normal lifestyle and your day to day activities.

2. What do you usually do to keep healthy?

- 1) I like to play basketball to stay healthy. Instead of being a chore for me, it is a fun game! Playing basketball not only strengthens my physique, but also allows me to meet many interesting classmates along the way!
- 2) To keep healthy I make sure I eat a balanced diet and I try to play a lot of sports with my friends. I avoid fatty foods and sugary drinks. I play basketball with my friends twice a week. I find this is enough to stay healthy.

3. Did you learn about keeping fit at school?

- 1) Yes, my school taught us about the importance of staying healthy and keeping fit. We had a lot of sports classes and also classes that taught us how to eat well and look after ourselves. School was about keeping our bodies strong as well as improving our minds.
- 2) I didn't really learn about keeping fit at school, rather my mother just raised me with healthy habits. At school we learned lessons like science, maths, and English. My mother taught me to eat well and encouraged me to stay active.

4. How easy is it for people in your country to keep healthy?

- 1) I would not say it is easy for people in my country to keep healthy, it takes a lot of discipline. There are so many fatty foods and treats that are full of sugar. Also, most people work sat at a computer all day. So, it takes a lot of effort and willpower to stay fit.
- 2) I think it is pretty easy for people in my country to keep healthy. There are so many sports centres, parks, and nice places to jog. It is easy to exercise in my country. Also, we have access to very good and nutritious food. Copyright by AnXiaoYa