

1. People attend college or university for many different reasons (for example, new experiences, career preparation, increased knowledge) why do you think people attend college or university? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Career preparation:

- a) Courses designed to meet the market requirement
- b) Instructors are knowledgeable and have hands? On experience
- c) Classmates and friends are invaluable resources for the future career

2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree. Parents are the best teachers

- a) Parents know us most because of relations and time that we stay together
- b) The earliest education came from parents when we were little kids. We are more likely to accept the instructions from our parents.

3. Nowadays, food has become easier to prepare. Has this change improved the way people live? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Yes.

- 1) Save time
- 2) Nutrition balance
- 3) More convenient---everyone can cook

4. It has been said, "Not everything that is learned is contained in books." Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?

Comparison and contrast:

From Books: wide, systematic, scientific but hard to be used and not impressive

From experience: direct, impressive and practical but limited

Choose book:

- 1) Save time
- 2) Avoid making same mistakes
- 3) Systematic knowledge

5. A company has announced that it wishes to build a large factory near your community. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this new influence on your community. Do you support or oppose the factory? Explain your position.

Advantages: 1) employment opportunity 2) economic boom

Disadvantages: 1) pollution 2) safety problems

6. If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Change pollution:

- 1) For people's health
- 2) Attract more investment
- 3) Living environment

7. How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons and specific examples to

support your answer.

- 1) The sources of information
- 2) More entertainment
- 3) People, especially young people, mimic movie/television stars' behavior

8. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television has destroyed communication among friends and family. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Disagree.

- 1) Friends: television programs are an important source of topics
- 2) Family: the family will watch TV together and has more time to communicate

9. Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

In a big city:

- 1) More working opportunities
- 2) More information
- 3) More convenience

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

Disagree

- 1) Although success comes a lot from hard work, hard work is not the only key factor for Success
- 2) Get a job;
- 3) Become a star

11. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Universities should give the same amount of money to their students' sports activities as they give to their university libraries. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Agree.

- 1) Sports is as important as library
- 2) Appropriate sports can help students to get more energy and study hard
- 3) Sports can help build team spirit

12. Many people visit museums when they travel to new places. Why do you think people visit museums? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

- 1) Museum is a microcosmic of a country or a city
- 2) Since a traveler's time is limited, by visiting museums he can maximize his knowledge of the new place.

13. Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Prefer to eat at home.

- 1) Economical, saving money
- 2) Keep nutrition balance,
- 3) Cleaner Cook and eat with the family: family atmosphere.

14. Some people believe that university students should be required to attend classes. Others believe that going to classes should be optional for students. Which point of view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

Required to attend classes

- 1) Instructors can help direct your study, solving problems.
- 2) Push you to concentrate on study
- 3) More time to stay with your classmates and build up your network

15. Neighbors are the people who live near us. In your opinion, what are the qualities of a good neighbor? Use specific details and examples in your answer.

- 1) Quietness
- 2) Friendly
- 3) Honest

16 It has recently been announced that a new restaurant may be built in your neighborhood Do you support or oppose this plan? why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Support:

- 1) More employment opportunities
- 2) Community economic development
- 3) Living more convenient

17. Some people think that they can learn better by themselves than with a teacher Others think that it is always better to have a teacher Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons to develop your essay.

Have a teacher:

- 1) Solve difficult problems, saving time
- 2) A good teacher is a good friend
- 3) Prediction

18. What are some important qualities of a good supervisor (boss)? Use specific details and examples to explain why these qualities are important.

- 1) Trust the subordinates
- 2) Capability to solve problems

Like:

- 1) Commercial center, libraries: easier to study and find a job

19. Should governments spend more money on improving roads and highways, or should governments spend more money on improving public transportation (buses, trains, subways)? Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

More money on improving roads & highways

- 1) Road is the prerequisite of buses and trains
- 2) My country's (Iran, China, Japan, Pakistan, etc.) current situation: very bad roads
- 3) Road & Highway improve economics

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

As #9

21. In general, people are living longer now. Discuss the causes of this phenomenon. Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

- 1) Medical technique develop

2) Living environment becomes better 3) Food nutrition

22. We all work or will work in our jobs with many different kinds of people. In your opinion, what are some important characteristics of a co-worker (someone you work closely with)? Use reasons and specific examples to explain why these characteristics are important.

1) Trust 2) Honest 3) Easy-going

23. In some countries, teenagers have jobs while they are still students. Do you think this is a good idea? Support your opinion by using specific reasons and details.

No.

1) Too young to work: not good for growing

2) Limited times, for teenagers, study is more important

24. A person you know is planning to move to your town or city. What do you think this person would like and dislike about living in your town or city?

Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

Dislike:

1) Too many people and too crowded

2) Too few good restaurants

25. It has recently been announced that a large shopping center may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Similar to # 5

26 It has recently been announced that a new movie theater may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Similar to # 5

27. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should sometimes do things that they do not enjoy doing. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree.

1) Responsibility and obligation

2) The life is not always moving forward smoothly

3) Point out the negative side of only doing something that they enjoy doing.

28. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television, newspapers, magazines, and other media pay too much attention to the personal lives of famous people such as public figures and celebrities. Use specific reasons and details to explain your opinion.

Disagree.

1) Most people are common, so they want to know something about famous ones

2) Famous people stand for some fashion

3) Constrain the public figures

4) Celebrities can improve the national cohesion and unity.

29. Some people believe that the Earth is being harmed (damaged) by human activity. Others feel that human activity makes the Earth a better place to live. What is your opinion? Use specific

reasons and examples to support your answer.

Harmed.

1) Air pollution; 2) water resources; 3) forest

30. It has recently been announced that a new high school may be built in your community. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details in your answer. Support:

1) Employment

2) Bring in the cultural environment

3) Benefit children's education

31. Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

Staying in one place.

1) Moving again and again wastes time and money, bringing extra work

2) Family and job responsibilities

3) Moving means that you can't predict your future. Start from zero (take Canadian immigrants as example)

32. Is it better to enjoy your money when you earn it or is it better to save your money for some time in the future? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

To save money for the future

1) China's (or any other country's) incomplete welfare system can't cover a lot of things, such as

2) Buying house, car, pay for children's tuition fee

3) Need some money for the emergency

33. You have received a gift of money. The money is enough to buy either a piece of jewelry you like or tickets to a concert you want to attend. Which would you buy? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

A piece of jewelry.

1) Last longtime

2) Admiration

3) Keep value

34. Businesses should hire employees for their entire lives. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree.

1) Companies are developing, so their requirements for employees are changing

2) Employees' personal improvement

35. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Attending a live performance (for example, a play, concert, or sporting event) is more enjoyable than watching the same event on television. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

36. Choose one of the following transportation vehicles and explain why you think it has changed people's lives: 1) automobiles 2) bicycles 3) airplanes Use specific reasons and examples to

support your answer.

Automobiles.

- 1) Automobiles have shortened the distance between cities and have increased working efficiency
- 2) Change people's living style & improve people's communication
- 3) Economic development

37. Do you agree or disagree that progress is always good? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) From personal point of view
- 2) From human's view

38. Learning about the past has no value for those of us living in the present. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree.

- 1) Personal: take lesson from former failure
- 2) Country: take China as an example (past reflects future)

39. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? With the help of technology, students nowadays can learn more information and learn it more quickly. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Read Sample writing

40. The expression "Never, never give up" means to keep trying and never stop working for your goals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) The only way to reach goal is never give up
- 2) Even you can't reach the goal, if you never give up in this process, you will not have any regret at last.

41. Some people think that human needs for farmland, housing, and industry are more important than saving land for endangered animals. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree.

- 1) Endangered animals are valuable because of their limited quantities
- 2) Environment balance
- 3) Endangered animals sometimes stand for the country, so they are more valuable than farmlands

42. What is a very important skill a person should learn in order to be successful in the world today? Choose one skill and use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Communication skill

- 1) Other people could understand you better.
- 2) Create friendly environment and make more friends.

43. Why do you think some people are attracted to dangerous sports or other dangerous activities? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

- 1) Dangerous = challenge. Winner of dangerous sports or other dangerous activities are the

stronger. Dangerous sports can give them self-satisfaction.

- 2) Exciting: tedious daily life needs some change
- 3) Make money (or Become famous)

44. Some people like to travel with a companion. Other people prefer to travel alone. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Prefer to travel with a companion.

- 1) Have someone to share the excitement and enjoyment
- 2) During traveling, you and your companion can help take care of each other if needed.

45. Some people prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. Others prefer to get up later in the day and work until late at night. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Get up early.

- 1) More energetic
- 2) Match teamwork

46 What are the important qualities of a good son or daughter? Have these qualities changed or remained the same over time in your culture? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

- 1) Respect the parents and the elders;
- 2) Don't make trouble for the family; Friendly; 3) Hardworking

47. Some people prefer to work for a large company. Others prefer to work for a small company. Which would you prefer? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

For a large company:

- 1) More promotion opportunities, promising future
- 2) Stable working situation, good benefits, stable family
- 3) Working for a large company is an honor.

48. People work because they need money to live. When are some other reasons that people work? Discuss one or more of these reasons. Use specific examples and details to support your answer.

- 1) Use your knowledge
- 2) Learn from the work
- 3) Realize personal value

49. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Face-to-face communication is better than other types of communication, such as letters, email, or telephone calls. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Disagree:

- 1) Letter, email or phone calls reduce cost
- 2) Some words should not be said by face to face

50. Some people like to do only what they already do well. Other people prefer to try new things and take risks. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Try new things and take risks

- 1) Compare these two: Only doing what we already do well is boring
Trying new things and taking risks is exciting

- 2) Trying new things bring more opportunities
- 3) Taking risks means more profit. It is worthy to take reasonable risks

51. Some people believe that success in life comes from taking risks or chances. Others believe that success results from careful planning. In your opinion, what does success come from? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Come from careful planning:

- 1) Planning brings clear target;
- 2) Planning decides what kinds of actions are correct and should be taken
- 3) Planning minimizes mistakes

52. What change would make your hometown more appealing to people your age? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

More public libraries armed with computers with access to Internet.

- 1) Knowledge is one of the determinants in the modern society
- 2) Computers and Internet are the most helpful device to get information
- 3) There are a lot of virtual communities and games in Internet. You can enjoy what you cannot in daily life.

53. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) The purpose of working is for money;
- 2) Money reflects people's value

54. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? One should never judge a person by external appearances. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) External appearances cannot reflect what is in one's mind.
- 2) External appearance can be temporary and unreliable

55. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person should never make an important decision alone. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree. It depends on the different situation.

- 1) In an emergency, such as emergency room in the hospital, it is impossible and not reasonable to discuss with others;
- 2) When you are alone and you have to make an important decision in a short time you have to do so.

56. A company is going to give some money either to support the arts or to protect the environment. Which do you think the company should choose? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

To protect the environment:

- 1) A good environment is beneficial to everyone's health, but arts are only to those who love them
- 2) Environment is very important to attract investment

57. Some movies are serious, designed to make the audience think. Other movies are designed primarily to amuse and entertain. Which type of movie do you prefer? Use specific reasons and

examples to support your answer.

Prefer movies designed for amusement.

- 1) The main purpose for people to go to the cinema is to get entertainment and relax
- 2) The real living world is serious enough. People have a lot of things such as studying, working etc. which need thinking already.

58. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Disagree

- 1) Should not break the law
- 2) Should not damage customers' benefits

59. Some people are always in a hurry to go places and get things done. Other people prefer to take their time and live life at a slower pace. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Choose the first one: In a hurry and get things done.

- 1) Time is limited in everyone's life;
- 2) After getting things done, we do not need to worry about it anymore and we can enjoy the life better.

60. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Games are as important for adults as they are for children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) Need some way to release the pressure;
- 2) Game → team work
- 3) Game means competition

61. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents or other adult relatives should make important decisions for their older (15- to 18-year-old) teenage children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Agree: Parents make decision for children.

- 1) Parents have more experience
- 2) 15- to 18-year-olds are not adults, so they can't take responsibility
- 3) Young children are easier to make wrong decision

62. What do you want most in a friend: someone who is intelligent or someone who has a sense of humor or someone who is reliable? Which one of these characteristics is most important to you? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.

Read sample essay

63. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Most experiences in our lives that seemed difficult at the time become valuable lessons for the future. Use reasons and specific examples to support our answer.

Read sample essay

64. Some people prefer to work for themselves or own a business. Others prefer to work for an employer. Would you rather be self-employed, work for someone else, or own a business? Use specific reasons to explain your choice.

65. Should a city try to preserve its old, historic buildings or destroy them and replace them with modern buildings? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

66. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

67. If you were an employer, which kind of worker would you prefer to hire: an inexperienced worker at a lower salary or an experienced worker at a higher salary? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

68. Many teachers assign homework to students every day. Do you think that daily homework is necessary for students? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

69. If you could study a subject that you have never had the opportunity to study, what would you choose? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.

70. Some people think that the automobile has improved modern life. Others think that the automobile has caused serious problems. When is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

71. Which would you choose: a high-paying job with long hours that would give you little time with family and friends or a lower-paying job with shorter hours that would give you more time with family and friends? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.

72. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Grades (marks) encourage students to learn. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

73. Some people say that computers have made life easier and more convenient. Other people say that computers have made life more complex and stressful. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

74. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

75. Some universities require students to take classes in many subjects. Other universities require students to specialize in one subject. Which is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

76. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should begin learning a foreign language as soon as they start school. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

77. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Boys and girls should attend separate schools. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

78. Is it more important to be able to work with a group of people on a team or to work

independently? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

79. Your city has decided to build a statue or monument to honor a famous person in your country. Who would you choose? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.

80. Describe a custom from your country that you would like people from other countries to adopt. Explain your choice, using specific reasons and examples.

81. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Technology has made the world a better place to live. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

82. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Advertising can tell you a lot about a country. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

83. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Modern technology is creating a single world culture. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

84. Some people say that the Internet provides people with a lot of valuable information. Others think access to so much information creates problems. Which view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

85. A foreign visitor has only one day to spend in your country. Where should this visitor go on that day? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

86. If you could go back to some time and place in the past, when and where would you go? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

87. What discovery in the last 100 years has been most beneficial for people in your country? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

88. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Telephones and email have made communication between people less personal. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

89. If you could travel back in time to meet a famous person from history, what person would you like to meet? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

90. If you could meet a famous entertainer or athlete, who would that be and why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

91. If you could ask a famous person one question, what would you ask? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

92. Some people prefer to live in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. Others like to live in areas where the weather changes several times a year. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

93. Many students have to live with roommates while going to school or university. What are

some of the important qualities of a good roommate? Use specific reasons and examples to explain why these qualities are important.

94. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Dancing plays an important role in a culture. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

94. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Dancing plays an important role in a culture. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

95. Some people think governments should spend as much money as possible exploring outer space (for example, traveling to the Moon and to other planets) Other people disagree and think governments should spend this money for our basic needs on Earth.

Which of these two opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Agree with the latter one.

- 1) Basic needs on Earth already need a lot of money
- 2) Environment needs money to be improved
- 3) If the basic needs can't be met, the overnment cannot make any real progress in exploring the outer space.

96 People have different ways of escaping the stress and difficulties of modern life. Some read; some exercise; others work in their gardens. What do you think are the best ways of reducing stress? Use specific details and examples in your answer.

Choose read:

- 1) You can find the solution to the problem through the books and therefore, the stress will be released automatically.
- 2) Books contain jokes and interesting plots,??helping you release the pressure.

97. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Teachers should be paid according to how much their students learn. Give specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Agree:

- 1) Reflect teachers' personal value
- 2) Restrict teachers to avoid wasting students time

98. If you were asked to send one thing representing your country to an international exhibition, what would you choose? Why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

(For Chinese students ONLY. But students from other countries can follow the theme)

A picture of the Great Wall.

- 1) The Great Wall is the symbol of human's culture
- 2) Help to boom the tourism industry
- 3) Help people of other countries to look inside Chinese culture

99. You have been told that dormitory rooms at your university must be shared by two students. Would you rather have the university assign a student to share a room with you, or would you rather choose your own roommate? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

Choose own roommate:

- 1) The purpose for attending university is to increase knowledge, we need to make the living easy as much as we can.

- 2) The right roommates can help each other with the study.
- 3) The right roommates can enjoy the spare-time together, benefiting the study.

100. Some people think that governments should spend as much money as possible on developing or buying computer technology. Other people disagree and think that this money should be spent on more basic needs. Which one of these opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Same as #95

101. Some people like doing work by hand Others prefer using machines. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Prefer to use machine

- 1) Machine can be used to do some boring work.
- 2) Machine can help to do some jobs such as precision instruments that cannot be done by people.
- 3) Machine can improve efficiency and save time. Using machine means earning more profits.

102. Schools should ask students to evaluate their teachers. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) Increase teaching quality for students' benefits
- 2) Help teachers improve their teaching method and update their knowledge
- 3) Push teachers pay attention to students

103. In your opinion, what is the most important characteristic (for example, honesty, intelligence, a sense of humor) that a person can have to be successful in life? Use specific reasons and examples from your experience to explain your answer. When you write your answer, you are not limited to the examples listed in the question.

Try to use the examples in #51 and other topics related with success

104. It is generally agreed that society benefits from the work of its members. Compare the contributions of artists to society with the contributions of scientists to society. Which type of contribution do you think is valued more by your society? Give specific reasons to support your answer.

- a) Artists amusement and enjoyment
- b) Scientists: technology advancements
- c) During different periods, they have different functions.

105. Students at universities often have a choice of places to live. They may choose to live in university dormitories, or they may choose to live in apartments in the community. Compare the advantages of living in university housing with the advantages of living in an apartment in the community. Where would you prefer to live? Give reasons for your preference.

- 1) Compare the advantages of these two choices
- 2) Prefer to live in apartments in the community
 - a) More interactions with the society
 - b) More freedom,
 - c) More convenience and quietness

106 You need to travel from your home to a place 40 miles (64 kilometers) away. Compare the different kinds of transportation you could use. Tell which method of travel you would choose. Give specific reasons for your choice.

- 1) Compare different transportations: car, ship, bicycle, train, etc
- 2) Choose the car
 - a) The distance decides that car is the most suitable transportation tool;
 - b) The car could help carry the personal belongings more easily.
 - c) Have more time control

107. Some people believe that a college or university education should be available to all students. Others believe that higher education should be available only to good students. Discuss these views. Which view do you agree with? Explain why.

Agree. that higher education should be available to all students.

- 1) The nature of the society should be equal to all the people, everyone has his/her right to do what he/she wants as long as his/her behavior does not break the law;
- 2) The function of the college or university is to educate all kinds of students
- 3) The education could change the students into good students.

108. Some people believe that the best way of learning about life is by listening to the advice of family and friends. Other people believe that the best way of learning about life is through personal experience. Compare the advantages of these two different ways of learning about life. Which do you think is preferable? Use specific examples to support your preference.

Compare. 1) direct experience; 2) indirect experience Similar to #4.

109. When people move to another country, some of them decide to follow the customs of the new country. Others prefer to keep their own customs. Compare these two choices. Which one do you prefer? Support your answer. with specific details.

We need to follow the customs of the new country

- 1) First, follow the new customs does not mean getting rid of all old customs. To keep the society diverse, people also should keep some own customs. Take Canada as a good example
- 2) To melt into the new society, people should follow some customs of the new country. Take the early colonists as an example. If they did not follow the new customs, if they did not get along with the Native Americans, none of them could survive the early colonial hardships. And due to this, America created a new culture which is different from that of Europe.

110. Some people prefer to spend most of their time alone. Others like to be with friends most of the time. Do you prefer to spend your time alone or with friends? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Similar to #44

Prefer to spend the time with friends.

- 1) Share the knowledge and experience with friends; 2) To build better friendship; 3) Enjoy the spare time

111. Some people prefer to spend time with one or two close friends. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends. Compare the advantages of each choice. Which of these two ways of spending time do you prefer? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Similar to #44 and #I 10

Spend time with one or two close friends.

- 1) Close friends always have similar interests or hobbies as you do; 2) Close friends know each other well
- 3) Close friends could help you release pressure.

112. Some people think that children should begin their formal education at a very early age and should spend most of their time on school studies. Others believe that young children should spend most of their time playing. Compare these two views. Which view do you agree with? Why?

Compare the two views first.

Young children should spend most of their time playing.

- 1) For young children, playing is beneficial to their physical growth.
- 2) Young children can learn by playing

113. The government has announced that it plans to build a new university. Some people think that your community would be a good place to locate the university. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a new university in your community. Use specific details in your discussion.

Similar to #30

114. Some people think that the family is the most important influence on young adults. Other people think that friends are the most important influence on young adults. Which view do you agree with? Use examples to support your position.

Agree. Friends influence young adults most.

1. Most of young adults' time is spent with their friends;
2. Young adults have the same interests and so it is easy to influence each other,
3. Young adults become more independent, so family influence is less important.

115. Some people prefer to plan activities for their free time very carefully. Others choose not to make any plans at all for their free time. Compare the benefits of planning free time activities with the benefits of not making plans. Which do you prefer? Planning or not planning for your leisure time? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice. Prefer planning for leisure time

- 1) Spare time is limited
- 2) Careful plan can save money

116. People learn in different ways. Some people learn by doing things; other people learn by reading about things; others learn by listening to people talk about things. Which of these methods of learning is best for you? Use specific examples to support your choice.

Learning by reading about things is best for me.

- 1) Knowledge from books is systematic 2) Knowledge from books is scientific;
- 3) Books contain wide knowledge

117. Some people choose friends who are different from themselves. Others choose friends who are similar to themselves. Compare the advantages of having friends who are different from you with the advantages of having friends who are similar to you which kind of friend do you prefer for yourself? Why?

Choose similarity.

- 1) Avoid argument; 2) Have same interest to do something

118. Some people enjoy change, and they look forward to new experiences. Others like their lives to stay the same, and they do not change their usual habits. Compare these two approaches to life. Which approach do you prefer? Explain why.

- 1) Compare these two approaches.
- 2) Prefer moving and new experiences A. More opportunities B. More friends

119. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People behave differently when they wear different clothes. Do you agree that different clothes influence the way people behave? Use specific examples to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) Clothes themselves are designed to meet different occasions.
- 2) Different clothes change people's mood

120. Decisions can be made quickly, or they can be made after careful thought. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The decisions that people make quickly are always wrong. Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

Disagree.

- 1) Whether the decision is right or wrong depends on people's knowledge & experience, not the time.
- 2) Without knowledge and experience, even the time is long, it is hard to make right decisions. On the contrary, with knowledge and experience, the decisions made quickly are right.

121. Some people trust their first impressions about a person's character because they believe these judgments are generally correct. Other people do not judge a person's character quickly because they believe first impressions are often wrong. Compare these two attitudes. Which attitude do you agree with? Support your choice with specific examples.

122. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People are never satisfied with what they have; they always want something more or something different. Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) The progress of society relies on people's pursuit for change;
- 2) Personal improvement relies on people's dissatisfaction with current situation.

123. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should read only those books that are about real events, real people, and established facts. Use specific reasons and details to support your opinion.

Disagree.

- 1) The main purpose for people to read book is for entertainment and relax
- 2) People would lack creativity if they only read books about real things

124. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for students to study history and literature than it is for them to study science and mathematics. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Disagree:

- 1) Admit that history and literature are very Important
- 2) Everything is connected with science and the modern society
- 3) It is easier for people who study science and mathematics to make a living

125. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? All students should be required to study art and music in secondary school. Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) Music and arts are an important part of daily life
- 2) Understanding music and arts could help students to handle the latter study at the university
- 3) Understanding music and arts makes students enjoy the life better.

126 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? There is nothing that young people can teach older people. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Disagree.

- 1) Young people are usually more creative than the elders
- 2) Young people can understand things faster than the elders

127. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Reading fiction (such as novels and short stories) is more enjoyable than watching movies. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.

Disagree.

- 1) Reading takes more time than watching movies. Modern life is more and more fast-paced. People spend less and less time reading. Movie watching is a good substitute.
- 2) Watching movies give us visual enjoyment: New technology, stunt, pleasant music, beautiful pictures, pretty actresses, etc.

128. Some people say that physical exercise should be a required part of every school day. Other people believe that students should spend the whole school day on academic studies. Which opinion do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Physical exercise should be a required part of every school day.

- 1) Physical exercise helps increase studying efficiency
- 2) Academic study requires good health
- 3) In some aspects, physical exercise is as same as academic study.

129. A university plans to develop a new research center in your country. Some people want a center for business research. Other people want a center for research in agriculture (farming). Which of these two kinds of research centers do you recommend for your country? Use specific reasons in your recommendation.

Recommend establishing a business research center:

- 1) The business is more important in your country.
- 2) The business research center could bring more advanced technology and business ideas to the country.
- 3) Different agricultures are restricted to different weathers. Business is not confined.

130. Some young children spend a great amount of their time practicing sports. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Advantages: Read #112, #128 Disadvantages:

- 1) Takes a long time and hurt themselves
- 2) Time is limited. They don't have time to do other things.

131. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Only people who earn a lot of money are successful. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree.

- 1) The different people have different definition for the success. Success cannot be judged only by money. It is supposed to be one that people meet their goals.
- 2) A lot of scientists are very successful even though they do not have a lot of money.
- 3) If a person just inherits a big fortune or win a lottery, we cannot say he is successful.

132. If you could invent something new, what product would you develop? Use specific details to explain why this invention is needed.

- 1) Invent something that can make the vehicle flexible in size.
- 2) The parking lots are more and more limited and expensive;
- 3) In the traffic accident, if the vehicle is flexible, the damage will be reduced.

133. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person's childhood years (the time From birth to twelve years of age) are the most important years of a person's life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) Most of habits are formed in this time;
- 2) During this time of period, children are more likely to be taught
- 3) Basic ideology IS Cultivated during this time

134. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should be required to help with household tasks as soon as they are able to do so. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree

- 1) It can make the children form the habit to keep the room clean.
- 2) In this way, children can understand parents' work.
- 1) It will be good for children in the future in their work

135. Some high schools require all students to wear school uniforms. Other high schools permit students to decide what to wear to school. Which of these two school policies do you think is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Wear school uniforms:

- 1) School uniforms can constrain student's behavior outside school
- 2) School uniforms can save parents' money
- 3) School uniforms make students feel equal and more convenient to get on well with each other

136 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing a game is fun only when you win. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree:

- 1) Playing game is for enjoyment and winning can bring us enjoyment;
- 2) Game is fun only when there is a target, such as winning.

137. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? High schools should allow students to study the courses that students want to study. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Disagree.

- 1) Most students of high school do not have a clear aim to decide what to do

2) If high schools do so, students can't learn systematic and comprehensive knowledge

138. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is better to be a member of a group than to be the leader of a group. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree.

- 1) As a leader, you can influence other members and ask them to do what you want
- 2) As a leader, you can accumulate more experience in management
- 3) As a leader, it is easy to demonstrate your personal value

139. What do you consider to be the most important room in a house? Why is this room more important to you than any other room? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Bedroom.

- 1) You spend most of time in the bedroom when you stay at home;
- 2) Bedroom is the most private space at home;
- 3) Bedroom also provide a quiet space for yourself

140. Some items (such as clothes or furniture) can be made by hand or by machine. Which do you prefer? Items made by hand or items made by machine? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.

Same as #101

141. If you could make one important change in a school that you attended, what change would you make? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Similar to #52 Build a better equipped library.

Other themes: Sports ground / Stadium Dormitory / Dining room / Campus environment

142. A gift (such as a camera, a soccer ball, or an animal) can contribute to a child's development. What gift would you give to help a child develop? Why? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.

Basketball.

- 1) Basketball can help child to build a strong body
- 2) Basketball helps to build team spirit
- 3) Basketball can let child face more challenge

143. Some people believe that students should be given one long vacation each year Others believe that students should have several short vacations throughout the year Which viewpoint do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Long vocation 1) Relax better 2) Travel better

144. Would you prefer to live in a traditional house or in a modern apartment building? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Prefer to live in a modern apartment building.

- 1) More convenience
- 2) More utilities such as gym, swimming pool, etc.
- 3) Don't need to do any extra work such as gardening, cleaning and shoveling

145. Some people say that advertising encourages us to buy things we really do not need Others say that advertisements tell us about new products that may improve our lives. Which viewpoint

do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Advertisements tell us about new products.

- 1) Without leaving home, we can get a lot of introduction about new products by advertisements
- 2) With advertisements' help, among hundreds of new products we can quickly pick up the one that meets our requirement
- 3) Although some of advertisements exaggerate their products, most of them are helpful

146. Some people prefer to spend their free time outdoors. Other people prefer to spend their leisure time indoors. Would you prefer to be outside or would you prefer to be inside for your leisure activities? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.

Prefer spend leisure time outdoors.

- 1) Most of time I do my job indoors and a change is needed in my leisure time
- 2) Outdoor activities are good for my health;
- 3) Toronto (Or any other city where you live) is a beautiful city and I like to enjoy the sunshine and green grass

147. Your school has received a gift of money. What do you think is the best way for your school to spend this money? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Similar to #52 Build a better equipped library.

Other themes: Sports ground / Stadium Dormitory / Dining room / Campus environment

148. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing games teaches us about life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree.

- 1) Playing game builds up team spirit
- 2) Playing game makes people compete with each other for win, the competition needed in the society

149. Imagine that you have received some land to use as you wish. How would you use this land? Use specific details to explain your answer.

Similar to #52, Build a public library

150. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Watching television is bad for children. Use specific details and examples to support your answer.

151. What is the most important animal in your country? Why is the animal important? Use reasons and specific details to explain your answer.

Giant Panda.

- 1) Panda is rare in the world and only exists in China
- 2) Panda is the ambassador of friendship between China and the other countries
- 3) The children all over the world all like panda

152. Many parts of the world are losing important natural resources, such as forests, animals, or clean water Choose one resource that is disappearing and explain why it needs to be saved Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Clean water.

- 1) People cannot live without water;
- 2) The water is polluted at a considerable rate and clean water becomes less and less

153. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A zoo has no useful purpose. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

Disagree.

- 1) People can learn knowledge of nature by visiting zoo.
- 2) Zoos can help people relax
- 3) Zoos help improve travel industry

154. In some countries, people are no longer allowed to smoke in many public places and official buildings. Do you think this is a good rule or a bad rule? Use specific reasons and details to support your position.

It is a good rule.

- 1) Smoking pollutes air
- 2) Smoking harms people's health
- 3) Smoking is unfair to those people who do not smoke

155. Plants can provide food, shelter, clothing, or medicine. What is one kind of plant that is important to you or the people in your country? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

156 You have the opportunity to visit a foreign country for two weeks. Which country would you like to visit? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

United States.

- 1) There are a lot of attractions such as the Statue of Liberty, the White House, The Empire States, Building, the Yellow Stone Park, California, and Miami etc.
- 2) Experience the advanced technologies such as Laser concert at night at Disneyland etc. in the United States.
- 3) Understand American people.

157. In the future, students may have the choice of studying at home by using technology such as computers or television or of studying at traditional schools. Which would you prefer? Use reasons and specific details to explain your choice.

Choose at the traditional school.

- 1) Admit that there are some advantages by having the choices at home. However,
- 2) Studying at the traditional has the opportunity to learn directly from the professors.
- 3) Building team spirit required by the work though the group discussing
- 4) Improve communication skills by class participation.

158. When famous people such as actors, athletes, and rock stars give their opinions, many people listen. Do you think we should pay attention to these opinions? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

We need to listen to their opinions.

- 1) All the people in the world pursue success. Why not attend the occasion when successful people gave their opinion?
- 2) In this occasion, the famous people would like to tell their experience and feelings in order to succeed. It is a good lesson for the people who want to succeed.
- 3) We can take a shortcut to success by avoiding the same mistakes if we could listen to their opinion.

159. The twentieth century saw great change. In your opinion, what is one change that should be remembered about the twentieth century? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

Computer

- 1) It can do some work such as very complicated calculation which human beings cannot do without the help of computer.
- 2) It has improved our work efficiency greatly.
- 3) We can do something such as doing shopping on the Internet, which we could never do without computer.

160. When people need to complain about a product or poor service, some prefer to complain in writing and others prefer to complain in person. Which way do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Complain in writing.

- 1) The customer could catch the real attention from the producer because the oral complaint could be softened by the retailers.
- 2) Avoid direct argument with the person whoever provide the service or provide the products.
- 3) You can fully present yourself in the writing.

161. People remember special gifts or presents that they have received. Why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

- 1) The special gift comes to you because something special happens in your life.
- 2) Special gift always means something special delivered to you.

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

Yes.

- 1) They bring nation or country honor
- 2) They encourage common people to work hard
- 3) They give people entertainment

163. Is the ability to read and write more important today than in the past? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Yes

- 1) Reading and writing is the main way people learn knowledge, which is the determinant for success in the modern society
- 2) Reading and writing connect people with the national and international issues, beyond the immediate community

164. People do many different things to stay healthy what do you do for good health? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

- 1) No smoking and little drinking
- 2) Sports, such as swimming and playing tennis
- 3) Keep a good mood

165. You have decided to give several hours of your time each month to improve the community where you live. What is one thing you will do to improve your community? why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

Work as gym instructor.

- 1) We don't have gym instructor in our community center. It is very dangerous for the person to do the exercise alone
- 2) The people don't know which way to practice is better for their health.
- 3) Make more friends.

166. People recognize a difference between children and adults. What events (experiences or ceremonies) make a person an adult? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

167. Your school has enough money to purchase either computers for students or books for the library. Which should your school choose to buy? Computers or books? Use specific reasons and examples to support your recommendation.

Computers Similar to # 159

168. Many students choose to attend schools or universities outside their home countries. Why do some students study abroad? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

- 1) For better education. Since most students studying abroad goes to developed countries, they will be better educated then in their own developing country.
- 2) For better language ability.
- 3) For more job opportunities in the future.

169. People listen to music for different reasons and at different times. Why is music important to many people? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

- 1) Music helps people relax.
- 2) Amuse and entertain people.
- 3) Music reflects society change.

170. Groups or organizations are an important part of some people's lives. Why are groups or organizations important to people? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

- 1) The groups or organizations by themselves represent the benefit of the people around you.
- 2) A person can make use of the network established through the groups or organizations.
- 3) One can makes friends by Joining the groups or organizations.

171. Imagine that you are preparing for a trip. You plan to be away from your home for a year In addition to clothing and personal care items, you can take one additional thing. What would you take and why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

The diary

- 1) It has the addresses and phone numbers. It will be very easy to keep in touch with the old friends.
- 2) Document the important events in your diary for the whole year so that you can share your trip with your friends.

The other item: Camera

172. when students move to a new school, they sometimes face problems. How can schools help these students with their problems? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

- 1) Arrange some pre-school activities, such as school tourism, to help new students familiar with new environment as soon as possible
- 2) Set up a special office for new Students inquiry
- 3) Invite second year students to join in

173. It is sometimes said that borrowing money from a friend can harm or damage the friendship. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

174. Every generation of people is different in important ways. How is your generation different from your parents' generation? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

1) More individualism; 2) More creative; 3) Dare to challenge the traditional things

175. Some students like classes where teachers lecture (do all of the talking) in class. Other students prefer classes where the students do some of the talking. Which type of class do you prefer? Give specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Prefer classes where students can do some of the talking.

- 1) The more students participate, the more they can learn;
- 2) If students want to talk in the class, they must make good preparation before class. As the result, they will always be well prepared rather than absent-minded
- 3) Students talking can stimulate professor's and other students' thinking

176. Holidays honor people or events. If you could create a new holiday, what person or event would it honor and how would you want people to celebrate it? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Teachers' Day.

- 1) Teachers represent knowledge. Respecting teachers means respecting knowledge.
- 2) All the people in the world benefit from the teachers to some extent. We need to create a special day to honor them.
- 3) How to celebrate this special day?
 - A) Each currently registered students, if possible, should try to find a small special gift for the teachers on the day before Teachers day comes.
 - B) The Government should organize an evening celebration party, awarding the distinguished teachers on that day.
 - C) TV stations should spend more time to eulogize teachers' feats and air the celebration party

177. A friend of yours has received some money and plans to use all of it either 1) to go on vacation 2) to buy a car Your friend has asked you for advice. Compare your friend's two choices and explain which one you think your friend should choose. Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

- 1) Compare these two options.
- 2) Prefer to buy a car:
 - a) In Toronto, it will be convenient to have a car;
 - b) Car can save time and expand your working scope
 - c) Car can make money for you

178. The 21st century has begun. What changes do you think this new century will bring? Use examples and details in your answer.

The world is becoming a unity.

- 1) With the development of the technologies such as computer, people have more chances to get informed about what is happening in the other pan of the world.
- 2) With the improvement of the living standard, people are more likely to travel to the other countries.

179. What are some of the qualities of a good parent? Use specific details and examples to explain your answer.

- 1) Be able to do things, to make money;
- 2) Honest
- 3) Humor

180. Movies are popular all over the world. Explain why movies are so popular Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

- 1) Movies bring people visual enjoyment
- 2) In the movies, people can imagine they are the heroes and so make their dreams come true.

181. In your country, is there more need for land to be left in its natural condition or is there more need for land to be developed for housing and industry? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer. .

Need for housing

- 1) In my country, housing is a big problem for huge population
- 2) My country is a developing country, housing and industry is the first thing to be considered.

182. Many people have a close relationship with their pets. These people treat their birds, cats, or other animals as members of their family. In your opinion, are such relationships good? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

No

- 1) Difference between pets and friends
- 2) People can't exchange emotion with their pets
- 3) Pets are animal

183. Films can tell us a lot about the country where they were made. What have you learned about a country from watching its movies? Use specific examples and details to support your response.

- 1) A country's culture and history
- 2) A country's policy and ideology
- 3) A country's attractions

184. Some students prefer to study alone. Others prefer to study with a group of students. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Prefer to study with a group of students.

- 1) Studying together makes a good environment;
- 2) Other students can help you solve the problems
- 3) Build up team spirit

185. You have enough money to purchase either a house or a business. Which would you choose to buy? Give specific reasons to explain your choice.

Buy business.

- 1) Help to realize the dream of entrepreneur
- 2) Employment opportunities
- 3) Contribute more money to the society