

## **Q1: Which season – winter, spring, summer, or fall – is your favorite?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

My favorite season is winter because of two reasons. First, Christmas is in winter and I always love getting presents from my family. Usually, on Christmas, I get toys from my sister and chocolate from my mother. We always have a great time together on Christmas. Second, I love to play in the snow. When I was younger, I made a snow angel or a snowman every year on the first day it snowed. I still do it today. In winter, I also get to see my little brother throw a snowball at my dad. It's very funny. Since it is a great season to spend with my family, I think winter is my favorite season.

## **Q2: If you could plan the perfect day to spend with your close friends, where would you go and why?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

If I could plan the perfect day to spend with my friends, I would go to Paris. Paris is a great city, filled with a lot of opportunities. First, we could go shopping in the Galeries Lafayette. We could buy lots of expensive perfumes, sweaters, scarves, and jeans. We could spend hours getting lost in the wonderful department store. Also, we could eat some of the fanciest food in the world. I've always wanted to eat a baguette near the Eiffel Tower with my friends and if we were in Paris, I would love the opportunity to do so. We could even eat the baguette with some chocolate hazelnut spread. Because we could have a lot of fun, the perfect day with my friends would be in Paris.

### **Q3:What is the most frightening experience you have ever had in your life?**

#### **A. Sample Answer**

The most frightening experience I've ever had was when I went to the dentist's office for the second time. I was six years old and I was so scared, I cried for hours. It was scary for two reasons. First of all, the dentist caused me a lot of pain on my first trip. On my first visit, they put lots of instruments in my mouth, which caused my mouth some distress. I hated the feeling of the latex gloves in my mouth; it just tasted gross. Also, we had to wait a long time in the office, so it made me all the more anxious, especially because the secretary wasn't nice. All in all, my second trip to the dentist wasn't that painful, but I will always remember how terrified I was of my visit.

### **Q4: Should a country's government tell its citizens how many children they can have?**

#### **A. Sample Answer**

I think governments should tell their citizens how many children to have. To begin with, there are too many people on the Earth. The Earth now has over seven billion people and we simply do not have enough natural resources to feed, clothe, and raise more people. If we continue to have more and more children, a lot of people will starve to death. In addition, if a government sets up this policy, then we can live more comfortably. We will be able to live in larger homes instead of cramped apartments in the cities. For these reasons, I think that governments, like China, should do almost everything they can to limit the number of children people have.

**Q5: Would you rather earn a lot of money working in a job that you don't like or earn less money doing something you enjoy.**

**A. Sample Answer**

I would prefer to work in a job that pays me more money though I don't like it. I have two reasons to support my idea. First, nobody really likes their job. Even though many people say they really enjoy the job, a job means that it's something you have to do out of duty. And I hate it when people tell me to do something. Second, I want to earn a lot of money because I want to own a big, beautiful mansion. If I get my mansion with a swimming pool and all, I would be the happiest person in the world. For these reasons, I would take the job that I don't like, but pays well

**Q6: Should students work while they study?**

**A. Sample Answer**

I don't think students should work while they study. If students work while they study, it will take up a bunch of time. Studying is considered an occupation, and I think that if more people treated school like a regular job with a 40-hour work week, students would learn more and be more productive. Adding work into the mix would just stress students out and make them do badly in school. Also, most jobs for students are really bad, like being a janitor or a store clerk. I don't think those jobs are appealing and most don't make that much money anyway. For these two reasons, I don't think students should work while they study.

**Q7: Which do you think is better for the environment: to build fewer factories or to create more wildlife preservation areas?**

**A. Sample Answer**

I believe we should build fewer factories rather than create more wildlife preservation areas. We have a fundamental problem with pollution and it is because we create too many things we don't need. Creating wildlife preservation areas will not solve the problem. If we build fewer factories, we will at least slow the gradual degradation of the ozone layer and our natural world. In addition, factories produce a lot of air pollution, which reaches everywhere on Earth. Smog doesn't know land boundaries, and if we build wildlife preservation areas while building more factories, the animals will eventually die off anyway from a lack of oxygen. To conclude, I argue that we should build fewer factories.

**Q8: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is healthier for children to live in the countryside than in the city.**

**A. Sample Answer**

Parents should not scold their children in public. First off, scolding a child in public is very harmful to children. If a child gets scolded in public, it will damage his or her psyche. It is just too embarrassing for a child to withstand and if parents are too rough with a child, they can even embarrass themselves too. Secondly, a parent should always love his or her child. There is never a reason for a parent to yell or scream at a child, even if the child misbehaves. Instead, a parent should speak calmly and take control of

the situation coolly. Children naturally follow their parents anyway, so parents don't have to do much to get their children to behave.

## **Q9: Should students consult their parents about their majors and careers?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

I think students should consult their parents about their majors and careers. To start with, parents are very knowledgeable about life. They have lived a lot longer than us and have more experience. If we as students consult them, we are sure to get expert advice about what to do, and we will definitely go in the right direction. Also, parents are great resources whom are very different. Some people prefer to consult just their friends, but our friends are just way too similar to us. We should get different perspectives about our majors and careers from different people, including our parents. For these reasons, I think students should consult their parents when deciding their majors and careers.

## **Q10: In order to get healthy, should people exercise more or sleep more?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

People need to sleep more in order to get healthy. Sleeping is important for two major reasons. First, sleeping rids the body of harmful toxins in the brain. When we go to sleep, the body starts to rid itself of poisons all over. If we don't go to sleep, our bodies will never be able to remove these dangerous chemicals. Also, sleeping helps recharge the body. When we go to sleep, we help conserve energy for our busy day. Sometimes, people go to work without having slept for long, but they always feel sluggish and tired and don't feel very good. Therefore, people should sleep more to be healthy

## **Q11: If you could give a meaningful gift to a family member, what would it be?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

If I could give a meaningful gift to a family member, I would give a camera to my sister. My sister loves photography. All she wants to do is take pictures and her old camera is outdated. She needs a better camera to help improve her skills and even though the camera would be expensive, it would be worth it. Also, we could make a lot of memories. My sister could take pictures when we go on vacation to Paris, London, or Hong Kong. Or, when we have a special occasion like a wedding, she could take special pictures. Because it could help her realize her dream of becoming a photographer, I would give my sister a camera as a meaningful gift

## **Q12: Explain your learning style: visual, auditory, kinesthetic, etc.**

### **A. Sample Answer**

For me, I find that I learn the most when I see something. When I see something, I can almost always remember it. That's why it really helps me when the teacher uses the board. I often don't take notes, but it's not because I'm not a good student; it's simply because I don't need to. I just have a very good written memory. For example, my teacher wrote very complex math problems on the board and even though I didn't take notes, I got a 100% on my exam. Sometimes, I'll even take notes for myself, read them, and then throw them out. I'm just a great visual learner and that's the way my brain works.

### **Q13: Do you think that seeing violence in video games or movies cause people to behave violently?**

#### **A. Sample Answer**

I don't think seeing violence in video games or movies causes people to become violent themselves. People who behave violently often have emotional problems. Even though these kinds of people are more likely to consume violent media, that does not mean the media itself causes violent behavior. Correlation does not mean causation, after all. And secondly, some people play violent video games like Halo or Call of Duty simply to relieve stress. With all of the stresses of modern society, some teenagers just need to get away and blow off steam. These two reasons are why I don't think people become violent after watching violent movies or playing violent video games.

### **Q14: Would you save your money at a bank or at your home? Why?**

#### **A. Sample Answer**

I prefer to save money at home rather than in a bank. If we save our money at a bank, we won't have easy access to our money. Saving our money at a bank means that we might have to travel far away in order to withdraw money. However, by keeping our money at home, we can always access our money conveniently, which is much better than a bank far away. In addition, I have a lot of money. I don't think I can trust other people with my money, especially a bank. They might just try to steal from me. Therefore, I think it is better to save money at home rather than in a bank.

### **Q15 : If you could choose your own study hour, how many hours would you study?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

I would choose to study two hours a day in addition to school. I have two reasons why. My first reason is that I only really need to study for chemistry and math. I'm really terrible at those subjects, so if I just spend a little bit of time everyday studying those two subjects, I can improve my grade significantly. My second reason is that I'm really busy. I have a part-time job at my local coffee shop and I have numerous extracurricular activities, including a soccer team and a volunteer club. I also have to help out around the house, so I just don't have that much time to waste. For these reasons, if I could choose my own study hours, I would only study for two hours a day.

## **Q16: Do you think it's important for children to learn how to swim at an early age?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

I don't think it's important for children to learn to swim when they're young. First, we don't really need to know how to swim. One of my friends, Molly, does not know how to swim and she never needed to learn. She always lived in the city, where there wasn't a lot of water or swimming pools available. Swimming just never interested her. Second, it's not hard to learn how to swim. One of my friends learned how to swim in college. She took a class and it only took her a couple of tries before she was doing all kinds of moves in the water, like the backstroke. In conclusion, I don't think it's important for children to learn to swim at a young age.



## **Q17 : Should older children learn to cook so they can help prepare the family meals sometimes?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

Older children should not learn to cook at all. To start with, there's no need to learn how to cook. Because there are so many restaurants, nobody needs to know how to cook nowadays. You can simply go to a restaurant anytime you are hungry and eat something. You can even order food over the phone or the Internet and have it delivered. Also, even older children might get hurt when cooking. Cooking can be dangerous; we can get burned from the stove or even cut ourselves with a knife. Then, we might end up in the hospital, and that would not be fun. Therefore, I don't think that older children should learn how to cook.

## **Q18: Which skill do you think is more important in foreign language learning?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

The most important skill in foreign language learning is reading. Reading allows us to do many things on our own, so it can help us to be independent. For example, when I am at a restaurant, I can't have the waiter read off a menu to me; that would be rude. We just have to know how to read to do these kinds of simple tasks. However, we can always ask someone to write something down like directions to the zoo or instructions on how to do something. In addition, reading is usually easier. Sometimes it's hard to speak because the sounds are difficult to make. However, we shouldn't have any trouble writing things down. Because of these two reasons, I think reading is the most important skill when learning a foreign language.

## **Q19: Laughter and joy are essential aspects for a healthy life. Why or why not?**

I don't think laughter and joy are essential for a healthy life. First off, laughing can sometimes be inappropriate. For example, I went to a funeral with one of my friends. His mom had died just two months before and the funeral was for his dead sister. He started laughing uncontrollably, and that was not very good. People thought he was crazy. In addition, some people live very successful lives while having no sense of humor. Think about most college professors. They are very dedicated to their work, always eat healthy, and yet have no sense of humor. Therefore, I think that laughter and joy are not necessarily needed for life, though they do make things more interesting.

## **Q20: When you feel sad, what are some things you do to help yourself feel better?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

When I feel sad, there are two things I do to help myself feel better. First, I always cry. Crying always helps me to get out my emotions. When I cry, I feel a huge burden being lifted and I no longer have to keep my emotions bottled up. Second, I make sure to talk to my mom. My mom always gives me the best hugs and she always makes me feel better. Sometimes, she will make me hot chocolate, and other times, she will give me the best advice in the world. Without my mom, I don't know what I would do. When I feel sad, I always cry and talk to my mom to make myself feel better.

## **Q21: What is your favorite type of exercise?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

My favorite type of exercise is playing soccer. I have two reasons to support my opinion. Firstly, I can play with many people I don't know. Since soccer is a team sport, I can play with my friends and learn good sportsmanship. Soccer is a great way for me to meet people, and it's how I met people when I first came to America. Secondly, playing soccer involves a good mixture of cardio. There is a lot of running, jumping, kicking, and other moves. These kinds of exercises help keep me slim and trim and can even help me get a six pack. For these reasons, my favorite exercise is playing soccer.

## **Q22 : When you choose a friend, which quality is more important in that person: honesty or physical appearance?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

Physical appearance is more important when choosing a friend. If we are not friends with pretty people, we will not be popular and therefore, we might jeopardize potential new friendships. For example, I was once friends with an ugly person, and then nobody wanted to be friends with me. Being popular is just too important. Also, if we have beautiful friends, then we can get free stuff. People give out free food, drinks, and toys to other people they think are pretty. If we have only beautiful friends, then we might get some of that free stuff too. For these reasons, I prefer to choose my friends based on how they look.

**Q23: If there was a fire or some other type of disaster in your house, what would you take with you? Why?**

**A. Sample Answer**

If there were a disaster in my house, I would absolutely take my phone with me. If I take my phone with me, then I won't have to pay a lot of money to replace it when I make it out of my burning house. A phone costs a lot of money to replace and if I don't take it with me, then I might have to settle for a phone of lesser quality. Also, if I take my phone, it can help me get into contact with my family members. My family members are the most important people in my life and I want to make sure that they're all right. If they take their phones with them, then we will know they're OK and help comfort one another. For these reasons, I would take my phone with me if there were a disaster.

**Q24: Who is your best friend? Why is he/she important to you?**

**A. Sample Answer**

My best friend is a girl I met in Korea named Christina. She is important to me for two reasons. Firstly, she and I love to do things together. We like to travel, eat meals, and work out together. We always do fun things with one another, practically every day. We just share so many of the same interests, including television shows. Every Sunday night, we even get together to make popcorn and watch Mad Men. We always have a fun time. In addition, Christina is someone I can really depend on. Whenever I get anxious about being in Korea or feel a little sad, Christina is always there to help cheer me up. Without her, I just would not know what to do. Because Christina is so dependable and so much fun, she is my best friend in Korea.

## **Q25: If you could be famous for something, what would you want to be famous for?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

If I could be famous for anything, I would want to be famous for the discovery of life on other planets. The first reason for this is that it would allow me to gain recognition from the scientific community. If I discovered life on other planets, I could act as a fatherly figure to that life. I would have a special bond with the extraterrestrials and could ensure that they stay on my side. Being the father of a whole new species of people would make me extremely powerful. Maybe I could even colonize their planet and establish myself as the ruler. Then, I would not only be famous for discovering new life, but establishing the first government on a planet other than Earth as well. So, to conclude, I would love to be famous for discovering life on another planet.

## **Q26: If you could meet one world leader, who would it be?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

If I could meet one world leader, it would have to be Barack Obama. The first reason is that Barack Obama is basically the most powerful man in the world. Barack Obama is the President of the United States, which is one of the largest and most economically powerful nations on the globe. Meeting President Obama would open many doors for me, and allow me to get in contact with many other people, like important journalists and other celebrities. In addition, President Obama is one of the most inspiring people in American politics. He was raised by his grandparents in a middle

class home and despite many obstacles, he became editor of the Harvard Law Review, which is one of the most prestigious law journals in the United States. He also became a great constitutional law professor and even taught at the University of Chicago. In summary, I want to meet President Obama because he is one of the most powerful and inspiring leaders in the world living today.

## **Q27: Which do you think is better - to live on campus or to rent an apartment off campus?**

### **A. Sample Answer**

For me, I would always choose to rent an apartment off campus rather than live on campus. The first reason why is very simple: it is cheaper. Living on campus is more expensive because you are usually located in a closer area to campus. This is expensive, especially because the college adds extra expenses you don't need like cable television. It's simply too much to afford, and by living on campus, we can save more money to have fun. Secondly, renting an apartment off campus means fewer rules. When we live on campus, we have to obey a curfew. If we break curfew and stay out past 11 o'clock, we will get reprimanded by the headmaster. However, by renting an apartment off campus, we can stay out as much as we want and meet lots of interesting characters on the street well past midnight. Because it is cheaper and less restrictive, I prefer to live in an apartment off campus.